

# News&Views

APRIL 2009



# EASTER EGG HUNT

Gather your baskets and plan on bringing all your little people for the Annual Section 3 Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon. Children

6 and under can "search" for the eggs in groups we begin with those 3 and under and then once they've gathered a collection of eggs with their helpers, we let in the rest of the children to collect their own. The entire event begins at 12 noon sharp and is quickly followed by a family luncheon for the participants, their parents and older siblings. Mindy's catering will be serving up a delicious luncheon. Grandparents with their grandchildren are warmly invited to join us as well. If we're very lucky, you might even get to see the Easter Bunny himself . We hear he's planning on making an appearance.

Should it rain, we're holding the "hunt" anyway. Just bring a raincoat and an umbrella and we'll give you food to take home! There is no possible rain date, so come rain or shine!!!

#### VILLAGE COUNCIL WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION 3.COM

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## SHRED IT! APRIL 18TH!

Hopefully you've already sent in your tax returns and it's time for



you to get rid of lots of old bills and info from previous years that you no longer need. According to IRS publication 552 (available on line at www.irs.gov) if you:

1. Owe additional tax and (items 2, 3 and 4 below do not apply to you)—you need only save records for three years

2. If you do not report income that you should and it's more than 25% of the gross income

shown on your returns—you should keep records for 6 years

3. If you file a fraudulent return-there is no limit

4. If you do not file a return-there is no limit

5. If you file a claim or a credit or refund after you filed your returnthe rule is to keep the information the later of 3 years or 2 years after the tax was paid

6. If you file a claim for a loss from worthless securities, you need save records for 7 years (or if you are a Madoff victim, maybe as much as 13 years!).

On Saturday, April 18th, residents of Section 3, 5 and Martins Additions can line up in their cars on Taylor Street going East to hand in no more than five boxes of documents per person to the Shred It! Truck which will be located next to La Ferme, on Taylor Street. Only a few cars at a time will be allowed to cross Brookville Road so as not to interfere with shoppers doing regular Saturday chores. We suggest crossing to Taylor Street from Delaware Street so as not to have any problems with people trying to cut into the line.

A policeman will direct traffic to facilitate a swift line at Brookville Road. You can bring the documents in boxes which they will return to you. Traffic will then exit via the rear of Brookville Market and out Turner Lane. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is co-sponsored by Section 3, Martins Additions and Section 5.

ONLY residents from those three sections will be allowed to participate in this program. Please have some ID which indicates your address we will have town directories to check. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Village Manager by e-mail or phone. If this service is well received, we will make it an annual affair!

\*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.



The Council met on Wednesday, March 11 at CCUMC room 109. The meeting began at 8:50 p.m. and all Council members were present.

The Council approved the February minutes as published in the March issue of the newsletter.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Other than stops for speeding on Brookville Road and Connecticut Avenue, the Chevy Chase police report no unusual activity in the Section. The Village Manager indicated that she would urge the police to monitor illegal parking near the Church and Church school more vigorously.

All the street safety signs have been installed. A number of stop signs were moved to facilitate fire trucks' ability to get through our streets without hitting a stop sign. The next step is to put up a prototype new street sign to see the response to the new signage.

Section 3 and Martins Additions will hire Chevy Chase police to monitor traffic for the Shred It event. Section 5 may also participate, in which case the expenses will be split three ways.

#### BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The Council approved the variance request (published in the February newsletter) for the **Barry** family of Fulton Street to extend the existing building structure 6" into the side yard setback (actually the rear as you look at the house) and to build a stone patio which extends 6'-5" into the same side yard setback."The architect will submit a drainage plan along with final plans for the project.

Developer Jim O'Brien indicated to the Village Manager that he expects the house at 6803 Florida Street to be completed by the end of March. The house on the no outlet segment of Florida Street should be completed within about 14 weeks, weather permitting.

The **Lesmes** family is working to select the pervious materials for use on the driveway they share with the **Meyer/Michaels**. That project should be wrapping up soon as well.

The Gorman family has had a visit from the Civil Engineer hired by the town to make recommendations as to how to handle the ice which overflowed the sidewalk this winter. They are working out a solution so that this won't be a problem next year.

The Council agreed to close the park a week before the April 4th Easter Egg Hunt and to have the park hydroseeded immediately after that so the park will be closed for about a month while to allow the grass to grow up again. The irrigation system problem will also be resolved prior to the hydroseeding. **Carolyn Greis and Andy Harney** attended the educational forum on lighting and came away impressed with the many decisions which will need to be made regarding the future lighting for our community. The Village Manager will provide each of the Council members with a list of locations nearby with different kinds of lighting to view them at night. Consultant Scott Watson will soon be evaluating our current lighting distribution and will recommend what kinds of lighting would best serve us in terms of efficiency, safety for both drivers and pedestrians, less glare for residents' bedroom windows, economy of operation and maintenance, etc.

The Council voted not to try pedestrian "paddles" on Brookville Road. because they felt they would not improve the safety of people crossing at either Taylor Street or Raymond Street. They based their decision on a report by consulting engineer Joe Cutro who helped identify our street signage problems and inventory.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council agreed to purchase a 12 month CD at Greater Atlantic Bank in the next week to lower the deposits in Sun Trust Bank and earn additional interest.

The Council held a work session on the proposed 2009-10 budget which will be refined and published in the May newsletter.

#### COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The plans for the Easter Egg Hunt are set for April 4th. We have a new chair, **Debby Glynn**, who is working hard to corral volunteers to help with set up and clean up. The menus have been selected and all the other supplies are being ordered. This is a rain or shine affair...so if it rains, children will come in raincoats and parents can pick up their lunch and run...if not, tables will be set up on Fulton Street for all to enjoy a brief lunch together after the "hunt."

Possible locations for the May House tour were discussed and as soon as we have all the names, it will be announced. Tenatively, the date for the tour is May 17th, a week after Mother's Day.

Megan Michaels and Joanne Coles are going to chair this year's Bark in the Park, tentatively set for May 31st at Gazebo Park.

The Annual Wine Tasting event will take place in early June, probably June 7th, so mark your calendars now!

Volunteers have been meeting on the proposed "Chevy Chase @ Home," a cooperative group of seniors organized to assist one another so that they can stay comfortably in their homes as they continue to age. A survey will probably be included in the May newsletter from this new group. We have a number of enthusiastic and active volunteers from Section 3 on the initial steering committee: Nathan Billig, Barbara Scupi, Mo Robertson, Mimi Slavin and Mary Gorman! Thanks for your efforts; we look forward to hearing more news.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

#### News & Views



It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Parker Wyman**, a longtime Section 3 resident. A retired foreign service officer, Parker served in postwar Berlin,Egypt, Vietnam, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Lagos, Nigeria. Parker spent much of his retirement years as an election judge in Chevy Chase and also as a volunteer reader at Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic. He leaves his wife **Pat** and four children, Cheryl, Joyce, Robert and Candace and seven grandchildren.

## Children's Concert April 17th at BCC

Two-time Grammy award winner Bill Harley will entertain at a family concert at BCC High School on April 17th from 7-8:15 p.m. Tickets are \$5. His songs paint a vibrant, hilarious picture of growing up, going to school and family life. In addition to his Grammy awards, Harley is the recipient of the Magic Penny Award from the Children's Music Network and an NPR commentator.

The concert is being sponsored by the Lisa J. Flaxman MusiKares Fund for the Celebration of the Arts. This is the first event in honor of the late Lisa Flaxman. Ticket info is available from www.lisaflaxmanfund.org.

## HIT AND RUN IN SECTION 3

Early Sunday morning, March 15th, Section 3 residents were awakened by the crunching of auto bodies as a pick-up truck smashed into the back of cars parked on the 3600 block of Taylor Street. Three cars were hit and the truck that hit the cars left with horn blaring, only to return after a brief run down Brookville Road at about 1:00 in the morning. The car ultimately parked on the no-outlet block of Georgia Street where two males, clearly under the influence, according to witnesses, staggered away and disappeared somewhere on Brookville Road. Police were called. Montgomery County brought in tracking dogs, but no one was apprehended that night. It appears that the same individuals also hit a car on Taylor Street near Chestnut in Martins Additions. A police investigation continues. Thanks to those who contacted police and let the Village Manager know what had occurred.

## GOT CROCS?

Rosemary Hills Primary School (RHPS) is collecting used

crocs to be recycled and made into new shoes for children in developing countries...so take a good look in your closets and pull out all those old crocs and give your children an opportunity to both recycle and do something good for someone less fortunate! The RHPS is partnering with SolesUnited (www.solesunited.org) to collect the shoes to



be sorted, ground up and made into new recycled shoes. The group will then send the shoes to nonprofit organizations around the world.

This is a great way to get your child involved in doing something good for the planet AND helping others in need. There are more than 1 billion people around the world who are living in extreme poverty and lack basic needs such as food, water, clothing and shoes. To many of us, shoes are a basic necessity; to many others, shoes are a privilege.

If Section Three residents would like to donate any old Crocs you can drop them in a box at **Wendy Eaton's** house, 3611 Spring Street, or call 301-986-8403.

Parents of children in that age group will be receiving further notification with details.

## SENIORS ALONE

In an effort to be a better neighbor, Section 3 has identified a number (just under 50) of individuals living alone and asked them to fill out information on who has a key, who to contact in terms of next of kin or a friend in case of emergency. We hope we never have need for this information, but if we do, we want to be able to provide assistance to those individuals. The information will be kept on a computer NOT tied to the internet and will be retained only by the Village Manager and the Council Chairman. We have received responses from well over half of the individuals to whom this form was sent. If you haven't filled out your form yet and returned it to the Village Manager, take a moment and do so now. It's always good to have someone know who you would want contacted in the event of an emergency. Of course, this program is purely voluntary.

#### New to Section 3 and want to Vote?

If you are listed in the yellow Section 3 Directory, then we know you deserve to vote here. If you have not registered to vote with the Montgomery County Board of Elections, please do so at once. Their number is (240) 777-8683 or you can go to their website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov or pick up registration applications at the post office or public library.

## VOTER REGISTRATION

Unlike most jurisdictions, if you live in Section 3, we want you to vote in our elections—even if you're not a citizen of the U.S. Our only requirement is that you be 18 years of age and own or rent in Section 3. Those who have registered with us in prior years do not have to re-register. If you are listed in the Section 3 directory, you don't need to show us proof that you're a resident. If you're not listed in the directory, we will need a copy of a driver's license with your Section 3 address or a bill proving that you are indeed a resident.

Just fill out this form and submit it to the Village Manager (3801 Bradley Lane) prior to 5:00 p.m. on election day and we'll be happy to have you vote.

Name

Street Address

Signature

Print your Name

# Request for Absentee Ballot for May 11, 2009 Section 3 Election

\_\_\_\_\_

I (name)\_\_\_\_\_address)

\_\_\_\_of (street am unable to

attend the election for Village Council members from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on May 11th and therefore request an absentee ballot. I understand that I can pick up a copy of the ballot at the home of the Village Manager anytime after Monday, April 27th and that I must return my ballot no later than 5:30 p.m. on the day of the election in order for my vote to be counted. I also understand that facsimile votes will not be considered valid.

Signature

## CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

All five Council members serve for two year terms. So that there is some continuity, their terms are staggered. This year, three of the five Council members' terms are up. They are **Bill Brownlee, Council Chairman, Natasha Saifee, Council Vice Chair and Carolyn Greis,** 



**Buildings and Roads Representative**. Each of the three Council members has indicated a desire to continue to serve the community. Here are their statements:

#### BILL BROWNLEE

I have had the privilege of serving on the Council for ten years, first as Buildings & Roads person and now as Chairman. Those with whom I have served on the Council have all been hard-working and enthusiastic and we have worked in harmony, with a minimum of bureaucracy and with the aid of many volunteers from the community, to make Section 3 a real community. We have tried to be very prudent on financial matters and we have always followed a pay as you go principle for all major expenses, so that we were able to put in the Brookville Road sidewalk and repave many of our streets without borrowing. As you will have seen in the March News&Views, the Council is considering many new projects for the Section. These projects will be of immediate benefit to the Section as well as being of on-going value and we are well placed financially to pay for these projects. I would appreciate the opportunity to continue to be a member of the Council working with other members and with the Village Manager as these projects are implemented. I would be pleased if you would vote for me, but whether or not you do, let me repeat what I have said in previous years.

Come to the Annual Meeting, voice your ideas or concerns and VOTE.

#### CAROLYN GREIS

I have been privileged to serve on the Village Council for the past four years, the last two as the Buildings and Roads representative. It has been a real pleasure to represent a community that clearly cares about what goes on in its little corner of the world and to be part of a group of elected officials that also clearly cares about keeping Section 3 the friendly, safe, wellmanaged and wonderful place that it is known to be.

When I first ran for the Village Council, I did so because I wanted to actively participate in those efforts to keep our community sound and vibrant, and my aim since then has not wavered. For those residents who do not know my background, I came to Section 3 eight years ago with professional and personal experiences focused on improving the environment around me. As an architect, I worked to design affordable housing for families, seniors and the homeless. As a volunteer, I was an active member of my neighborhood group back in Oakland, CA. Here in Chevy Chase, I served for five years as Chairman of the CCUMC Preschool Supervisory Board.

As a member of the Section 3 Village Council I have continued this focus. We have worked to be good stewards of our community's financial resources, and we will continue to do so as we try to anticipate the future economic state of affairs and its effects on small municipalities such as ours, particularly with regard to county and state funding sources. At the same time, we want to continue to prudently spend funds to make investments in our infrastructure that will improve and enhance the functioning, safety and beauty of our neighborhood. Anticipated projects such as improved street lighting, new street signage, creation of a Geographic Information System (GIS), and storm drain system maintenance will yield immediate benefits and provide long-term value.

I have valued the opportunity to meet with many residents in their efforts to improve their homes and property - to inform them of our local ordinances and help them navigate the permitting process. Recently, I have worked with the Village Manger to update and overhaul the Section 3 website with respect to building regulations so as to help residents more easily understand the permitting process and to lessen any confusion that may arise in relationship to Montgomery County ordinances.

The future holds challenges for Section 3, but I am confident that the Council and the community together can successfully meet them, thereby preserving our neighborhood's desirability as a place to live and thrive. I greatly appreciated your support in my last election, and I would be delighted if you would vote for me again.

#### NATASHA M. SAIFEE

I have served as Vice Chair of Section 3's Council for the past six years. Through this service, I have learned much about our community and what can be done to ensure its continued success. I remain pleased to be a part of the Council. It is with great pride that I mention, regardless of the composition of the Council, our common quest to ensure the safety of our residents, vigilance over improvements, and fiscal responsibility has always been our focus. Along with my fellow Council members, great diligence and understanding of what is necessary for our continued prosperity has been my utmost concern.

In the coming months, and possibly years, many capital improvement projects will be under consideration. From the Geographic Information System (GIS) which will provide a foundation for us to use as a planning tool when dealing with everything from permits and property lines to pipelines; to our biggest transition, from outdated mercury vapor street lights to new ones. In addition, I expect improvements to our storm drain system will come under consideration, the majority of which was laid out in the 1920s. Investigation to see where possible problems are or will be, and focusing on how to solve them before they become a disruptive concern is a very important maintenance issue.

My goal is that all of these major projects will be done in a timely and responsible manner. Much time in education of the respective processes and continued consultation from outside experts will go into the consideration of cost, as well as overall benefits for our residents.

I look forward to seeing many of you daily out at the park as we watch our kids play, or at future Section 3 social events, and as always, hearing from you on what may be of concern or consideration for Section 3. I would be honored to serve again and ask for your vote in the upcoming elections.

## FINDING ELECTRICITY HOGS IN YOUR HOME WITH P3-KILL-A-WATT METER

Ever wonder if your refrigerator is really running you into the poor house? Is your computer or TV silently sipping electricity when you are not using it? What is the lamp you just replaced with an energy-saving compact fluorescent lamp saving you? Now you can find out with the P3 Kill-a-Watt Meter and make energy efficiency changes to decrease your overall electricity use.

#### How does it work?

The Kill-A-Watt meter is a simple, easy to use version of the home utility meter. Rather than finding the energy use of your entire house, this meter reads the power demand, energy use and other handy statistics of appliances and electronics.

Starting in April, you can come into Bethesda Green (4825 Cordell Avenue, Suite 200, Bethesda, MD) and borrow a P3 Killa-Watt Meter to bring back to your home and test your appliances for a few days. A copy of your drivers' license and small collateral (\$20) will be necessary in order to borrow a meter.

The meter comes with instructions as to how to test individual appliances and get information on how much electricity is used. Sounds like a good way to go green intelligently! If there is a good deal of interest in the use of this kind of meter, Section 3 may consider purchasing one for the exclusive use of our own residents on the same "short rental" basis.

## HORTICULTURE SHOW

#### Tuesday, April 12, 1:00-4:00 PM Chevy Chase Village Hall

The Garden Club of Chevy Chase presents "A Potomac Watershed Horticulture Show" in the Chevy Chase Village Hall on Tuesday, April 12. It will be open to the public from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

This will be an exhibit of plant material grown in mem-

ber's home, gardens or greenhouses and will be judged by Garden Club of America judges. There will be classes of native spring flowering branches and shrubs, native perennials, daffodils, tubers, tulips, ground covers and seedlings. For further information call (301) 657-8961.

## PLANNING AN ADDITION? PUTTING ON A DECK? INSTALLING A SUMP PUMP? MAKING CHANGES TO YOUR DRIVEWAY? REMODELING?

If you're considering any change to the exterior of your home or its footprint...you will probably need a permit...from both Montgomery County and Section 3. Our website has a copy of the Code of Ordinances which can be downloaded, along with a summary of the building permit procedure under "forms"—Building permit". Go to www.chevychasesection3.com for detailed information.

What is the procedure? You CANNOT get a County permit without first getting a letter of acknowledgement of your plans from Section 3's Building and Roads representative, Carolyn Greis. The County has made it clear that all residents living in municipalities will not be issued permits unless they have first contacted their municipal building inspector or equivalent to get this letter which must be submitted to the County along with their forms and a set of plans. This introductory letter is NOT a building permit; it is instead an opportunity to inform the Buildings and Roads representative of your plans, learn about those Section 3 ordinances that are pertinent to your plans, and confirm that your plans are allowed by code without first obtaining a Section 3 variance.

Only after the county has issued a building permit will Section 3 fully review your plans and issue a building permit if they are in compliance. Section 3's rules and the County's rules are NOT all the same, and in order to get a building permit in Section 3, you will have to comply with our rules as well as the County. For example, the County allows 6.5' fences at the rear of a property—Section 3 only allows 6' fences. The County's setback rules are different from ours...so please pay attention to these important differences.

To recap: You or your contractor must first get a Letter of Acknowledgement of your plans to deliver to the County from Section 3's Buildings and Roads representative. You will submit your plans, etc. to the County. AFTER those plans have been approved by the County, you will submit your building permit application (downloadable from our website) to the Buildings and Roads representative and submit that to her for review along with a check made out to Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase for \$10.

If you are thinking about making some improvements, check in first and save yourself difficulties later by reviewing the rules in Section 3 as well as with the County. If you, your architect or contractor have questions, feel free to contact Carolyn Greis, Buildings and Roads Representative or the Village Manager.

## GOT MAC'S?

For those of you who are loyal Mac users, there is someone



in this area who will be happy to take your old Mac off your hands. A Takoma Park citizen, Phil Shapiro, recognized a number of poor children whose parents couldn't afford a home computer...so he started to collect old used computers, helped to refurbish them and gives them to needy children. There is no foundation money involved, just one guy making a differ-

ence. A local vendor and repair person for Macs, Mitch Galen in this area is helping to turn over machines to him--everything from full computers no longer salable but still usable to power cords, peripheral materials, guide books and whatever else you have.

The bottom line, your used Apple may have another life....if you have one you'd like to donate (no tax deduction sorry), contact the Village Manager and she'll put you in touch with the local Mac guy or directly with Mr. Shapiro.

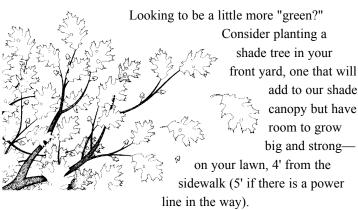
## "CHEVY CHASE AT HOME" GROUP FOR SENIORS PROGRESSING

Within 18 months, CC@H hopes to offer a support system of volunteers, a comprehensive clearing house of vetted service providers to help older Chevy Chase residents remain safely and comfortably in their own homes, and a social network for its members.

After a very encouraging response from more than 70 households, a steering committee has been formed of representatives of the Town of Chevy Chase, Chevy Chase Village, Section 3, Section 5, and Martin's Additions. Sub-committees and task groups have been set up. A survey questionnaire is being developed to be sent out to all residents of the five communities to help identify the needs and concerns of seniors in our community, as well as potential volunteers of any age.

For more information or to volunteer to work on this project, please call or e-mail: Naomi Kaminsky, (301) 657-8070, ikeok@verizon.net; or Joan Urban, (301) 652-4743, jbu-moscow@aol.com; or Marion Robertson, (301) 657-8992, MoRobertson@mac.com.

## ADD TO OUR UMBRELLA! PICK A SHADE TREE



Once again, Section 3 is offering free trees (and professional planting) to residents who agree to plant the tree in their front yard to provide shade for our sidewalk and therefore benefit your neighbors as well!

A number of years ago a committee met with a landscape architect and we came up with a selection of hardy trees that thrive in this area. You may notice a number of them already growing big and strong on your neighbor's lawns. We've added one additional tree to this year's selection. If you are interested in having such a tree planted, please be aware that you are responsible for watering it and keeping it alive after it's planted on your lawn. We provide a feeding tube buried with the tree roots to make it easy for you to do so. Initially, the tree will need to be watered twice a week. Here are your choices:

# Legacy MapleRed Sunset MapleLondon Plane TreeGinko Tree

Please fill out the form below and we'll drop off a marker for you to place where you'd like the tree planted. Trees are about 10-12' tall at planting and the root base is about a yard across. All the trees offered provide dense shade, so be aware that little trees grow big and full when making your decision about planting the tree.

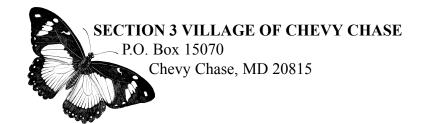
#### YES! I'D LOVE TO PLANT A

(SELECT ONE OF THE ABOVE LIST) ON MY FRONT LAWN.

NAME\_

STREET ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE VILLAGE MANAGER NO LATER THAN APRIL 20TH SO WE CAN PUT IN OUR ORDER.





### CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 Bulk Trash Pick-up Curbside

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon Gazebo Park 12:00 noon sharp For children and grandchildren 6 & under (see story)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 Council Meeting CCUMC Room 109 7:45 p.m.

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 18 SHRED IT!

Shred your personal documents at Brookville Market see story this issue 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 6 Bulk Trash pickup-curbside

TUESDAY, MAY 11 Section 3 Election and Annual Meeting 7:45 p.m. CCUMC Eppworth Room

SUNDAY, MAY 17 House Tour: see May issue for details