

SECTION THREE  
VILLAGE OF  
CHEVY CHASE

# News & Views

APRIL 2015

## CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 6**

Bulk trash pick-up, curbside



**TUESDAY, MAY 12**  
**SECTION 3 ELECTION**  
**AND ANNUAL MEETING**

Voting 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.,  
Annual Meeting 8:00 p.m.  
CCUMC, Eppworth Room

**FRIDAY, MAY 29**

Food Truck Night  
Gazebo Park, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**TUESDAY, JUNE 9**

Council meeting  
CCUMC, Eppworth Room, 7:45 p.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 6**

Annual Wine Tasting Event, 7:00 p.m.

## SECTION 3 BRINGS BACK THE AMERICAN ELM

Twenty-six Section 3 residents contributed to the renaissance of the American Elm the last week in March. A total of 27 trees were planted in Section 3 (including the tree planted in the Gazebo Park), which will greatly contribute to the shade canopy long after some of us have left. We urge all the families who purchased the trees to take pictures of the newly planted tree and their children, so when they return years from now, they can see the difference in both the tree's and the children's growth and remember when they planted the tree.

A special feeding tube was installed with each tree and we urge our residents to follow the care instructions to the letter... fill it three times a week for the next three weeks and then twice a week for the next two years!

For those of you who have "gator bags" on Serviceberry trees in the greenway, if you could fill up those bags with water, that would help the growth of those trees. Bags are only on the trees that have been planted within the past two years.

Spring is finally here and we wish all the new owners of Princeton Elms to enjoy them! Special thanks to Stadler Nurseries for planting the trees with such efficiency.

## EXCELLENT RESPONSE TO CPR/FIRST AID CLASSES

As of this writing, we 29 people signed up for one of two CPR classes and a First Aid class at Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. CPR folks will be working with mannequins and learning key skills which will hold them in good stead for a long time. We are pleased that we are able to offer these classes to our community and pleased by the response.

## GREENWAY REPAIR

This winter was brutal to many of our greenways. In an effort to tackle the streets with the most visible damage, we will be replacing the sod on Raymond, Spring, and Shepherd Streets along with spot repairs in other areas that have been severely damaged. It's hoped that next year we will tackle some of the other streets so that all the greenways needing renewal will be refreshed. This is a very costly process that requires the cooperation of the homeowners to water the sod on a regular basis until the grass takes hold and it also requires long-term attention. Our contractor, Chapel Valley Landscaping will be tackling this task later in April or early May.

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

[WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG](http://WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG)

**BILL BROWNLEE**

Chairman  
(301) 652-6351  
whbrownlee@aol.com

**NATASHA SAIFEE**

Vice Chair  
(240) 497-1889  
natasha.saifee@verizon.net

**MELISSA BROWN**

Secretary  
(301) 312-6059  
mbafrica@aol.com

**CAROLYN GREIS**

Buildings & Roads  
(301) 718-1737  
CAGreis@msn.com

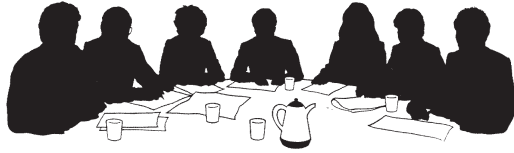
**MIKE DIETRICH**

Treasurer  
(301) 656-3203  
mfdietrich@starpower.net

**ANDY LEON  
HARNEY**

Village Manager  
(301) 656-9117  
(202) 361-3801 cell  
villagemanager@  
chevychasesection3.org

*\*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.*



## COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, March 12 in room 107 of Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. The meeting began at 7:55 p.m. All Council members except Bill Brownlee who was out of the country were in attendance.

### PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Police continue to patrol our streets 16 hours per month. They have issued numerous citations at Brookville Road and Taylor Street where the stop sign is often ignored. They have also monitored traffic going the wrong way on Shepherd Street near the preschool and stop sign compliance throughout the community.

### BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The Council voted to approve a variance request by the **Stephens** family of 6814 Delaware Street that will allow them to extend a patio 1'7" into the south side yard setback.

The **LeBoo** family of Georgia Street received a permit for a rear addition.

The **Chaturvedi/Clark** family will soon be issued a permit for their home at 7007 Florida Street.

We hope to have core samples taken of the roadways—both those with cracks in the surface now and streets we are contemplating resurfacing in the future. The resulting report will determine if we undertake major road reconstruction or simply mill and pave.

It's hoped that D&F Construction will soon be able to repair the tripping hazards in sidewalks throughout the community now that the weather is warmer. Many sidewalk panels will be dug out and replaced to improve the walkability of our community.

The Village Manager indicated that the yellow curbs would be repainted throughout the community and that we had found a vendor for the stop sign posts, bases and finials to match the combination street/stop signs.

Pepco will be replacing poles and some new lines in the community, but that has yet to be scheduled.

The public response to the offer to plant Princeton Elms has been excellent. The Council made the point that because these are shade trees and will grow quite large, that they should be at least three to five feet from any property line to allow for future growth (see story this issue).

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council discussed budget issues for next year and decided

to put more funds into the Capital Improvement Fund. It's not clear whether we need to do more extensive road reconstruction or just to mill and pave several streets next year. So, by increasing the Capital Improvement Fund, sufficient funds will be available if the more elaborate option is required. The proposed budget for next fiscal year (July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016) will be printed in the May issue of the newsletter. The budget will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.

Several CDs are coming due in the next few months, we have been able to roll over several but, until we know the rollover rate, we can't decide to retain the CD in the same institution or move it to another. Rates continue to be low. M&T Bank gives us excellent reports on our collateralized funds.

### COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The plans are in place for the Everybody's Irish Party on St. Patty's Day. We will have a tent and also several outdoor patio heaters for the first social event of the season.

The Easter Egg Hunt is arranged for Sunday, March 29. The Village Manager is working with the caterer on a revised menu as we now have fewer families with children under age 6.

We have been fortunate to have as a guest speaker Leslye Howerton, the primary planner for the downtown Bethesda Master Plan, at the Annual Meeting May 12.

**Jan Augustine** and the Village Manager have been working on a more lively website; they are excited about the flexibility it will afford and the opportunity for some revised graphics. The site will be shifted to a different platform with the same server.

The prospects for houses ready to show for this year's tour are dwindling. The Village Manager will continue to pursue suggested homeowners.

The Council discussed Food Truck night and decided that it will be held on May 29.

We've set the Annual Wine Tasting Event for Saturday, June 6. Two of the three hosts have been identified and have agreed to host the event.

### OTHER

The Village Manager reported that the pesticide bill at the county level is very much alive and would ban the use of pesticides that attack invasive weeds in your lawn along with grubs, ticks, etc.

The Village Manager also reported on several pieces of legislation at the state level which will affect us including extending the term of County Planning Commission head to three terms for a total of 12 years, lowering the amount we get for road repairs, and several other key pieces of legislation.

The meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.

## FORCED ENTRY BREAK-IN ON TAYLOR STREET

While Section 3 residents were away for a few days, sometime between March 21 and 25 their unlocked garage door to the home was opened and entry was gained through the finished basement which was also unlocked. It appears that the would-be thieves spent a great deal of time trying to break down the door from the kitchen to the basement and it's not at all clear if they succeeded. Nothing was apparently taken, but the violation of their property did occur. Police suspect amateurs and are pursuing several possible leads.

The lesson of this experience is clear—lock your doors, lock your garage doors, lock your cars and your windows. As the weather gets warmer and more neighbors have landscape contractors and other renovation contractors in their homes, it's easy for a stranger to blend into the woodwork and become invisible. We ask you to keep your eyes open, report any suspicious person at the time it happens directly to 911.

Every spring, itinerant workers knock on doors promising driveway renewals and other household repairs. Sadly, some of these people are actually casing the neighborhood. Do NOT open the door to them, do not use people who haven't been recommended to you by someone you trust.

## SIBLEY LECTURE COMES TO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

Sibley Hospital is sponsoring a lecture at the 4-H club on April 25 from 12:00 to 12:30 p.m. You can register at 11:45 there or pre-register by April 15th. The talk is titled, "Survivors Too: Stress Management for Caregivers" with keynote speaker Dr. Katherine Thornton of Sibley's Cancer Center. There will be brief talks by a yoga instructor, a clinical social worker, a palliative care nurse practitioner and a psychiatrist. If you are interested in attending, call (301) 896-3939.

## NEW STOP SIGNS SOON

In an effort to complete the change in signage in Section 3, all our stop sign posts will be changed to mirror the style of the street signs, complete with decorative green base, fluted columns and a pineapple finial. To see a sample of the proposed signs, look at the sign at the intersection of Florida and Raymond Streets, on the eastbound side (you may have passed it dozens of times without noticing.) When we get 29 new signs, the whole community will have unified signage at all intersections.

## COUNCIL SCRAPS MAY HOUSE TOUR

Unfortunately, we were unable to recruit enough new house renovations for our House Tour for charity this May. We hope that planning the tour on alternate years, we will have enough new homes. Some of the homeowners promise to be better ready next year. In the meantime, the homeless people who use the showers at Shepherd's Table will still need gently used towels along with travel soaps and lotions. So if you've been saving them this year, you can drop them off in bags by May 4th on the Village Manager's front porch and we'll make sure they get to those in need.

## BETHESDA AND WESTBARD SECTOR PLANS TO BE DISCUSSED APRIL 14

Plans for both the Bethesda and Westbard Sector plans will be discussed on Tuesday, April 14th from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Jane Lawton Community Center on Willow Lane. Speakers will include Gwen Wright, Director of the Montgomery County Planning Department, Leslye Howerton, Project Manager, Bethesda Sector Plan, and John Marcolin, Project Manager for the Westbard Sector Plan. Find out what is happening and what is proposed for these two neighborhoods so vital to our community.

## PLANT EXCHANGE

Wondering what to put in that empty space in your garden? Have too much *pacasandra* for your own good? Need some *Hosta*? Contact **Belva Finlay**, our plant exchange volunteer, to be added to her list of those who would love to recycle their plants in the neighborhood or folks wish to receive them! It's all free, it's all local. Belva's contact information is in the directory.

## CHEVY CHASE AT HOME APPRAISAL DAY MAY 16

Have you always wondered what Mom's china was worth? Would you like to know more about that painting you bought at a flea market? Or did you buy something you loved years ago that you suspect may have some value? Come to Chevy Chase At Home's Annual fundraiser appraisal day at Chevy Chase Village Hall from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 16. Registration is \$45 per person before May 12 and \$55 thereafter. Have up to three personal treasures evaluated by expert appraisers from the local auction house, Sloans & Kenyon. There will be talks as well as door prizes and refreshments. For more information, go to [www.chevychaseathome.org](http://www.chevychaseathome.org) or call (301) 657-3115.

## CANDIDATE'S STATEMENTS

Section 3 has elections the second Tuesday of May every year. We have five elected Council members who serve in rotating



two year terms. This year, there are three slots up for re-election and all the current Council members have indicated a desire to run for office again. No other

candidates submitted statements or expressed an interest in running.

For those of you new to the community, please take a moment to read these statements and get to know your elected officials. For those of you who know these people, we ask that

you read what they have to say about their roles in the community and hope that everyone will join us to catch up on what's happening both in Section 3 and what's happening in the wider community on May 12th at Chevy Chase United Methodist Church.

### WILLIAM H. "BILL" BROWNLEE

I have lived in Section 3 for fifty-five years and I have had the privilege of serving on the Section 3 Council for 16 years. During that time, there have been many changes as traffic in the area has gotten worse, many houses have been added to, or some torn down and replaced, 'Perry's field' has become the CCUMC playground, the park that was really a vacant lot has become Gazebo Park.

However, *plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose*. With these changes, Section 3 has remained a great place to live. I am pleased to have been on the Council as we work to make this an even better, and more attractive, place to live.

The two off-duty County police officers we hire to patrol our streets now know many of the residents and are a part of the community.

In the last year, we have installed all new, more attractive, and easier-to-read street signs.

We are continuing to work with PEPCO to replace their street lights with better, more efficient lights that the Section would own.

Our Buildings & Roads representative has worked closely with residents to meet their desires to improve their property while maintaining a need for open spaces and control of water runoff.

I hope you have visited the Little Free Library we installed in the park and have taken a book or added a book.

I would be pleased to have your vote for another term on the

Council but I mainly hope that you will come to the Annual Meeting, voice any concerns and opinions, vote and listen to our speaker, the Chief Planner for the Bethesda Master Plan, discuss a topic of importance to all of us.

### CAROLYN GREIS

It's hard to believe that I have now finished five terms on Section 3's Village Council. Time flies when one lives in such a special place. What's not hard to believe is that I would like nothing more than to begin another one.

So perhaps after ten years as a councilmember, a reintroduction is in order for those that may not know me personally. My husband and I moved here from California in 2001 when our first-born was only six months old. Another child and several pets later, we still don't have the slightest desire to move elsewhere—and have completely renovated our house and yard as if to quash the possibility. Once here, I became actively involved in the volunteer leadership of anything that had a "CC" in its name: CCUMC and the CCUMC Preschool, the PTAs of RHPS and CCES, the CCRA, the CCHS (Historical Society) and, of course, Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase. My involvement in all these organizations reflected my desire to improve the environment around me: to both enhance the physical, built context and to foster a strong sense of community so as to make my neighborhood and its environs a better place to live.

Serving as the Buildings and Roads representative has afforded me the opportunity for involvement at our community's smaller scale by assisting residents as they navigate the permitting process to improve their homes and property. Working together with my fellow council members on larger issues has allowed me to chance to help protect this wonderfully vibrant neighborhood we all cherish. The past two years have seen the council take an activist role on behalf of its residents to try to impact proposed zoning changes at the county level (the Zoning Rewrite, the Chevy Chase Sector Plan, and the Bethesda Master Plan) which threatened the character and integrity of single-family neighborhoods like ours.

I didn't used to think about my life in terms of decades, but it seems to happen a lot more these days the older – and hopefully wiser – I get. I have had the honor, pleasure and privilege of serving on the Section 3 Village Council for ten years now. I have greatly appreciated your support in past elections, and I respectfully ask for your vote once again.

### NATASHA SAIFEE

This month will mark fourteen years of living in Section 3 for me. For the past twelve of those years, I have had the pleasure of serving on Section 3's Council as Vice Chair. I am always surprised at how fast the time has gone and how much older many of our children are getting.

When I first decided to run for a position on the Council, my

husband, Salim and I had been living in our previous house in the neighborhood and we had not started our family yet. After 10 years in that home and almost four years in our current home, we now have two girls who will turn 11 this July. Having a job which I walk to, at the preschool in our neighborhood, and having other volunteer positions based in Chevy Chase, I feel quite solid in the roots we have established here. Another major component is enjoying the good relations I have with my nearby friends and neighbors. Our little community in Section 3 is very special and it keeps families from leaving. It is also the reason why I continue to run for a position on the Council.

Compared to neighboring municipalities, I feel we are very lucky here in Section 3. We have had little discontent throughout our community in the years I have been on the Council and I feel it speaks volumes to the type of relations we have collectively cultivated with one another. Whether it is daily decisions such as variance requests or getting new street signs, or potentially larger issues such as traffic congestion and school overcrowding due to major development down the road for the Purple Line, all of it has an impact on our neighborhood and therefore our daily lives. We have an informed community who is not afraid to speak up when they are not satisfied, but we do so in a constructive manner. The few times the Council has had to get involved, we try very hard to maintain a sense of respect for both sides and genuinely try to come to an amicable solution for all.

Today I am asking for your vote, but I am also asking each of you to take an active role in your community. Section 3 is a wonderful place to live, but it can only continue to grow if we all share our input and help move it forward. Come to Council meetings and take an active part in your neighborhood, and please come vote on Tuesday, May 12th.

### REQUEST FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR MAY 12, 2015 SECTION 3 ELECTION

I (name) \_\_\_\_\_ of (street address) \_\_\_\_\_ am unable to attend the election for Village Council members from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. on May 12th 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 Friday, April 17th 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

## BUILDING PERMITS...

### WHEN YOU NEED ONE, HOW TO GET ONE



Carolyn Greis is our Buildings and Roads Representative in Section 3. If you are thinking about putting on an addition, paving a driveway, installing a patio, putting up a fence, installing in a sump pump...all these things require a permit. Section 3 has some excellent information on our website under building information. Our ordinances are also on the website.

But before you go to the trouble and expense of making any improvement, take a moment to read up on our rules which differ in some ways from the County rules. Then, if you have any questions, contact Carolyn and talk it over with her first.

If you want a County permit (which you need before you can get a Section 3 permit), you will need a letter of acknowledgment from Carolyn saying we are aware of what you propose to do on your property. The County will not accept your application without that letter. Once they give you a permit at the County level, you will then have to apply for a Section 3 permit as well (forms are available on the website).

## 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 U.S. citizen. 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 \_\_\_\_\_

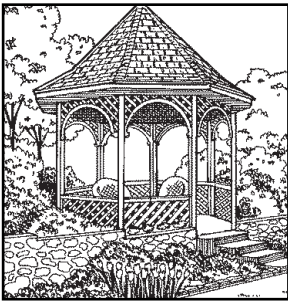
Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Print your Name \_\_\_\_\_



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



**SECTION THREE  
VILLAGE OF  
CHEVY CHASE**

# News & Views

**APRIL 2015**

**FORM 502 MARYLAND RESIDENT  
INCOME TAX RETURN**

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2012, ENDING

Social Security number		Spouse's Social Security number	
Your First Name	Initial	Last Name	
Spouse's First Name	Initial	Last Name	
Present Address (No. and street)			
City or Town		State	ZIP code
Chevy Chase		MD	20815
Name of county and incorporated city, town or special taxing area in which you resided on the last day of the taxable period. (See Instruction 6)		Maryland County	City, Town, or Taxing Area
		MONTG	CH CH SEC 3

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only



125090049

**2014**  
\$

**IF YOU LIVE IN SECTION 3  
SAY SO ON YOUR TAX  
RETURN!**

When you file your Section 3 return, be certain to indicate that you live in Section 3 of Chevy Chase on your tax return so that the portion of income taxes allocated to municipalities comes to us!