

News&Views

APRIL 2018

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
Bulk Trash Pickup, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11 Council Meeting CCUMC, Epworth Room, 7:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2 Bulk Trash Pickup, Curbside



TUESDAY, MAY 8
Council Election
& Annual Meeting
Voting 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Annual meeting 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, MAY 11 Spring Food Truck Night Gazebo Park, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

www.chevychasesection3.org

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ANDY LEON HARNEY

Village Manager (301) 656-9117 villagemanager@chevychasesection3.org

EVERYBODY'S IRISH THRIVES UNDER THE BIG TENT

The early days of March proved to be a weather challenge for us all...including those who joined us to celebrate Everybody's Irish on March 17. Despite the cold and threat of rain, a large number of hardy souls joined us under a nice warm tent on Fulton Street. We consumed some good Irish adult beverages, juice boxes, soda and an array of "traditional" foods for our kind of holiday—green eggs and ham, green bagels, guacamole and chips, corned beef and Swiss cheese sandwiches, lamb and feta in pita bread, veggie wraps and popular favorite, strawberries dipped in chocolate and drizzled with green icing... what a night!

Thanks to the Council members present for tending bar. We managed to consume a powerful amount of liquid refreshments and food in just two hours among friends! Hope to see you next year!

EASTER EGG HUNT AND BUFFET

The Gazebo Park looked as if someone had scattered confetti all over the park:hundreds of plastic eggs tucked into trees, along fence lines and in bushes. Despite the cold weather, lots of little ones with big baskets came to the Annual



Easter Egg "hunt" and buffet on Sunday, March 25. The kids all had a wonderful time, as did the parents. Special thanks to **Ellie Nader** for organizing a team of older kids to help hide about 400 eggs in record time.

Luncheon by Mindy's Catering was quickly consumed and the entire event for short-attention-span little ones, lasted about an hour—including lunch. We have a wonderful group of children under the age of 6 just getting acquainted. Adults and children enjoyed both the hunt and meeting one another. Special thanks to **Mark DeLaquil** who served as a gracious host Easter Bunny this year.

Don't forget to list Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase on your Maryland Tax Returns with code 1614.

^{*}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 14. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m. with all Council members present except Bill Brownlee who was out of the country.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY

We have been told that the construction at Brookville and Taylor Street won't be scheduled until after the contractor's "winter break" on April 9, at which time we will have a date set for the construction to make the intersection safer.

The Village Manager has asked our police to survey all the house numbers in the community to make certain that emergency personnel can find each home easily and that the numbers are in compliance with the County rules. The Village Manager will be contacting homeowners if they don't have visible numbers.

Buildings & Roads

Prior to starting with the meeting's agenda, the Council held a discussion about the variance requested and denied by the **Altamar** family of Delaware Street to construct a patio located entirely within the 20 foot rear setback. The family is going to work with their landscape architect to develop an alternative plan that will either not locate a structure in the setback at all or will require a new variance request but with a smaller footprint.

Buildings and Roads representative Carolyn Greis reported that permits for the construction of new fences have been granted to the **Chernousov** family of Taylor Street and the **Dodson** family of Raymond Street. **Daniella Landau** of Raymond Street was granted a building permit for the construction of a driveway and special drainage accommodations in her front yard.

The Village Manager reported on the status of the proposed Federal, state and Montgomery County small cell tower legislation. The FCC is weighing the possibility of passing rules that would pre-empt all local decisions regarding their placement. Maryland State Legislature was considering a bill but its sponsor withdrew it because there is such controversy surrounding it. Montgomery County is also in a holding pattern as to what to do regarding this legislation. If the County passes pro-small cell tower legislation as a zoning text amendment, then Section 3 would be powerless to have much say in their placement in the greenways in our community, something we have already vigor-

ously protested to the County Council. At the moment, it seems to be a "wait and see" situation.

WSSC plans to replace water lines in about 2020. Designers of the new system have asked to survey our community so they can develop plans that will be included in the bid package they are preparing in 2019. What they neglected to tell us was that they planned to mark up our streets and sidewalks as part of that exercise. Our contact at WSSC promises that once the survey is complete and the necessary information gathered, they will power wash away all the markings.

The **Schmid/Nesbitt** family has offered to plant a flowering tree in the park in memory of the Frissell's dog Jake who recently passed away. The Council accepted that offer and will be working with the family to select a tree appropriate to the Gazebo Park. We thank them for this lovely gesture.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council reviewed the proposed budget for FY 18-19 (see story this issue) in some detail. It was also pointed out that a number of CDs were coming due in April and we should be seeking higher rates if possible.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Council discussed plans for the upcoming Everybody's Irish Event and agreed on the schedule for Council members to assist in the adult beverage department to be certain that only age-qualified residents were consuming them.

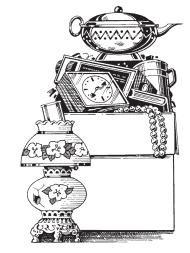
The Easter Egg Hunt and Buffet may attract a smaller crowd because so many younger children have "aged out" and because the event marks the beginning of public school Spring Break.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

CHEVY CHASE UNITED

METHODIST CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE

Mark April 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday April 14 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for the Chevy Chase Methodist Church Annual Rummage Sale. You will find lots of goodies from books and jewelry to home décor and kitchen items



and all proceeds will benefit the Church's mission work.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of a long-time Section 3 resident, **Dr. Irene Tamagna** of Connecticut Avenue on Sunday, March 25. She was nearly 103 years old. Born in Austria, she married an Italian and came to the US after her medical training. When her husband became ill, Dr. Tamagna converted part of her home into her medical office so that she could care for her husband and raise her children at home. She had a vibrant practice there for many years, stopping only well into her 90s. She was a professor at George Washington University School of Medicine and raised two daughters, Jane and Ellen in their home at Connecticut and Taylor Streets. She always had a smile on her face and was kind to everyone who knew her. In her later years, she was a member of a small Section 3 based group of German-speaking neighbors who shared a monthly potluck luncheon. She was much beloved. We will miss her.

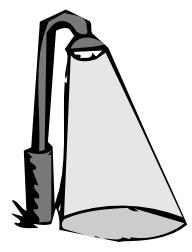
Congrats to **Rabbi Schneur Zalman Minkowitz** and his wife **Muska** on the birth of their son **Peretz** on March 22 weighing in at 8.4 lbs! Peretz joins brother **Mendel** and sisters **Chana** and **Riva** in their home on Brookville Road.

VOTING IN THE PRIMARIES IS KEY

Did you know that in 2014, only 17.6 percent of Montgomery County citizens voted in the primary?

New limitations on terms and public financing of campaigns have changed the landscape since the last major election, so voting in County and State primaries on June 26 is KEY! Section 3 is in Maryland District 18 for State offices. We have an opportunity to select a State Senator and two of three delegates. At the County level, we have an opportunity to pick a new County Executive, a Council Member from our County District 1, and 3 of the 4 At-large Members. County and State elected officials pass laws that affect our infrastructure, school resources and our built and natural environments. They also determine how much we pay in County and State taxes and how that money is spent.

Plan on voting in the primary June 26. Your vote can make a difference. It's a full field of candidates. More to come in future issues of *News and Views*.



STREET LIGHTING PREP

Using the plan developed by our lighting consultant, Scott Watson, the Village Manager has marked all the poles where new lights will be placed so that we can see if we need additional lighting or need to move lights from one pole to another. As part of our research before going to the Pepco hierarchy, we wanted to get current pricing

for our choice, induction lights (like the demonstration light on Georgia Street). Sadly, the market enthusiasm for LED lighting has made induction lighting a solution of the past. The major distributor of induction lighting is no longer offering them. In fact, they are no longer offered anywhere. So we are left with the dilemma of LED lights that our Council has found too harsh a light for our streets...What to do? Seek out the equivalent of a "warm white" LED light. It turns out this is an up-and-coming concept in which the industry is just catching up.

There are two possible candidates for that type of light and we are now working with the major distributor of municipal LED lighting in this area, Acuity Brands, to see if we can't obtain the two versions of warmer lights and put them in as demonstration lights before we make a decision. It's not clear if one of the two options is being manufactured in sufficient quantity to be available. The other seems to be available and in fact the District of Columbia is also looking at the same quality warm white light.

We've found a "bracket arm" that will support the lights at the center of the street and compliment our street sign posts. We are working to get a demonstration light or lights installed so we can all see them "in person" before we make a major budgetary commitment. We need to ascertain how far each of these lights throws light onto the sidewalk so that we can be certain that we don't "relamp" our streets and inadvertently create new black holes. We anticipate that we will need to bring back our lighting consultant to review our plans once we have decided on the best quality light from those available to avoid that problem. As we progress, we'll continue to keep the community informed and have everyone take a hard look at the demonstration light or lights.

April 2018 Page 3

PROPOSED BUDGET

Each year the Council tackles one major budgetary priority. Last year it was repairing Spring Street and a portion of Georgia Street. For the next fiscal year, it is our hope to get the street lighting project either completed or well underway. Some of the timing is within our control, but we are going to be relying on a public utility with many other priorities, so we're not yet certain as to the timing and/or the cost. We do know that our capital improvement fund will cover these expenses (see story about lighting this issue).

We have been building a capital improvement fund to cover any overages on street repairs, and to stockpile funds for new lighting throughout the community. That came in handy this past year, as the amount of base or foundation repairs we had to do on Spring and Georgia Streets exceeded our budgeted allotment. At the time that we passed the budget, we recognized that we would have to dip into the Capital Improvement Fund for any overages. This year, we are not listing the street light replacement as a line item as we don't yet have a full grasp of the cost, instead, we plan to fund it with our Capital Improvement Fund which will have more than enough in it to cover the new lights.

Notes on Income projections:

We have budgeted conservatively on income tax revenues because we're not certain exactly what the impact of the new federal tax brackets will do to our income tax revenues, hence the jump from \$450,000 to only \$465,000. If you look at our year-to-date income tax revenues, rest assured, we still have several outstanding income tax payments due to us for this fiscal year.

The State Highway Tax revenues are based on the Maryland Municipal League's estimate as to what we will receive IF the state legislature grants us our full Highway User Revenues. This number may change by the time the budget comes to a vote at the Annual Meeting of Section 3.

Notes on Expense projections:

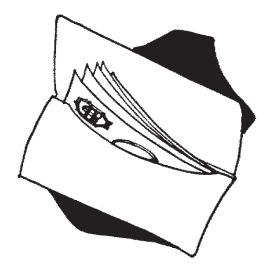
We are adding another \$200,000 to the total for our **Capital Improvement Fund**, which will result in a total of \$1,364,894.90.

Montgomery County has instituted a new charge (County Accounting Fees) to municipalities for preparing your tax bills, based on number of lines on the bill. In prior years we have not been charged due to our size but it's possible this year, there will be a charge, hence the new line item.

We expect to need **Engineering Services** to draw up wiring plans and perhaps some revisions to our plans for our lighting system, hence the \$12,000 line item.

In the past few years, we have been proactive in trimming

trees in the public right of way, thus preventing any serious loss of property and insuring the safety of pedestrians. We have also used Grass & Tree funds to plant street trees and pay



our landscape contractors and cover the cost of mulch used in the playground so many of our children use at the Church.

Payroll & Taxes for the Village Manager salary and the police are for the first time broken out separately.

Street Lighting projections are only for the cost of the electricity bill for the gazebo in the park and the street lights. All other expenses related to new lighting will come from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Street Signs covers both signage and also curb painting.

Telephone and on-line is lower this year as Section 3 now has a government rate cell phone and has discontinued land line service, making it possible for residents to contact the Village Manager at any time, rarely having to leave a message. On-line expenses also cover our website host fees.

Waste Collection estimates are higher as we have to go out for bid for a new contract this year which may cost us more.

Water charges are for the irrigation system in the park. WSSC did not bill us due to an earlier error which was corrected in 2016-17. We are not certain of our actual usage as they continue to estimate bills even when our water system is turned off from November to April. The Village Manager is working with the utility to get this problem corrected.

Capital Improvement Fund. Last year we dipped into the fund to cover the excess charges we incurred for properly renovating some of our streets and upgrading to compliance a number of our handicapped ramps. We spent \$135,105.10 from that fund which was at \$1,300,000. We plan to replenish that fund with \$200,000 in the upcoming budget.

If you have any questions regarding any of the proposed budget items, feel free to contact any of our Council members prior to the Annual Meeting and by all means, plan on coming to the Annual Meeting on May 8.

CHEVY CHASE SECTION 3 BUDGET

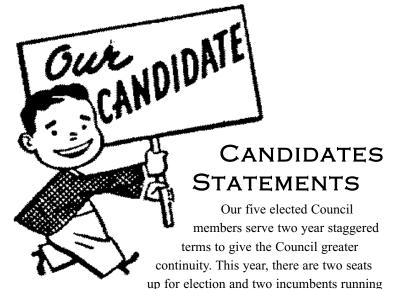
	FY16-17 actual	FY17-18 budget	FY 17-18 YTD *	Proposed FV 10.10
INCOME				FY 18-19
Building Permits	\$5,600.00	\$3,000.00	\$2,275.00	\$4,000.00
Cable TV franchise fees	\$10,020.30	\$8,500.00	\$7,372.95	\$10,000.00
CCUMC trash collection	\$1,387.44	\$1,850.00	\$0.00	\$1,900.00
County Duplication	\$31,513.00	\$30,796.00	\$31,513.00	\$31,500.00
Income Taxes	\$619,262.93	\$450,000.00	\$347,327.37	\$465,000.00
Interest	\$24,385.75	\$12,000.00	\$16,615.84	\$20,000.00
Parking fines	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$45.00	\$60.00
Property	\$53,327.46	\$55,000.00	\$51,085.92	\$53,091.00
State Highway Tax	\$20,071.58	\$20,000.00	\$17,472.07	\$20,000.00
Income total	\$765,568.46	\$581,196.00	\$473,707.15	\$605,551.00
Expenses				
Accounting fees	\$10,838.80	\$12,000.00	\$11,595.56	\$15,000.00
Bank Service charges	\$63.01	\$100.00	\$134.90	\$150.00
County Landfill Charges	\$7,635.47	\$11,000.00	\$7,570.16	\$8,000.00
County Accounting fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00
Dues & Council Dinner	\$3,258.06	\$5,000.00	\$4,367.85	\$5,200.00
Engineering Consult Svcs	\$1,752.43	\$10,000.00	\$480.00	\$12,000.00
Equipment	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	\$299.95	\$850.00
Grass & Trees	\$40,048.00	\$38,000.00	\$30,889.56	\$40,000.00
Insurance	\$9,156,40	\$10,000.00	\$5,978.61	\$10,000.00
Legal Fees	\$5,074.00	\$8,500.00	\$8,728.38	\$12,000.00
Misc	\$409.37	\$250.00	\$310.49	\$500.00
Newsletter	\$8,283.86	\$11,000.00	\$4,409.71	\$9,500.00
Office Supplies	\$921.76	\$1,500.00	\$179.22	\$500.00
Party-in-the-Park	\$13,730.90	\$18,000.00	\$15,962.75	\$18,000.00
Payroll & Taxes	\$95,445.18	\$100,000.00	\$65,747.32	\$103,000.00
Police Payroll & taxes	\$8,476.10	\$9,200.00	\$5,980.96	\$9,000.00
Postage & Delivery	\$2,575.26	\$3,600.00	\$2,583.38	\$3,500.00
Recycling-leaf bags, dogs	\$2,717.30	\$3,800.00	\$2,131.05	\$3,200.00
Rent storage unit	\$2,448.00	\$2,650.00	\$1,690.00	\$2,650.00
Snow Removal	\$2,420.00	\$20,000.00	\$1,656.00	\$20,000.00
Street Lighting	\$6,873.91	\$8,500.00	\$4,146.85	\$9,000.00
Street Repairs	\$2,225.00	\$188,000.00	\$188,000.00	\$10,000.00
Street Signs, curbs	\$6,146.46	\$5,000.00	\$3,100.26	\$6,000.00
Telephone & On-Line	\$1,916.46	\$2,800.00	\$1,212.82	\$2,000.00
Waste Collection	\$74,024.28	\$84,000.00	\$53,342.52	\$84,000.00
Water	\$1,038.33	\$0.00	\$317.12	\$500.00
Wynne Payment	\$12,482.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,100.00
Expense total	\$319,960.34	\$554,400.00	\$555,920.52	\$590,150.00 **
Capital Improvement Fund***	\$1,200,000.00	\$1,300,000.00	\$1,164,894.90	\$1,364,894.90

Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30.

^{*} As of March 21, 2018

^{**} This figure includes the allocation of \$200,000 to be added to the Capital Improvement Fund below.

^{***} Only a portion of this will be spent in FY 18-19.



for those seats. Here are their statements. Voting is from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Chevy Chase United Methodist Church in the Epworth room, just prior to the 8 p.m. Annual Meeting on May 8. Plan on attending. All Council meetings are open to the public. Except for the Annual meeting and the month of August, meetings are held at the CCUMC room 107 on the second Wednesday of every month.

MELISSA BROWN

I have had the privilege to serve on the Village Council for 6 years. One of my favorite moments each year is the annual meeting where I get to thank the many volunteers in our community. It always reminds me of what makes Section 3 so special - we are good to each other. We socialize together. We exercise together. We look out for and care for each other, particularly our seniors and our kids, as well as our dogs and cats! In doing so, we maintain what many of us see as an unparalleled quality of life.

And what a privilege it is to serve on the Council where we strive to support you as you support each other. From my perspective that means ensuring that you have ample opportunity to weigh in on decisions we take on behalf of the community, listening to what you care about and prioritize for Section 3, ensuring our ordinances are updated and adapt with the community, and resourcing what we care about, including and especially social events that keep us close and connected. The Council cannot do any of this without your support so thank you. Over the past two years, the Council has tried to move efficiently to fix and maintain our roads, keep our community safe, and ensure that the

County hears our views on important issues including plans for our roads, local development, and zoning. We also think creatively for how to innovate in the "social realm" and support activities that bring all of the community together, such as celebrating the start of the new year at La Ferme.

My family— including my husband Chris and two daughters **Samantha** (15) and **Charlotte** (10)—has lived in Section 3 for almost a decade, longer than my husband and I have lived anywhere in our lives! I have served in the Federal government for 23 years. Our kids enjoy the local public schools and we are active in our church. But, at the end of the day, we come home to Section 3, a community that we do not take for granted. Serving the community on the Council is a wonderful opportunity. I would be honored to have your vote to continue that service.

MIKE DIETRICH

Four years ago, I was fortunate enough to be elected to serve on the Section 3 Council. I currently serve as your Treasurer. It's been an active, productive four years and, if it's the will of the Section 3 voters, I look forward to serving another two year term.

For those of you new to our neighborhood, my wife Ferrall and I—who have had a history of moving frequently—arrived in Section 3 in 2007, settling into Florida Street with our two boys and dogs. Section 3 tends to make an immediate impression on those of us lucky enough to live here, and sure enough, two short years later when we made our next move, the furthest we would consider moving was only across the street. Today, our boys attend Bethesda Chevy Chase High School and Silver Creek Middle School, and my wife owns a small business just down Connecticut Avenue. The roots are deep.

Over the past four years, I've gained a deeper appreciation of what it is that makes the Section 3 community so special. For me, it's several things: the safe environment in which our boys can grow, the easy interaction with neighbors, the access to parks, trails and downtown. But mostly, it's the people. It's a caring, interesting, fun, and active group that works hard to build and sustain that sense of community. The annual Party in the Park, the way we welcome new neighbors, and the Halloween Parade are but a few examples.

SPRING CLEANING IN SECTION 3

Yellow curbs have been painted, the park will soon get its Spring installation of sod (which means it will be closed for about 2-3 weeks depending on how well the sod takes). New No Parking signs have been installed to make it clear which side of the street is NO PARKING and to better define no parking spots that have yellow curb but are regularly violated.

We've also asked our police patrols to check all house numbers so that emergency assistance can find your home. The County rule (which applies in Section 3) is that house numbers should not be written out, as in three thousand eight hundred one but should be Arabic numerals like **3801**. They should be easy to see from the street. The numbers should be against a contrasting background, ideally reflective for night visibility and prominently displayed. Older homes can have numbers as small as 3.5 inches but new homes have to have five inch numbers. If you are replacing your house numbers, think about putting five inch reflective house numbers. The last thing you want is for an ambulance or a fire/rescue truck to waste a second trying to find your house because the numbers aren't visible. Homeowners whose house numbers are not in compliance will have already heard from the Village Manager based on the survey done by our police patrols or they will be hearing soon.

STORM TAKES DOWN SECTION 3 TREES

The recent March storm did some serious damage in Section 3. The **Thompsons** on Georgia Street lost a tree in their front yard which hit both their cars but not the house. The **Crist** family on Raymond Street had their front porch seriously damaged by a

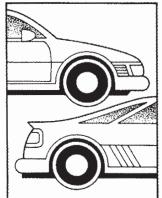


large evergreen which fell from in front of their neighbor's house. And the **Kettlers**, who had only recently moved into their home on Shepherd Street, had a backyard tree demolish the addition to that home. The damage to their property was most severe and they were in the bedroom just feet from where the tree fell. The **Rippeon** family on Bradley Lane had a large tree fall on their garage and on the neighbor's power line. Miraculously, no one was hurt and all the damaged property can be restored. Happily, due to our vigilance in trimming trees overhanging the right-ofway, no streets or sidewalks were blocked.

3602 TAYLOR STREET STATUS REPORT

The Council has been actively involved in efforts, in conjunction with the County, to get the condemned construction at 3602 Taylor Street removed. Unfortunately, the legal owner continues to be Taylor Road LLC, and the owner of that LLC has not been cooperative in allowing the lender to proceed, with his permission, to demolish the structure. We are at the mercy of the court system as the foreclosure process moves through the legal requirements. Mistakes made by the attorney for the lender have extended these delays. As soon as the lender becomes the legal owner of the property, which may not be until late April, he assures us that he intends to apply for the appropriate permits to demolish the structure

On another front, the County has taken the owner of Taylor Road LLC, Saul Golan, to court for lack of compliance with its condemnation order and his failure to repair or remove the structure and also to remove the decaying tree on the property. That case, in Maryland District Court in Maryland, took place on Tuesday, March 27. Mr. Golan did not appear in court and has been fined the maximum allowed by the statute: \$500. At the same time, the Village continues to issue \$500 citations for failure to build according to the permitted plans.



MVA ON WHEELS SCHEDULE

Need to get your license renewed? Get new tags for your license plate?

The MVA mobile office

comes to Friendship Heights monthly

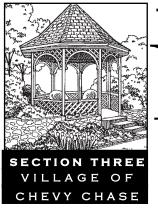
at 4433 South Park Avenue (the Village of Friendship Heights Town Hall) from 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you need any express services, they will be there April 23, May 29, and June 25.

April 2018 Page 7



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815



EWS&VIEWS

APRIL 2018

MARYLAND TAX RETURNS

Make sure when you fill out your Maryland State Taxes that you identify your location as Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase with the required identifying number of 1614 on your return!

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING _	2	017, ENDING		=	
Your Social Security Number	Spouse's Social Securit	ty Number			
Your First Name	Initial	Your Last Name			
Spouse's First Name	Initial	Spouse's Last Na	ame		
Current Mailing Address Line 1 (Stre		PO Box)			
City or Town	No., Suite No., Floor No.,	State	ZIP Code		