

**SECTION THREE**  
**VILLAGE OF**  
**CHEVY CHASE**

# News & Views

FEBRUARY 2019

## CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**

**Council Meeting**  
**CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6**

**1st Bulk Trash Day of 2019!**  
**Curbside pick-up**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13**

**Council Meeting**  
**CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17**

**Everybody's Irish Party**  
**Gazebo Park**  
**5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**



## VILLAGE COUNCIL

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## LA FERME SECTION 3 GET TOGETHER A BIG HIT!

It was a dark and snowy night on January 13 and for a while, La Ferme wasn't certain they could get waiters to come to work....but they did and the turnout was wonderful. No one had to drive, and most did not. The crowd was larger than last year and happily, the well-heated side porch made for easy conversation around tables. We all had a wonderful time catching up with one another. Neighbors met neighbors they hadn't seen in ages, others met for the first time. The hors d'oeuvres were wonderful, the wine and beer fantastic...and you could order food from the restaurant if you wanted...how great.

Many thanks to everyone at La Ferme for their hard work and good cheer! We hope to be back next year to do it again.



## ARBORIST CONCERNED ABOUT AFTER-EFFECTS OF HEAVY RAINS

Paul Wolfe, of Integrated Plant Care and our Village Arborist, is warning that the long-term effects of the excessive rain on plants and bushes in our area could be severe. He recently transplanted bushes for a client only to find that instead of a strong root structure, the bushes had thin, immature roots. Because of the heavy rains, they had not developed a normal root structure. Excessive rains have deprived the soil of air which roots need to thrive, creating an anaerobic situation. If we get more rain, because the soil is 100% saturated, that could result in root rot. If we encounter a drought in the spring or summer, the lack of solid root structures and stress on plants that today look perfectly healthy could result in a lot of dead plant material.

What can you do? Not much but keep an eye open, particularly trees and bushes that have been heavily flooded in your yard.

**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.*



## COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 at CCUMC Room 107. The meeting began at 7:55 p.m. All Council members were present.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

The Council discussed the recent rash of car break-ins of unlocked cars. The Village Manager has notified the community and communicated directly with all the residents whose cars were “tossed.” She also immediately notified our police patrolmen. It was agreed that she would reach out to the community liaison person at the police headquarters for District 2 and work to get the police to have a greater presence in the midnight to 6 a.m. hours. If that proves insufficient, it was agreed that we would look at either increasing the hours of our police patrolmen or getting new recruits to cover the midnight to 6 a.m. hours on a random basis. (See story this issue).

The Council also discussed the problem of trucks on Raymond Street and the Village Manager has been in contact with the builder of the houses at 3613 and 3615 Raymond Street and will also be speaking to the head of the sub-contracting firm doing all the damage. The builder has agreed to have crews restore the ruts with additional top soil and cover them with mulch. It’s clear, however, that this will continue to be a problem but so far the builder has been amenable to correcting and addressing the ruts in the greenway.

### BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Council’s representative for Buildings and Roads, Carolyn Greis, reported that two fence permits have been issued: one for the **Manning** family at 7005 Florida Street and the other for the **Harrison** family at 3618 Shepherd Street.

The Council spent a great deal of time with **Bonnie Luken and Ed Barron** whose Georgia Street property is affected by the run-off at 3613 and 3615 Raymond Street. The Council is working with the builder to be certain that all the water pumped from the site is filtered as required by Montgomery County but until the property can be back-filled and rain tanks installed, it’s difficult to manage runoff when we have had such heavy rains saturating the property even before the first foundation was dug. The Council has promised to keep an eye on the builder and work with neighbors to ameliorate as many problems as is possible during the building process. In terms of compliance with County and Section 3 ordinances, they are in compliance. Greis agreed to add a clause to their building permit that should problems occur once the property was completed, that

the builder would make the necessary alterations to reduce stormwater runoff problems for a year **after** the property was completed.

**Bob Salmon**, a former Council chair and Raymond Street resident, came to ask the Council to explore and adopt an ordinance similar to the one recently passed by the District government to ban two- cycle gas-powered leaf blower use in Section 3. The noise for those who work at home is deafening and with sufficient notice, he felt that contractors could adjust to using electric powered blowers (assuming their customers have outside plugs). The result would be less noise, less pollution and more energy-efficient use of machinery to accomplish the same goal. The Council agreed to look into it and hopes that those reading the minutes in the Newsletter will share their thoughts with the Council.

The Village Manager reported that Snow Central is ready should we get a snowstorm the weekend of January 13 and that we will proceed with the Section 3 Get Together at La Ferme even if it snows as most of our residents who attend will be walking.

The Council passed emergency legislation regarding small cell tower legislation (see January News & Views for the reasons). The final legislation will be sent to everyone via email and will be made permanent at the February meeting with the understanding that: 1. The FCC’s rulings may pre-empt parts or all of our ordinance; 2. The State’s ordinance may pre-empt our legislation; 3. The County may pass an ordinance that would override our ordinance and finally; 4. We may have to “tweak” or alter our ordinance after all of the various agencies have passed legislation. As it stands, our ordinance is largely the same as that of Section 5, Martin’s Additions and the Town of Chevy Chase, which should assist carriers interested in installing small cell towers in our area in understanding and respecting our regulations. At the moment, however, the County’s regulations mandate that a tower must be 60 feet from any residence, which in Section 3, given our narrow streets, precludes the installation of ANY towers.

In the meantime, because Section 3 is bound on two sides by State highways (Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road) the Village Manager has reached out to the head of utilities for the entire State Highway Administration to ask that when companies come to them to install antennas and other equipment on state highways in our area, we have a seat at the table. We have been told that will be the case, but that like Section 3, the State Highway Administration has no idea whose laws will govern their decision-making and they have yet to establish any concrete policies.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Village Manager is seeking some new institutions to invest in two year or less Certificates of Deposit. The Council was

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SECTION THREE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A special welcome to Section 3's newest resident, **James Dawson Grossfeld** who was born December 19 at 12:45 p.m. at 5 lbs 11oz. and 19 inches. Parents **Angela and Josh** and brother **Jack** and sister **Charlotte** are all doing well.

## ARCHIVES COMPLETED

Before Section 3 became an official incorporated municipal government, we were a special taxing district within Montgomery County with a volunteer "citizens committee" which governed everything from when you put out your coal ash to be taken away to building permit regulations. Many of those files were lost—some had been stored in a forgotten closet at Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. We consolidated all the files we had from as far back as possible and with the generous help of former Chairman Bob Salmon, who has patiently plowed through them all, we now have files ready to be submitted to the state archives for safe-keeping. The final organization of the files will take place over the next few months in accordance with a state mandated Records Retention and Disposal Schedule.

We have come across some delightful tidbits of Section 3 history which we will be sharing with you here from time to time. Our next big project is to do an itemized journal of road and sidewalk repairs since 1981 so that in the future, we can, with some accuracy, determine the last time a street was milled and paved or a driveway apron replaced.

### ARCHIVAL TIDBIT— THE MORE THINGS CHANGE....

The October 1984 News & Views included this note:

"Automobile break-ins are continuing to occur in Section 3 and neighboring towns. Please lock your car, especially at night.

It is a bother, but so is the aftermath of a break-in. Please report any vandalism or loss to the police. ...."

## BRITISH TV AVAILABLE THROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY

Montgomery County Public Libraries' (MCPL) library cardholders now have free access to commercial-free programming and new shows with Acorn TV. This new service provides thousands of hours of international, commercial-free programming, Acorn TV originals and new shows such as mysteries, dramas and comedies added weekly.

"Every day library staff strives to delight our customers, and we hope that County residents find this very popular streaming series delightful," said MCPL Acting Director Anita Vassallo. "Settling in to some cozy Brit TV is perfect this time of year."

Library cardholders can access Acorn TV by registering via the MCPL website. Customers can "checkout" the Acorn TV channel for seven days and have unlimited access to all content. Currently, there is no limit on the number of seven-day "check-outs" a library cardholder is permitted.

For more information, contact Acting Assistant Director James Donaldson, Collection & Technology at [James.Donaldson@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:James.Donaldson@montgomerycountymd.gov)

## 3709 BRADLEY LANE TO BE DEMOLISHED

The owners of the home at 3709 Bradley Lane explored ways to try and retain the existing structure but have concluded that the best solution for their family and their family's needs is to demolish it and build a new one on the large lot. Section 3 requires that building plans and demolition plans be submitted concurrently so that a lot doesn't sit vacant following demolition if at all possible. In the meantime, they are using Second Chance, a Baltimore firm specializing in recycling building parts, to take apart the interior so that as little as possible will end up in the landfill.

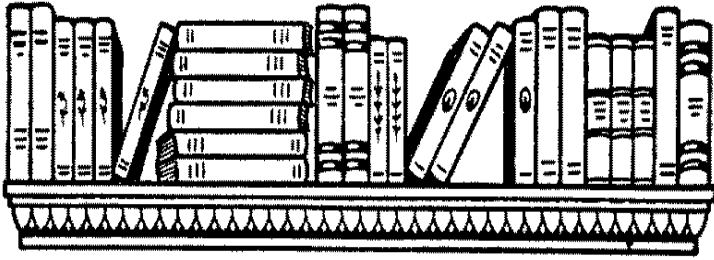
It is expected the full exterior demolition work will begin some time in the spring.

### VARIANCE REQUESTS

**Alison Mandell** of 3614 Taylor Street is requesting two variances. The first to construct a one-story addition which would intrude a maximum of 5' and a minimum of 1' into the 30' front yard setback on Fulton Street thereby allowing interior access at grade to the house from Fulton. The second is to build exterior steps with a concrete landing pad at grade extend-

ing 7'-0" into the 20' rear (east) setback.

**Jon Mark Properties LLC** is requesting a variance for the property at 6822 Delaware for which a renovation and addition of the existing house are planned. The request is to construct a chimney which will extend a maximum of 3'-0" into the 30' front yard setback on Shepherd Street.



## CHEVY CHASE LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

February is Library Lovers' Month! The Chevy Chase Library is an incredible treasure for our community, offering books in all forms, programs for young and old, films, book groups, computer/internet service, and just a cozy place to get in from the cold and read the newspaper or magazines. Please show your support for the Library System by signing a post card for the County Executive (cards and "mailbox" available throughout the month). Also, please thank your librarians ... they do a terrific job for all of us. Finally, if you want to support the library financially please consider joining or donating to the Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter. All of our proceeds are dedicated to improving the Chevy Chase Library and a small amount of every membership supports the county Friends of the Library. You can join or donate at [folmc.org/join](http://folmc.org/join) (scroll down to check Chevy Chase as your branch). Or pick up a self-addressed envelope in the back lobby of the library. You can also support the library by donating and buying used books whenever the library is open. Come browse the great selection in the laptop room .

On **Wednesday, February 6 and 27** at 6:00 pm The Teen Writers' Clubs of the Maryland Writers' Association, a growing network of after-school writing programs for aspiring writers ages

11-17, is hosting a club at the Chevy Chase Library. The purpose of the Teen Writers' Clubs is to provide young writers with a safe and supportive meeting place where they can improve their skills under the guidance of writing mentors, get inspired by meeting guest authors, and make new friends with fellow young writers. The Maryland Writers' Association intends to publish an anthology of work from the teen writing clubs in 2019. Shelby Settles Harper will lead the Chevy Chase Library Teen Writers' Club. Shelby is a lawyer and citizen of the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma. She is an award-winning fiction author who has practiced law at both for-profit and non-profit entities, representing Indian tribes, individual Indians, women's rights issues, and other progressive causes. Her work can be found in Gargoyle Magazine #61, aaduna, Defying Gravity: An Anthology of Washington, DC Area Women, Divergent Voices Literary Magazine, Bethesda Magazine – First Place Fiction Winner, Outside In Literary and Travel Magazine, Tinhouse (online blog), and So to Speak: a feminist journal of language and art. Shelby serves on the National Council for the Smithsonian Museum of American Indian. She lives with her family in the Town of Chevy Chase.

On **Saturday, February 9**, join us at 3:00 pm to celebrate Chinese New Year with a Lion Dance performance by the Chinese Youth Club of Washington, DC. For all ages. Free! No registration.

### COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

provided with a current balance sheet and a summary of where we stand with respect to our budget.

### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Council discussed Civic Plus' proposal for a new ADA compliant municipal website as we are unhappy with our current provider and host. The Village Manager agreed to ask them again to flesh out a little more just what they would do for us.

The Village Manager is trying to get a meeting with our new Councilmember Andrew Friedson along with other officials from neighboring jurisdictions to share our perspective on both the small cell tower legislation and also the push by new Councilman Hans Reimer toward developing Accessory Dwelling Units in single family zones.

The Farmers' Market will be with us through January but they are not yet certain about their participation in February and March. In the meantime, we are working to get another food truck to help draw visitors and also to provide nice hot coffee and chocolate and breakfast for our residents while they shop.

The Council was looking forward to the January 13 Section 3 Night at La Ferme's Le Bar.

The Council voted to go into executive session to evaluate the Village Manager's performance and salary.

### THINKING OF BUILDING AN ADDITION? A FENCE, A PATIO?

You probably need a permit...before you get too far into your planning, consider talking to the Council's representative for Buildings and Roads so that you're on the right path. Boundary surveys are required for most efforts, drainage plans are often required, and finally, if you're building something, check first to find out if you have to get a permit and/or need a variance to do what you want to do!



## CAR BREAK-INS



The weekend of January 5 and 6 set a record for the number of unlocked cars being “tossed” by unwelcome thieves. Several neighbors had gifts to be returned after the holidays in their cars. In all, 11 Section 3 neighbors were hit, including one car where thieves broke a rear window to get into the car.

The community was immediately notified, our police patrols have been on alert and the Village Manager met with the police community liaison for our district to get increased patrols and attention from County police officers. A detective has been assigned to the case and is pursuing leads. What makes this series of thefts different is that usually items in a car are tossed around and only money or electronics are taken, everything else is left in disarray in the car. This time, the thieves threw their discards all over the street, so some items (including a passport from someone in another neighborhood) were dropped on neighboring streets. Councilmember Melissa Brown (on a run when the crimes were discovered), was able to recover some items and turn them over to the police who were at the scene. Those who did not report their thefts were urged to do so because that info goes into the police database and is a concrete demonstration of the need for additional attention.

At the same time these crimes took place in Section 3, two homes in Martin’s Additions were hit as well and a bicycle was taken. The same weekend In Chevy Chase Village, thieves got into unlocked cars and used garage door openers to get into garages of several homes. The head of our District 2 police station and the chief of police of Chevy Chase Village appeared on Channel 4 late night television news regarding the garage door opener thefts in the Village and the County-wide problem of unlocked cars being an open invitation for thieves. Sadly, nabbing one set of criminals is no guarantee that the behavior will stop, as one law enforcement said, “It’s a little like playing whack-a-mole”, there seems to be an endless supply of people who will try to loot unlocked vehicles.

Harsh cold and wet weather has recently dampened the spirits of those who would be thieves. We continue to monitor the area and work with the County and our local police on this problem but the bottom line, according to law enforcement, is to lock your cars and if you have an electric garage door opener, DON’T leave it in your car overnight.

## MEETING WITH HEAD OF PLANNING FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY AT SHEPHERD STREET PARK

Village personnel of Martin’s Additions and Rollingwood met with the head of Montgomery County’s Planning Board, Casey Anderson, to see if the County would be willing to refurbish the Shepherd Street Park play equipment. Many Section 3 residents, in addition to using the wonderful equipment at the two playgrounds at CCUMC, also use the Shepherd Street park with their children. 1996 was the last time the County spent any funds to refurbish and equip that heavily used park. We took this opportunity to show the head of planning the need for new equipment. It’s gotten a lot of use.

While the Planning Board staff was sympathetic to the fact that the play equipment had not been changed since 1996, they pointed out that it was in good condition and that they don’t have sufficient funds in their budget to do much more than perhaps repaint some items in need of “sprucing up”. They also offered to explore doing more trimming of bushes on the perimeter of the park at the lower level to make the park look a bit better. We were appreciative of the time and effort staff took in visiting the park and addressing local concerns, but parks and recreation does not even have sufficient funding to put all recreation equipment on a 20 year schedule at this time.

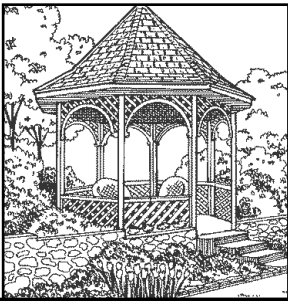
## FARMER’S MARKET UPDATE

The Farmers’ Market continues to serve our neighborhood on Saturday mornings. We don’t have a definitive date as to when they will take a break before returning in June, but at the moment they keep busy with fresh greens from their “high tunnel greenhouses” which use just regular sunlight to grow sweet pea greens and other greens, fresh eggs and cheese, delicious baked goods, Fire Hook baked goods, onions, mushrooms, potatoes, carrots (all organic) and some surprises like sauerkraut and kimchi...try em’ you might like them!

We’ve been thrilled with the hot chocolate, coffee and delicious crepes prepared by Crepes Parfait, the food truck. So bring friends, keep the business coming!



**SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE**  
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**SECTION THREE**  
**VILLAGE OF**  
**CHEVY CHASE**

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# News & Views

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FEBRUARY 2019

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## SNOW?

### NO PARKING ON THE STREET!

Please don't leave your car on the street... make it easy for our plows to clear the streets Be a good neighbor.

