

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JANUARY 2020

CALENDAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2
Special Recycling makeup day

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8
Recycling (regularly scheduled day)
Council Meeting, CCUMC, Wesley
Room, 7:45 p.m.

Council Executive Session at close of meeting to evaluate the Village Manager's performance and salary.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
Annual Section 3 Post-Holiday Get Together
La Ferme Bar, 6:00-8:00 p.m. (see story at right)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12
Council Meeting
CCUMC Epworth Room, 7:45 p.m.



SECTION 3 GET TOGETHER AT LA FERME SLATED FOR JANUARY 12

The holidays are such a whirlwind for Section 3 families that we often don't have a moment to stop and chat with our own neighbors! Family coming and going, shopping, special holiday events, travel...we have all been distracted. So as a way to start off the New Year, Section 3 is continuing our tradition of getting together at La Ferme's bar for an evening of complimentary beer and wine (cash for cocktails) and hors d'oeuvres.

Mark Sunday evening, January 12 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. for a laid back, winter's night at your local French restaurant and bar. You can make a night of it and make a reservation for dinner, or you can order other light fare to go with your drinks. The side porch at Le Bar (entry for Section 3 residents) is heated with lovely patio heaters so you can sit down with friends and neighbors, meet new people and enjoy a pleasant get together. Do plan on coming.

FARMERS MARKET USE POLICY

The Village Manager is eager to bring more variety to our Farmer's Market each week, particularly this spring. We are fortunate to have a vendor selling wire baskets, our wonderful food truck guys, Crepes Parfait, and of course, New Morning Farm. To make it clear to any other vendors just what will be considered, it was thought that we should have a stated policy approved by the Council. The following policy was approved by the Council at the December meeting and will be added to the other Council policies on our website:

"Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase will consider allowing vendors whose merchandise does not compete with New Morning Farm's offerings to sell at our Farmer's Market. In the case of food products, assuming they do not compete, the vendor must have all the proper health department and other county permits necessary to legally sell to the public at a Farmer's Market. The products must be something the Village Manager, representing the Council, thinks will be appealing to our residents."

"In the instance of other non-food vendors, the decision will be based on the mix of items to be offered for sale and if it's something the Village Manager feels will be of interest to our residents. Similarly, for musical performers or vendors selling services such as face painting, the decision to allow a vendor or a performer to participate is based solely on the discretion of the Village Manager but can be appealed to the full Council at their next scheduled meeting."

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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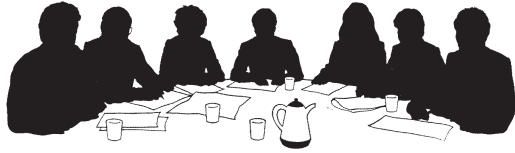
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**In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and our desire to have our meetings open to everyone in our community, Council meetings are held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church which has handicapped elevator access via the parking 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, December 11 at 7:45 p.m. in the Epworth Room. All Council members were present. The meeting began at 7:55 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Council has hired a second patrol person to help keep our neighborhood secure. Ruth Zotti, a four-year member of the Montgomery County Police force, will be patrolling our neighborhood starting in December. She now works out of Gaithersburg but used to work the 2nd District (our police district) and knows the area well. We are thrilled that she is joining us.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

The **Winkler/Hillsberg** family of Brookville Road received a permit to fence their entire yard. The Village Manager reported on the combination of lots of rain and heavy dog visiting hour use as the need to put down mulch in the middle of the Gazebo Park. Our visitors are beginning to understand the need to respect our visiting hours and we are working to get visitors to stagger the hours that they visit to keep down the numbers of dogs at any one time in the park.

The Council discussed some of the ordinance changes and agreed to add a section to license rental properties so that we can be assured that the proper licenses have been obtained for accessory dwelling units and that the landlords understand our rules regarding additional dwelling units.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Several of our CDs have recently rolled over and we are still seeking additional institutions to put some of our reserves to get the highest interest possible in this low interest environment. The Council also discussed the future relationship with our auditors Lindsey & Associates and the challenges the auditors presented this past year.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The Council agreed to a modest Farmer's Market Policy (see story this issue) that will be posted on our website.

The January Get-Together is slated for January 12 (see story this issue).

The Village Manager indicated that the new website will be up in early 2020.

OTHER

The Council agreed to some additional changes to the survey recommended by Lisa Jaycox. It was decided to wait until early in 2020 to issue the survey via SurveyMonkey.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT DISTRICT YOU ARE IN?

AN IMPORTANT CIVICS LESSON FOR SECTION 3 RESIDENTS.

Well, that depends. Over time various agencies providing public service divide up our community into various districts. For voting, you are in the 8th Congressional District. Your U.S. Congressman is Jamie Raskin (D), and your U.S. Senators are Chris Van Hollen (D) and Ben Cardin (D). There are 8 members of our State Delegation representing Montgomery County in Annapolis, where the legislature meets from January to April. We are in state voting District 18. Our State Senator is Jeff Waldstreicher (D). Our Montgomery County District 18 delegation includes Alfred Carr, Emily Shetty and Jared Solomon. In voting for County Council, you are in District 1 and your representative is Andrew Friedson (D). We also have three at large representatives whose responsibilities span the entire County. For police, you are in the Second District and Captain Sean Gagen is your District 2 Commander. For fire, our Fire Department is on Connecticut Avenue, Station 7. Members of the Fire Board at that station representing Section 3 are Tim Healy and James Blaker. For Montgomery County Public Schools, we are located in the BCC Cluster, which designates our primary school as Rosemary Hills, the elementary school as Chevy Chase Elementary, our middle school as Silver Creek, and our high school is Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School.

SAVE THE DATE: COMIC CONVENTION RETURNS TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARIES

MoComCon, Montgomery County Public Libraries' fourth comic convention, returns to downtown Silver Spring on Saturday, January 18 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Silver Spring Library located at 900 Wayne Avenue.

The event will include a variety of activities, workshops, crafts, displays, exhibits and cosplay — all free of charge. This convention is open and accessible to all, including seasoned comic conventioners, novices, and the curious of all ages.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

December was a big month for new neighbors in Section 3... the Stork, not Santa, brought these:

Laura and Sam Ray welcomed **Ruby Ann** on December 3 weighing in at 7 lbs. 12.8 oz.! Laura and Sam just recently moved into 6813 Georgia Street and we're happy to welcome Ruby Ann, too!

Katey and Eddie Vale welcomed **Carole Elizabeth** a week early on December 6 weighing in at a good 6 lbs., 6 oz. Brother **Charlie** and baby Carole are home in their newly renovated digs—and just in the nick of time on Florida Street.

Andrew Kissner and Jackie Hill welcomed **Ruby Joan Kissner** on December 19, weighing in at 6 lbs., 7 oz. Andrew and Jackie live across the street from Ruby Ann and her parents so no doubt all three little girls will enjoy growing up in Section 3.

Section 3 welcomes **Ruth Zotti**, our new police patrol person. Ruth works out of the Gaithersburg Station but previously worked in District 2 in our area, so she's very familiar with our neighborhood. So if you see her on patrol, give her a wave and a welcome. She and our other patrol person, Diddy N'Kodia, are working to help keep the neighborhood safe.

HOUSE NUMBERS AND LIGHTS

Have you ever tried to find a home at night and had trouble finding house numbers? Imagine if you were an ambulance driver and it was crucial that you find that house and quickly. That is the reason why Montgomery County requires homeowners put house numbers at least 5" tall in an easy-to-find location. So take a look, it could be a matter of life and death for you or someone in your home. Make sure the front of the house (and the numbers) are well lit at night and easy to read from the street.

DON'T FORGET TO LIST SECTION 3 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE ON YOUR MARYLAND TAX RETURNS WITH CODE 1614.

CONNECTICUT AVE EXPANSION RUMORED FOR HOV LANES

The controversy over the expansion of the American Legion Bridge (where the Beltway crosses the Potomac) seemed like something that was not likely to have an immediate impact on our community...and it might not. Then again, it might.

Governor Hogan has proposed a plan to widen the Beltway, I-270, and the American Legion Bridge two lanes in each direction. The expansion plans have been discussed at great length in Annapolis. Now that Virginia and Maryland have agreed on a cost-sharing proposal, Hogan wants to fast track plans via a public-private partnership that would result in toll roads for the expanded HOV lanes. A crucial vote by the three-member board of Public Works (Gov. Hogan, Comptroller Peter Franchot and State Treasurer Nancy Kopp) was scheduled for mid-December but postponed. Comptroller Franchot has expressed reservations about the plan. A 300-person protest organized by Montgomery Councilman Tom Rucker took place the week before Christmas.

We have learned that the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA) has been surveying properties in North Chevy Chase, raising community concerns that SHA is considering creating an express lane access point at Connecticut Avenue—something that would increase traffic on Connecticut Avenue, and potentially require the State to take property by eminent domain in order to construct the necessary on- and off-ramps. SHA is not, for example, considering similar expansion at Wisconsin Avenue.

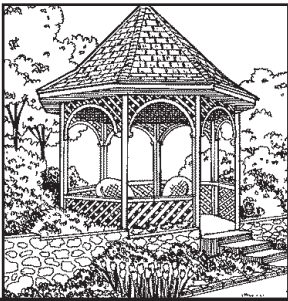
North Chevy Chase has written to Franchot pointing out that they had not been consulted. They are also extremely concerned about the prospect of homes being taken for new separate HOV ramps and access to the Beltway. The impact on their residents is most immediate as many homes are located close to the Beltway, although the whole plan has traffic implications for communities all along Connecticut Avenue.

SHA has not revealed how many North Chevy Chase households they have surveyed or how many might be affected—not even to our elected state officials! And the proposed amendments would give the state the power to purchase homes in both Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties near the Beltway when they came up for sale, furthering the concern that this is only the beginning of plans to that will increasingly effect residential neighborhoods in Silver Spring and Prince Georges County.

While Section 3 is not likely to be as affected by the expansion plans as North Chevy Chase, if Connecticut Avenue is selected as a HOV access point, we will see even more traffic. There is growing opposition to this proposed move. We have been seeking information from our Annapolis Senator and are monitoring this situation carefully.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE
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WHEN CAN I PUT MY CHRISTMAS TREE OUT?

Any Monday...starting January 6 . No plastic bags please, just leave the tree to be picked up curbside as you would any other yard waste for recycling into mulch. Remember, Christmas trees dry out rapidly no matter how much you water it, so before all the needles drop and get into everything and before it becomes a real fire hazard—take it out for Monday morning pick-up.