

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

JULY 2018

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11
Bulk Trash, Curbside

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

THURSDAY, JULY 12
Welcome New Neighbors Barbeque
Gazebo Park, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1
Bulk Trash Pick-up, Curbside
There is no August Council Meeting or newsletter

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16
Party-in-the-Park
Gazebo Park, 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS JULY 12

Barbecues are what summer is all about...and in Section 3, we have our own every July to welcome all the new neighbors who have joined our community since last July. Rocklands BBQ is catering the event, and our own ice cream man, Copperfield Davis, will be there. We have lots of new neighbors this year so we hope you'll join us to welcome them to the community. The event begins at 6:00 p.m. (first come, first served) and goes until 8:30 p.m.



SAVE THE DATE! PARTY-IN-THE-PARK SEPTEMBER 16

Some Section 3 residents, especially the little ones, look forward to it all year long—our Annual Party-in-the-Park. We have rides, dinner, fabulous face painting, music and of course, the famous cake walk. If it rains, it will be the following Sunday but we are hoping for beautiful weather!

We'll be calling on you for volunteer help setting up, cleaning up, monitoring the safety of rides for our little ones, and of course, baking a cake! So save the date!

VILLAGE COUNCIL

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG

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

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

SUSAN MANNING
 Vice Chair
 (202) 716-6264
susan.manning@gmail.com

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

MELISSA BROWN
 Secretary
 (301) 312-6059
mcaffrica@aol.com

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

WINE TASTING LOTS OF FUN!

If you weren't there, you missed a fun evening. Despite intermittent showers, the party got started early at the home of **Matt and Ellie Nader** who offered some delicious hors d'oeuvres and three crisp cold whites, perfect for summer meals. Then on to **Kirsten Williams and John Dorsey's** home for some interesting reds and finally, amid scattered showers, the final stop of the evening was **Juan and Laney Altamar's** home for some delicious rosé wines. The wines, the company, the food were all wonderful. The picks of the evening from those assembled were in the white family, almost everyone enjoyed the HugL Weine Gruner Veltliner from Austria. In the reds, hands down, the Spanish blend Carro was a hit and finally, among the rosé wines, the Commanderie de la Bargemone Rosé from Aix en Provence along with the Chandon Napa sparkling rosé were popular.

**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, June 13 in Room 107. Mike Dietrich was out of the country but all other Council members were present.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The Village Manager informed the Council that State Highway Administration had selected a contractor (suggested by Section 3) to do the work to improve the safety of the intersection of Brookville Road and Taylor Street so that the stop sign is more visible and the route from Section 3 over to the shops more direct. The Village Manager is going to survey all community sidewalks for tripping hazards so that they can be repaired this summer, possibly by D & F Construction after they do the work at the intersection of Brookville Road and Taylor Street.

We can piggy-back our work on a contract D & F has with the State so competitive bidding for these repairs is unnecessary as we get pricing that the State had already negotiated with them.

Our patrols continue to work at random hours throughout the month and have given citations for folks blowing through the stop sign on Brookville Road and also for parking in clearly marked no parking spots in our community.

We have added more No Parking signs to areas where violations appear to continue to pop up and expect to do one more pass with No Parking signs and yellow curb and some new stop bars within the month.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

Carolyn Greis, our Buildings and Roads representative, reported that she issued a permit for a dumpster. The **Manno/Vejerano** family of Taylor Street received a permit for the front porch addition that the Council granted a variance for in May. Chase Builders received a permit for demolition and for building a new house at 3607 Spring Street. The **Strand** family of 3701 Taylor Street received a permit for a playhouse on their property. The **Horst-Ehsassi** family of Shepherd Street got a permit to demolish their rear deck and shed and received a variance to place a new deck 2.2' into the side setback. The **Woo** family of Georgia Street received a variance for a portico which intrudes into the front setback.

The Council discussed the problems of 3602 Taylor Street and the condition of the property around it. The Village Manager

left a message for the lender on his voice mail but there was no response. So a complaint was filed with the County and they issued a citation with a June 21 deadline.

The Council discussed the small cell tower issue now before the FCC. There is a concern that municipalities won't have any say about where they are placed in the public right-of way and, in our community, that could be a serious problem. The County has deferred making a decision on small cell towers and the State proposed legislation was withdrawn at the last minute. For the time being, the Council has decided to delay trying to guess at the final federal solution and will wait before drafting ordinances to require permitting in our community. It's not yet clear just how far we can mandate the location of these towers if the FCC makes a ruling that overrides local legislation.

The Council spent a great deal of time discussing our ordinances and how we can better address issues of setbacks and storm drainage (see story this issue).

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council sent out bid packages for both auditing services and trash collection services. Rather than send out a blanket bid package, the Council's practice has been to gather recommendations from other jurisdictions prior to putting out bids and invite a limited number of bidders to bid on jobs in that way. This makes it possible to "pre-vet" bidders so that the Council can concentrate on the services offered and pricing.

Because our streets are so narrow, the number of bidders eligible to bid on our trash collection contract is small. We put the bid out to two qualified contractors and the Council elected to sign again with Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling, our long time contractor. We have a three-year contract with an option to renew for an additional year. For auditing services, the Council decided it was time to get some fresh eyes on the work and the bid package went out to three firms, all of whom have done municipal work in Montgomery County. The firm selected, Lindsey & Associates, will begin to work with the Village Manager this summer on the 2017-18 audit, required by State law.

The Village Manager has had the same laptop computer since 2009 and it is showing signs of slowing down and becoming less efficient. Although a new computer was budgeted, it looked like the budgeted amount might not be enough. The Council agreed that a new computer was indeed required and that if a new one costs more, that the Manager was authorized to spend up to \$2,000 on a new machine and new software.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The May House Tour went well: we had a decent turnout and

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A special "private party" will be taking place in the Gazebo Park this August 4th from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Taylor Street's own **Christine Vrem-Ydstie** (daughter of **Mary Jo Vrem and John Ydstie**) and Ryan Imhoff will be married! The two are actors based in Chicago where they live with their cat Ziva. The event will involve not only the Gazebo Park but also the block of Fulton Street between Shepherd and Spring Streets where a tent will be set up. Many guests will be staying at the 4-H Center so they will be walking, not driving to the event. We are excited for the couple and wish them well!

Our own **Laurie Cameron** of Delaware Street has authored a book published by National Geographic titled *The Mindful Day: Practical Ways to Find Focus, Calm, and Joy from Morning to Evening*. Laurie is the founder of PurposeBlue, a Chevy Chase-based leadership consulting firm. The book is available in bookstores and through Amazon.

Welcome to new neighbors **John Fuher and Erin Barry** who moved into 6808 Delaware Street from Silver Spring on the last day in June. The family includes **Lena**, age 6, **Kellog** 2 1/2 and **Patrick**, 7 months. We're happy to have them as part of our community and happy to have the house finally occupied again! Welcome too to **Joe and Hollace Matan** who moved into the new home at 6817 Connecticut Ave all the way from Chevy Chase Village! Joe coincidentally went to high school with neighbor **Tom Carroll**. We hope to meet all of the new neighbors at the Welcome New Neighbors BBQ on July 12.

Welcome to new neighbors We'll be having a lot of new neighbors moving in this summer...the **Rippeons** of Chevy Chase Village (soon to be of Section 3) hope to move in this August, **Frannie Wellings and Barry LaSala** and their children, **Sophia**, 8, **Luca** 6 and **Theo** 2, will be moving into 3821 Bradley Lane in mid August. **Eugene Hong and Suann Song** and their 11 year old **Isaac** and 1 year old **Novie** will be moving into 7001 Florida Street in mid-August. **Brendan Parets and Claire Carlin** will be moving into the **Bodner/Emmett** home on Taylor Street sometime in September.

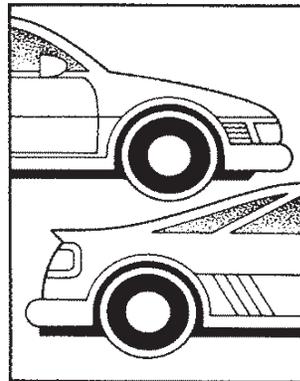
3602 TAYLOR STREET UPDATE



The foreclosure sale has finally been ratified by the Courts and the lender now is in control of the property. The lawn has finally been cut, thanks to a complaint filed by Section 3 with the County which forced the lender to mow. The Village Manager, on behalf of the Council, also wrote to the legal owner, the

lender, demanding that within 10 days of receiving our note, that the property be torn down or we would again have the County demand that they demolish it or face a fine. It is our hope that the lender will cooperate and remove the blight from our neighborhood...it has gone on far too long.

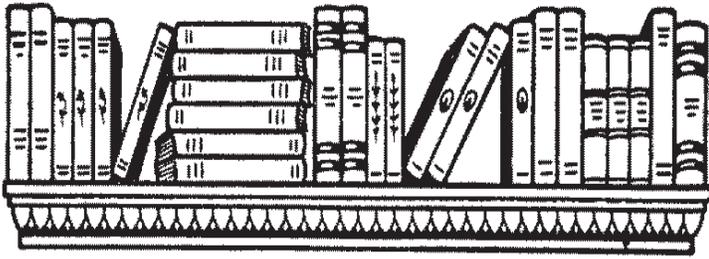
CHEVY CHASE AT HOME SUMMER ACTIVITIES



On July 17, at 2:00 p.m., Chevy Chase At Home will host a Smart DriverTEK workshop at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. This 90-minute educational program, jointly developed by AARP Driver Safety and The Hartford Group, is designed to help you understand new and emerging vehicle technologies and how to use them to enhance your driving safety and

extend your safe driving years. Space is limited, so registration is required by emailing info@chevyCHASEATHOME.org or calling (301) 657-3115. There is an AARP fee of \$5, cash only, to be paid at the workshop.

Please consider becoming a CC@H volunteer. New Volunteer Training will take place on Thursday, July 26, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Registration, which can be done online at www.chevyCHASEATHOME.org is required by July 19. For more information call (301) 657-3115 or email info@chevyCHASEATHOME.org.



CHEVY CHASE LIBRARY EVENTS

The following special events at the Chevy Chase Library are ones you might want to take advantage of this month:

On Monday, July 9 at 4:30 p.m., Read to a Dog: Chevy Chase Library is partnering with P.A.L.s (People Animals Love) to provide a read to a dog program on the first Monday of every month! Young readers will be able to share stories with a furry friend. Dogs will never judge or correct them, which allows them to really improve their reading skills. Drop in.

On Saturday, July 14 at 10:30 a.m., Kaydee Puppets: Come enjoy a double feature with two puppet shows: "The Ugly Duckling" and "Rapunzel." Free!

SPECIAL SCIENCE IN THE SUMMER PROGRAMS:

On Monday, July 16 and Wednesday, July 18 at 10:00 a.m., The Science of Space, Level 1 (2nd-3rd graders) : Through active, hands-on learning, children will explore the sun's energy, the phases of the moon, human survival in space, and how rockets overcome Earth's gravity. This is a two-part series. Registration required! Please sign up online or call the library at (240) 773-9590. Free!

On Monday, July 16 and Wednesday, July 18 at 1:00 p.m. The Science of Space, Level 2 (4th-6th graders): Through active, hands-on learning, children will explore the sun's energy, the phases of the moon, human survival in space, and how rockets overcome Earth's gravity. This is a two-part series. Registration required! Please sign up here or call the library at (240) 773-9590. Free! Science in the Summer is sponsored by The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) through a grant from GlaxoSmithKline. This is a STEM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math).

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

lots of toiletries and towels were delivered to Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring at a time when, according to the nonprofit, they were running out of those supplies, particularly towels which clients tend to take with them.

The Council agreed that next year we should try and have a speaker or an activity to attract more residents to the Annual meeting.

The Wine Tasting was once again a success. Any leftover wines will be served at the Welcome New Neighbors BBQ. Council members discussed their role in serving at that function.

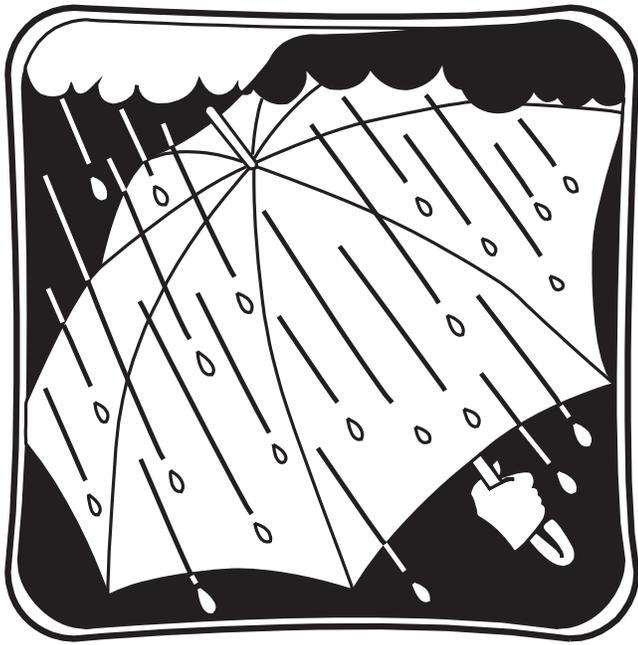
The Shred Event went well; we recycled more than 4,000 pounds of paper. We share the cost of this event with Martins Additions and Section 5. A Rollingwood resident suggested that next year we include them to share the costs so their residents can take advantage of the event, which seems like a good idea. We had a new contractor for this event, ShRed, White & Blue and they did a great job for us.

The meeting adjourned around 10:00 p.m.

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!



COUNCIL DISCUSSES DIFFICULT ISSUES REGARDING SETBACKS/ STORM DRAINAGE

The last big rain in Section 3—the torrential type, took place on June 3 and lots of Section 3 residents suffered the consequences: stormwater runoff in their basements, geysers in their yards, flooding on sidewalks and yards. At the same time, the Council has been discussing the problem of increasingly frequent variance requests and the difficulty balancing the problem of stormwater runoff and defining what we mean by open space.

To review our setback rules for all but corner properties: Section 3 has a very broad definition of the term “structure” and no structures are allowed to intrude into any setbacks—and that includes but is not limited to building additions, decks, patios, porches, garages, and open stairwells from basements. We’re taking a close look at this definition and its future impact on drainage and development. Variances in Section 3 are considered on a case-by-case basis, but their cumulative effect has an impact on everyone—particularly as people add on to their homes and make lifestyle decisions about the uses of their back yards.

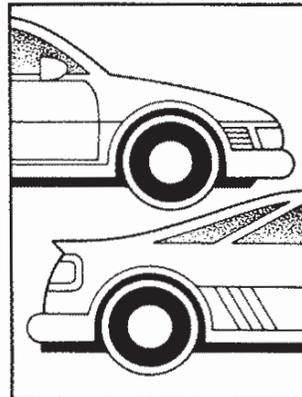
County ordinances generally state that lots may have a maximum of 35 percent building coverage including accessory structures—but not impervious surfaces. (Depending upon whether one's proposed construction project is of a new or substantially new house or not determines whether one's garage is included in the building coverage calculation as an accessory structure.) One possible village ordinance revision discussed by Council members is to

consider defining a percentage limit on any built structures and impervious surfaces located in a property's rear yard - including garages, driveways, certain patios and sheds. All these structures contribute to stormwater runoff which has become an increasingly severe problem because of climate change and our loamy soils and high water table in Section 3. We have a problem, and we are in search of a solution, one that will not exacerbate the drainage problems we already face. As it is, most Section 3 residents already have sump pumps, many have rain tanks...and when we have a torrential rain or many sequential days of rain, new problems crop up never seen before.

Ellicott City is a tragic example of what happens when too much development “upstream” creates a situation where the historic city cannot survive. We aren’t Ellicott City, but we do have a responsibility to examine the larger context and try and resolve these problems.

The Council has agreed to hire a consulting engineer to come up with a solution to the heavy ponding at Brookville Road and Bradley Lane and to address the problems of the rear yard storm drains which drain into the storm drainage system on Georgia Street.

We expect that the larger discussion about our ordinances in the Council will continue, and residents' views and ideas—as always—are welcome.



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

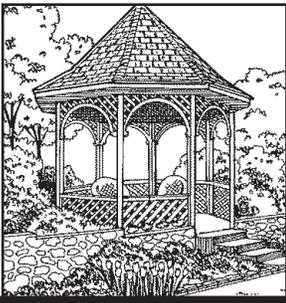
monthly at 4433 South Park Avenue (the Village of Friendship Heights Town Hall) from 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you need any express services, they will be there July 30, August 20, September 24, October 29, November 26 and December 17.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815



**SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**

NEWS & VIEWS

JULY 2018



GOING AWAY?

LET YOUR NEIGHBORS KNOW WHEN AND WHERE AND HOW TO GET HOLD OF YOU. ARRANGE FOR PAPERS TO BE STOPPED AND ASK NEIGHBORS TO TAKE IN ANY PACKAGES OR MAIL THAT MIGHT ARRIVE WHILE YOU ARE AWAY. LOCK ALL YOUR DOORS AND LEAVE A KEY WITH A NEIGHBOR. LOCK THE CARS YOU ARE NOT TAKING AND LEAVE THEM IN THE DRIVEWAY IF POSSIBLE.