

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JUNE 2009

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3

Bulk trash pickup-curb side

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

Section 3 Wine Tasting Tour

7:00 p.m.



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

Council Meeting 7:45 p.m.

CCUMC Room 109

WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

Bulk trash pickup-curb side

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

Council Meeting 7:45 p.m.

CCUMC Room 109

VILLAGE COUNCIL

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.COM

BILL BROWNLEE

Chairman

(301) 652-6351

whbrownlee@aol.com

CAROLYN GREIS

Buildings & Roads

(301) 718-1737

CAGreis@msn.com

DONNA HARMON

Secretary

(301) 654-9444

zdharmon@verizon.net

JON NEWHARD

Treasurer

(301) 907-474

newhard@mba1997.hbs.edu

NATASHA SAIFEE

Vice Chair

(240) 497-1889

natasha.saiffee@verizon.net

ANDY LEON HARNEY

Village Manager

(301) 656-9117

(301) 907-9052 Fax

villagemanager@chevychasesection3.com

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS REPORT

This year's uncontested election drew a small number of voters. Re-elected and holding their same positions were Council Chairman **Bill Brownlee** (34 votes), Buildings and Roads Representative **Carolyn Greis** (35 votes) and Council Vice Chair **Natasha Saiffee** (35 votes). The Council passed the new budget which includes a \$500,000 Capital Improvements Reserve Fund for the purchase of lights and other future capital improvements. There are so many variables in terms of our upcoming change in lighting that at this time, the exact cost is impossible to gauge; however, the special fund specified in our budget planning will more than cover those costs. This line item will carry over to future budgets as well.

The Geographic Information System (planned for in the budget) has gone out to bid to three firms. Bids were due back May 28th. The winning bidder will be establishing "monuments" for surveyors throughout the community at intersections denoting Section 3 right of way and private property. They will also be surveying all Section 3 property and easements. In addition, the contractor will either be locating or placing iron pins at the two front property points of every home in Section 3. This will make it easier and cheaper for anyone needing a full certified survey to have the work done and it will make the question of property boundaries for fences, etc. much easier to determine. The winning bidder will also be helping Section 3 to set up a whole software system that will record and store lots of information on every property in town including all the information we have on building permits since we were incorporated in 1981. The locations of inlets and other key items regarding our infrastructure will also be located on the system, making management of the town's assets easier and management of our building permit process more efficient.

The Council also voted to grant building permits only to owners of record. This change was made to properly coincide with administrative practice for many years, but by changing the ordinances to reflect this, we leave no doubt as to who can apply for a building permit (see May 2009 *News & Views*).

The highlight of the evening was a talk by architect Mike Binder of the Chevy Chase architectural firm of Meditch Murphey. Mike took some time to share the plans for a "net zero" green home that the firm is building in the Bannockburn section of Bethesda. He pointed out that a truly green home project built on the site of an existing house includes making every effort to recycle the building materials of the existing property—for example, groups like "Second Chance" in Baltimore will come and demolish the house in such a way that windows and window frames can be re-used, flooring, radiators, trim, doors, even cab-

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

**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.*

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

inets and other wood are all recycled rather than going into the landfill. The process takes longer but the impact on our environment is diminished. He then went on to show ways in which the sun's impact can be positively managed by the proper siting of the house and shades for windows facing the sun, the use of solar panels for either hot water heat (the least number of panels) or more ambitious use of solar panels to provide energy for the home. He discussed the use of geothermal heating and air conditioning, the most energy efficient way of heating and cooling a home, of wind power and some of the other technologies coming on line. He described how landscaping can be a key part of making your home "green" by using permeable paving materials, trees placed in the right spots on the property and smaller footprints overall.

Binder explained what an LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certified home meant and the pros and cons of LEED certification. Finally, he shared with everyone some of the kinds of sustainable materials now being used in homes—from a new kind of environmentally friendly linoleum which comes in many colors, to bamboo and cork flooring, both of which use materials which are easily and quickly regenerated. Everyone who heard the talk came away with much more understanding of ways in which simple additions and home improvements can easily be accomplished in a "green" way.

SUMMARY OF THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES

Council Chairman Bill Brownlee kicked off the evening by summarizing a lot of the activities in Section 3 over the past year. He reflected on his decade of service on the Council, first as the buildings and roads representative and later as Chairman. This was a year for developing plans for the future, including the new GIS survey and system of maintaining records and the new lighting that we hope to bring to Section 3 in the upcoming year. He reminded citizens of the new water and sewer lines installed on the no-outlet segment of Fulton Street and the last two blocks of Taylor Street and the resulting milling and paving of those two streets, the new safety and parking signs throughout the community, and the plans for new street signs in the upcoming year. He also pointed out the impact we have had outside our community in getting Brookville Road declared a NO TRUCK ROUTE by the State Highway Department. (limits trucks above 10,000 pounds to local deliveries only) and the way we worked with the Chevy Chase Club officials so that their ambitious construction project routed all trucks down Wisconsin Avenue instead of the original plan which was to route them all down Connecticut Avenue.

Mr. Brownlee noted that on the "green" front we have provided everyone with new covered paper recycling bins on wheels and that we were planting eight more trees in front yards to continue to

improve the shade umbrella in our community.

He noted we have been monitoring the progress of various legal and administrative challenges to speed cameras in hopes of eventually being able to place them at least on Connecticut Avenue as we are in a school zone. He expressed a real optimism about the improvements we will be making in the upcoming year which will have long-lasting impact on all our residents.

Council Vice Chair Natasha Saifee recounted all the many community events we've had during the year from the House Tour which was about to happen to the Shred It Event which we hope to duplicate every year after tax season, the Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon, the Holiday marionette show, the Senior's Brunch at Chevy Chase Village Hall, the annual Bill Prigg Memorial Warm Clothing and Blanket drive, the Halloween parade and pizza party, the Party in the Park, the Welcome New Neighbors Barbeque, the visit by A Wider Circle to provide home furnishings to formerly homeless families starting anew, the Bark in the Park event and the Wine Tasting event...in all, a very full year with some sort of special Section 3 activity almost every month!

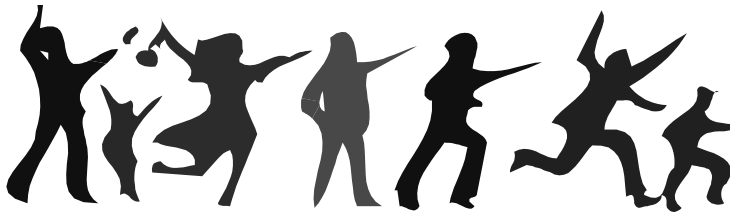
Council Secretary **Donna Harmon** took a moment to remember some of the many people who have made living in Section 3 so special—from **Michelle Ballarini** who until recently welcomed every single new resident with flowers, a smile and lots of good information about living here to **Ellen McKenney** who has taken over for her mid-year. She recognized a number of new neighbors and remembered those we've lost this year including **Vincent Burke, Sheila Pitchford, Emilio Weiss, Garth McCormick, Nancy Prigg, Charles Wilding-White and Parker Wyman.**

On a brighter note, she welcomed all the new little people who are our newest residents—**Brendan Erceg, Andrew Chernack, Stewart Allan, Dhiren Amerasinghe, Samuel Huber Hauf, Henry and Lucy Manning, Rowan Barry, Thomas "Massey" Dioguardi, Alec Mostofi, Daniel and Phillip Slade, and Margot Derrick.**

Buildings and Roads representative Carolyn Greis noted that it was a slower year for additions...lots of fences, a deck, and of course, we have three new homes being built in the section (all were on the tour). She noted that our current set of ordinances is on the website and that a basic explanation of the building permit restrictions is also there. She also explained the necessity for everyone planning on doing work to check with Section 3 as our rules and the County's rules are not always the same and that before you can get a County permit, you need a letter of acknowledgement from Section 3 followed by a permit once the County has issued a permit.

Treasurer **Jon Newhard** explained the budget and answered questions, stressing the conservative nature of our projections and our desire to earmark funds for upcoming large capital expendi-

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A special welcome to **Sullivan "Sully" John Dettleff** who arrived on Sunday, May 3rd weighing in at 8 lbs, 7 oz. His brothers **Ollie and Nate** are delighted to welcome a new guy into the family as are parents **Kristen and John**. Congrats to all!

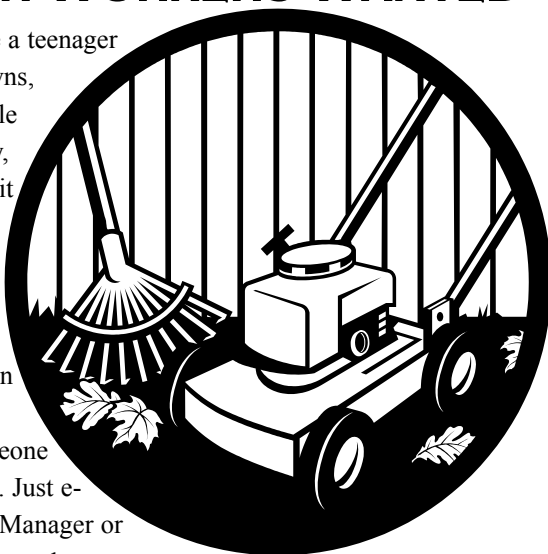
A special welcome to **Julia Hawley** who recently moved into her new home on Fulton Street. Raised in Chevy Chase Village, Julia is no stranger to the neighborhood—doubly so because she volunteers with BCC Rescue Squad!

The **Narvaiz** family is hosting a 10 year old girl, Maribel, from Columbia in July as part of the "Summer Miracles" program of Kids Save International, a non-profit group whose mission it is to help older orphans and foster children get adopted. If you are considering international adoption and would like to meet the "Summer Miracles" children from Columbia at weekend events in July, contact Laura Narvaiz at lnarvaiz@nam.org or (301) 907-7983.

Welcome to **John Mimikakis and Cindy Owens** and their children **Elia and Chloe** who moved into 7001 Florida Street from the District where John works for the Environmental Defense Fund. We're looking forward to getting to know the whole family better!

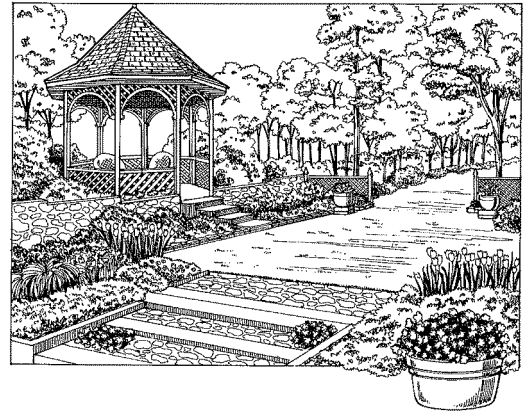
SUMMER WORKERS WANTED

If you have a teenager willing to do lawns, water plants while someone is away, babysit, or dog sit or dog walk, let us know! We get calls all the time and would love to "keep it in the family" and recommend someone else in Section 3. Just e-mail the Village Manager or call and let us know the name, age and talents of the teenager in your home or have them call directly so we can keep a roster of hard working kids who want to earn some extra money this summer.



GAZEBO PARK OPENS WITH NEW GRASS

The Gazebo park has re-opened with nice new sod put down by our contractors, Level Green Landscaping. In



an effort to open the park to ALL our residents and preserve the grass, the Council voted to welcome dogs with their owners at the times they generally use the park. Thus, dogs with their owners are welcome during the following hours only: 7 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The Gazebo Park is a park for everyone, NOT a dog park. Inviting owners to use the park during these times provides them with the same opportunity to socialize as they have had in the past but also makes the park available to those who wish to use the park without the presence of dogs.

Park rules for dog owners are posted at the park, but just to refresh everyone's memories, we ask that you clean up after your dogs, that you keep your dog on a leash if a new dog enters the park until you're sure that all the dogs will get along, and that *when it's muddy or wet, that you refrain from using the park to preserve the grass*. If you use the services of a dog walker, please make it clear to them that we expect them to clean up after the dog as we would anyone in our community. We have two locations for doggie bags so this should not be a problem, as one is right outside the park.

IMPROVEMENTS REQUIRE PERMITS!

If you are putting in a fence, installing a sump pump, putting on an addition, changing your driveway—all of these items require a permit from Section 3 and some require a Montgomery County permit as well. Before you go forward, if you need to get a County permit, you will first have to get a letter of acknowledgement from our Buildings and Roads Representative, Carolyn Greis. You take that letter to the County and they will issue a permit to you after which you will have to return to Ms. Greis to get a Section 3 permit.

HOUSE TOUR DRAWS LOTS OF INTEREST

Sunday, May 12th was a perfect day for a house tour! The weather cooperated. We collected hundreds of soaps, shampoos, towels and even about a dozen pairs of eyeglasses, so both Shepherd's Table and the Lions Club benefited from the tour! A special thanks to all the hosts who were kind enough to open their homes to us. **Mary Kate and Rob Cary** and their girls **Anne and Grace** were hosts to visitors interested in seeing all the improvements made to their 1908 home. **Jan Augustine**, who grew up in the house and now lives on Spring Street, spent some time with the family sharing stories of her youth in the house and the way things used to be... it's so nice to have that special history shared with new owners. The **Scheck** family hosted visitors to their very unusual open plan Dutch Colonial on Taylor Street. The Scheck boys provided liquid refreshments to visitors and everyone had an opportunity to see the clever way in which interior designer **Deborah Scheck** has made the home open, flexible and inviting. Finally, **Gabi Koepfel and Aaron Velli** and their children opened their home on Georgia Street to neighbors to see the home now occupied and how comfortable and gracious a place they have made it.

Special thanks go to developer **Jim O'Brien** for showing the two houses he is building in Section 3 and the **Lesmes** family and builder Gil Wilson for sharing his fine work on the new house on Taylor Street. Finally, a special thanks to the **Abbott/Fleming** family of Section 5 on Thornapple Street for sharing their rain barrel with those who were interested! For those who are interested, rain barrels are sold by Whole Foods and by Strosnider's as well as many other local vendors. (google Rainscapes, Montgomery County, MD).

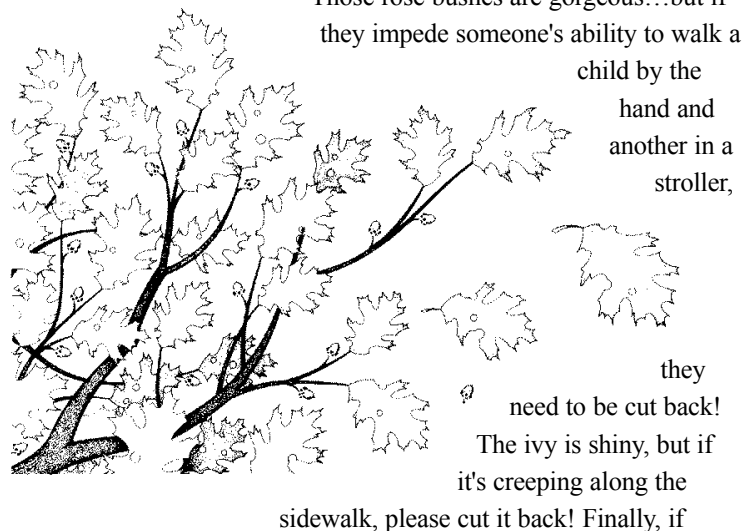
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT BRADLEY LANE AND CONNECTICUT AVENUE?

We've had a number of questions from residents regarding the property at Connecticut Avenue and Bradley Lane. The property owner, Patrick Strauss, has placed a lot of fill dirt on the property, ostensibly to create a "berm" to give more privacy to the corner lot. However, the dirt as deposited on March 23rd and very little has been done since. The County required him to obtain a sediment control permit and the County has also given him a citation regarding solid waste on the property which must be removed. We continue to encourage Mr. Strauss to remove the eyesore that he has created.

FIOS ON ITS WAY

As of June 1, Verizon will be scheduling crews for the first of three phases of installation of fiber optic cable throughout the community. The initial installation will be done by the end of July and hopefully we will have all the appropriate wiring and cable installed no later than the end of October so that those who wish to subscribe to this service will be able to. We will publish periodic updates so that you have a better sense of this.

TRIM BACK THOSE BUSHES!!!



Those rose bushes are gorgeous...but if they impede someone's ability to walk a child by the hand and another in a stroller, they need to be cut back! The ivy is shiny, but if it's creeping along the sidewalk, please cut it back! Finally, if there are "suckers" growing up around the serviceberry tree in front of your home—please cut them back, they impede the proper growth of the tree and make it think it's a bush again!

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

tures. The Council voted to reduce our anticipated income tax revenues (the largest source of revenue by far) by 25%, a figure much higher than recommended by the State but lower than some of the neighboring jurisdictions have projected. Happily, we have sufficient rainy day funds because of prudent spending in the past that should we not reach that \$300,000 figure, we can dip into reserves without any adverse effect. At the suggestion of the residents, the Capital Improvement Fund is now called the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund. The Council voted to maintain the property tax level at \$.02 per \$100 assessed valuation and the personal property tax at \$.05 per \$100 assessed valuation. This second tax category applies only to personal property owned by businesses operating within Section 3 or home businesses and amounts to about \$100 net income a year. The Council is currently searching for FDIC insured, Maryland chartered institutions to place additional investment funds.

A local model for sustainable living

**IF YOU DON'T
WANT THIS**



E-CYCLE

Sunday, June 7, 2009 from 12-4 pm
Bethesda Chevy-Chase High School parking lot
4301 East-West Highway, Bethesda, MD 20814

Wondering what to do with your TV and other outdated electronic stuff? E-cycle. Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services will refurbish or recycle your electronic gear keeping harmful toxic waste out of our landfills. Last year at Walt Whitman High School we collected almost 100,000 pounds of e-waste. So gather up your e-tiques and drive thru the parking lot, you don't have to get out of your car or even erase your data, it's that easy.

We accept:

Small electronic appliances
 Cords, cables and chargers
 Computers
 Projection equipment
 Electronic typewriters
 Consumer electronics
 Small electronic toys

Calculators
 Camcorders
 CD's and Floppy disks
 Microwave ovens
 CD players
 Cell phones
 Copiers

Digital cameras
 Fax machines
 Printers
 Scanners
 Telephones
 Televisions
 VCRs

If you have questions about quantities or other electronic items, contact the Division of Solid Waste Services online or call 240-777-6560 for additional information.

bethesdagreen.org
montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling

Printed on recycled and recyclable paper

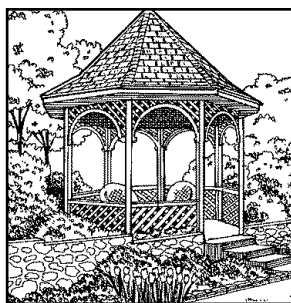




SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815



SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JUNE 2009

SUMMER VACATION WILL BE HERE SHORTLY!

REMEMBER WHEN DRIVING YOUR CAR THAT THERE ARE MANY MORE YOUNG BIKE RIDERS WHO MAY NOT LOOK BOTH WAYS, SO DRIVE CAREFULLY!



BIKE RIDERS: REMEMBER YOU ONLY HAVE ONE HEAD---USE IT AND COVER IT WITH A BIKE HELMET, IT'S THE LAW FOR ALL BIKE RIDERS UNDER AGE 18!