

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JUNE 2010

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 2

Bulk Trash Pickup, Curbside

SUNDAY, JUNE 6TH

Wine Tasting Event

7:30 p.m. (see story this issue)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 9

Council Meeting

CCUMC Room 109

Contracts to be decided

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7

Bulk Trash Pickup, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Council Meeting

CCUMC Room 109

THURSDAY, JULY 15

Welcome New Neighbors BBQ

6:00 p.m.—8:30 p.m.

HARMON, OHRENSTEIN ELECTED TO COUNCIL; BUDGET ADOPTED

Donna Harmon was re-elected to the Council with 31 votes and **David Ohrenstein**, who was appointed to the Council after Jon Newhard and family moved out of town, was elected with 30 votes at this year's Annual meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Council reappointed Donna as Secretary and David as Treasurer.

Council Chairman **William H. (Bill) Brownlee** summarized the events of the last year, leading off with the most dramatic event—the multiple blizzards! He reflected on how well everyone cooperated and what good neighbors we had in Section 3—sharing driveways to get cars off the roadways, helping one another shovel snow and sharing meals together.

He then went on to point out the benefits of the recently completed Geographical Information Survey and the changes in our computer system to allow for better service to the community and better management. He also pointed out that we had completed the plan for new lighting and selected the kind of lighting we wanted although we are still dealing with Pepco on this issue. Finally he noted that we adopted new stormwater runoff guidelines, developed a better balance of dog and people use of the Gazebo park and acquired access to Verizon FIOS if we wanted it, and recently redesigned our website and our web address (www.chevychasesection3.org—see story page 3).

Council Vice Chair **Natasha Saiffee** recounted all the many activities we have in Section 3 to bring people together as a community—from the upcoming House Tour (see story this issue) to the Wine Tasting Event June 6th (see story this issue), and the Welcome New Neighbors Barbeque which will take place Thursday, July 15th. She then went on to recount the Party in the Park, the Halloween parade and pizza party, the Senior's Brunch, the Bill Prigg Memorial Warm Blanket and Clothing drive, the Holiday Puppet show, this year's new "Everybody's Irish" party, the Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon.

Harmon took a moment to recognize some of the many volunteers who work to make Section 3 activities like those described by Natasha Saiffee so wonderful as well as those people behind the scenes who help make things happen in Section 3. She singled out **Ellen McKenney**, who welcomes every new neighbor with a special Section 3 canvas bag filled with information on the area along with wine and flowers to make sure they know how welcome they are. She also made a special point of thanking the **Barry** family for the use of their front lawn opposite the Gazebo Park for so many Section 3 activities without a care about tram-

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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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.*

ANNUAL MEETING, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

pling grass or chalk drawings on the sidewalk and street. And she thanked the **Mimikakis/Owens** family for the use of their yard for the Easter Egg Hunt, the **Wilson** family for their annual efforts to decorate the Gazebo Park for the holidays, the **Lombardi** family: for **Shoshanna's** help in decorating for Halloween and to **Chris** for serving as the Cat in the Hat and MC for the Easter Egg Hunt. And she took a moment to note the generosity shown by so many people in Section 3 to the **Murray** family for preparing meals for them and helping out as well as to those who donated blood and platelets for **Kate Kiernan**, to the **Slades** for collecting shoes for Haitian earthquake victims and to the **Grandy/Jones** family for holding a benefit for the Haitian people for housing. Harmon ended her presentation by saying a special welcome to the many families who have moved into Section 3 in the past year.

Some of those new people are in the midst of planning renovations and changes to their homes, as are many of us who have lived here for years. **Carolyn Greis**, our buildings and roads representative on the Council, took a moment to highlight the importance of both the GIS Survey for new building projects and the new guidelines for stormwater management. She reported that in the last year there were two whole-house renovations underway (the **Slidells** on Spring Street and her own home on Florida Street.) There have been building permits granted for additions or other property improvements to 20 residents: 1 for the demolition of a garage, five additions, five fences, six patios, decks and sheds, two driveways and one treehouse!

Ms. Greis reported that in the not-too-distant future she expects to be granting a permit for one of the two empty lots at Bradley Lane and Connecticut Avenue and also for an addition to

the house at 3600 Taylor Street.

David Ohrenstein, Council Treasurer, took a moment to recap the current year's financial outlook and discuss the FY 10-11 proposed budget that was initially published in the April News & Views (see story this issue). Ohrenstein noted that during a difficult financial year for many neighboring jurisdictions, Section 3 remained on budget in the current fiscal year without cutting back on activities or dipping into reserves as a result of conservative budgeting. For the upcoming fiscal year, he discussed our income projections, some of which are reduced due to less expected funding from the County and State (see story this issue), and our most significant projected expenses, and proposed that we maintain the real property tax rate for to Section 3 at \$.02 per \$100 assessed valuation and the personal property tax at \$.05 per \$100 assessed valuation. The Council agreed to the tax rates and also adopted the budget (as printed on page 4).

The meeting ended with a fascinating talk by Ann English, a landscape architect with Rainscapes, the Montgomery County program to encourage residents to plant native plants, conserve and filter rain water to prevent pollution runoff and erosion and recharge groundwater supplies. She illustrated her talk with drawings and photographs to show ways to create raingardens, recapture areas now occupied by turf and direct rainwater to existing gardens. The most interesting part of her talk however, was the many incentives available through the program to Montgomery County residents to improve the landscape and filter excess nutrients and pollutants from stormwater (see story this issue).

At the end of the meeting, the Council met and agreed to continue the same responsibilities as last year. The two newest members were sworn into office.

The meeting adjourned at around 10:00 p.m.

WINE TOUR JUNE 6TH

Mark your calendars now and fill out the form below and send it to the Village Manager for the upcoming Wine Tour, Sunday, June 6th. This year we will be tasting 3 whites, 3 rose wines (good for summer) and 3 red wines, all under \$15. The hosts this year are **Ken and Andy Harney, David and Maryanne Kane, and Colin and Jennifer Beebe.**

So bring your own wine glass and get \$15 apiece to the Village Manager by June 4th. The event starts at 7:30 sharp.

Yes! We'll be at the Wine Tasting Event.

Enclosed is our \$15 per person check and our sign up sheet. All sign-ups and checks are due at the Village Manager's home (3801 Bradley Lane) by Friday, June 4th so that we can buy enough wine. You can also sign up via e-mail at villagemanager@chevychase3.org and follow up with a check made out to Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase.

Name(s)

E-mail Address for confirmation:

Enclosed is \$15 per person to defray the cost of the wine.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE: CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG

Our new web host and design firm, Calvert Design Group, managed to put together a revised site in short order... The new "home page" features upcoming events and the ability to click on the current News & Views. New features include a tab "Where Are We?" which includes written directions for friends and relatives along with a Google Earth map which can be adjusted and shows the heart of town (Gazebo Park at Florida Street) but gives you a good street map as well that can be printed out.

There is an information tab for New Neighbors which talks about the fun parts of moving into Section 3 (narrow streets that don't accommodate large moving vans), Village History, Voter registration, cable and internet services, dogs and cats, parking, police and fire, schools and parks.

Under the Services tab, we have information on the Gardeners' Exchange, Neighborhood Activities from the Party in the Park to the Wine Tasting Event, Snow removal and of course, Trash Collection and Recycling. The News tab has our newsletters organized by year, but the current newsletter can be accessed on the home page so that you need not plow through all the old newsletters.

The Governance section will have both our charter and our

ordinances. The charter is downloadable now and the ordinances (with recent changes) will soon be available there.

For those who need to download forms, we will soon have all our forms available in pdf version—everything from a Park use permit application to a building permit application, variance application, and even a non-citizen voter registration form, all in

pdf versions. The Building information tab, when complete, will summarize our regulations and include a downloadable version of our stormwater runoff guidelines and for those of you inquiring about noise regulations, a link to the County's noise ordinance so you can easily see the rules for construction noise, etc.

There will be a community photo section, so feel free to send the Village Manager emails of photos taken in the community that would be fun and appropriate to post on line. No one will be identified, but it's nice to see activities posted there to remember good times!

At this writing, the site is not complete, but its organization makes it much easier to use than our old website. Take a look, we'd appreciate some feedback!

BID PACKAGES OUT FOR TRASH COLLECTION, TREE CARE, AND LANDSCAPE CONTRACTING

Every three years we put out bid packages for basic services to our community. The Village Manager researches possible contractors and invites bidders based on those recommendations. In the case of Trash Collection, we are limited because certain contractors do not have trucks small enough to turn the corners in our community. This year, in addition to trash and landscape contracting, we are also putting out a bid package for one year only for tree care. Since it is our first year with a new contractor focused solely on tree care, we want to be certain that we like the terms and conditions of the contract and the quality of the service before we commit to a three year contract.

The bids are all due on June 4th and the Council is expected to make decisions at the June 9th meeting.

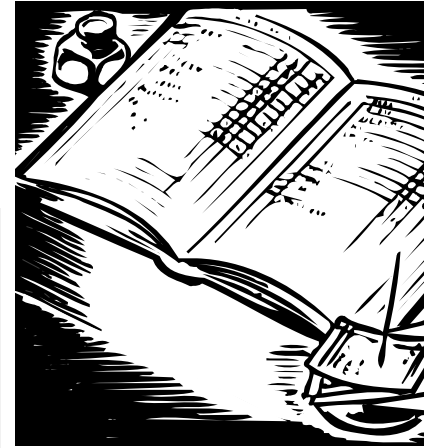
CHEVY CHASE @ HOME

Mark June 15th on your calendars if you are interested in Estates and Trusts. The regular every other Tuesday "meet and mingle" of the Chevy Chase@ Home group of seniors will feature a speaker, Judy O'Hara on the subject. The meeting will take place at Chevy Chase Village Hall from 2- 4 p.m., Tuesday, June 15th, you can learn about changes you might want to make to your estate or trusts you may want to create.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

Both the State and the County have passed budgets which require a revision from the proposed budget published in *News & Views* in April due to reduced funding from these sources. State

highway funds, which for years have hovered around \$30,000, are now reduced to only \$1,267 for the coming fiscal year. Tax duplication, which is a payment



CHEVY CHASE SECTION 3 BUDGET

INCOME	ACTUAL FY 09-10*	BUDGET FY 09-10	PROPOSED BUDGET FY 10-11
Building Permits	\$190.00	\$100.00	\$140.00
Cable TV	\$5,735.51	\$5,000.00	\$5,200.00
CCUMC Trash	\$0.00	\$2,310.00	\$2,550.00
Corporate Taxes	-\$121.97	\$0.00	\$100.00
County Duplication	\$32,322.00	\$32,322.00	\$20,000.00
Court & Misc fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Income Taxes	\$326,667.58	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
Interest	\$33,191.85	\$25,000.00	\$20,000.00
Interest Income from Taxes	-\$3.30	\$0.00	\$25.00
Parking Fines	\$631.69	\$200.00	\$350.00
Personal Property Taxes	\$39.87	\$0.00	
Property Taxes	\$50,201.43	\$45,000.00	\$45,000.00
State Highway	\$2,865.65	\$28,965.00	\$1,267.00
Total Income	\$451,750.31	\$438,897.00	\$397,632.00
EXPENSES			
Accounting Fees	\$6,284.26	\$7,200.00	\$7,500.00
Bank Service Charges	\$264.40	\$150.00	\$180.00
Charitable Donation	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Community Promotion	\$21,961.79	\$18,000.00	\$20,000.00
Consultant Services	\$89.00	\$0.00	
County Landfill Charges	\$6,357.00	\$10,000.00	\$8,000.00
Depreciation Expense *			
Dues and Conventions/Dinner	\$3,866.71	\$4,500.00	\$4,200.00
Engineering Study/Services	\$62,035.65	\$80,000.00	\$17,000.00
Equipment	\$1,583.36	\$2,000.00	\$500.00
Grass & Trees	\$27,329.13	\$35,000.00	\$59,000.00
Insurance	\$9,154.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Legal Fees	\$15,468.63	\$6,500.00	\$7,500.00
Messenger	\$42.01	\$0.00	\$0.00
Miscellaneous	\$809.64	\$0.00	\$800.00
Newsletter	\$8,536.53	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00
Office Supplies	\$476.50	\$500.00	\$600.00
Party-in-the-Park	\$12,143.10	\$15,000.00	\$16,000.00
Payroll and Taxes	\$52,190.36	\$55,000.00	\$65,490.00
Police	\$6,050.00	\$10,000.00	\$14,000.00
Postage and Delivery	\$1,859.42	\$2,500.00	\$2,800.00
Recycling	\$3,561.10	\$1,500.00	\$9,000.00
Rent	\$1,650.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,220.00
Snow Removal	\$37,965.20	\$12,000.00	\$12,000.00
Street Lighting	\$4,833.48	\$9,000.00	\$10,000.00
Street Repairs	\$63.47	\$15,000.00	\$65,000.00
Street Signs	\$247.00	\$35,000.00	\$37,000.00
Telephone and On-Line	\$1,266.01	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
Waste Collection	\$63,153.06	\$75,000.00	\$82,000.00
Water	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$400.00
Capital Improvement Reserve Fund**	\$6,171.14	\$500,000.00	\$600,000.00
Total Expenses	\$355,012.45	\$918,650.00	\$1,062,990.00

*Our fiscal year runs from July 1 through June 30. * as of May 23, 2010*

****** Only a portion of this will be spent in FY 2010-11.

from the County to Section 3 to reimburse us for taxes paid to the County for services Section 3 performs, and which has been about \$32,000 this year, is expected to be cut to \$20,000 for next year. As a result, the final budget for FY10-11 approved by the Council at the Annual Meeting has projected income of \$397,632 and projected expenses of \$462,990 (without the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund, which is funded by our reserves), resulting in a modest projected deficit of around \$65,000. The final budget, along with the income and expenses year to date, is published at left.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Council members or the Village Manager.

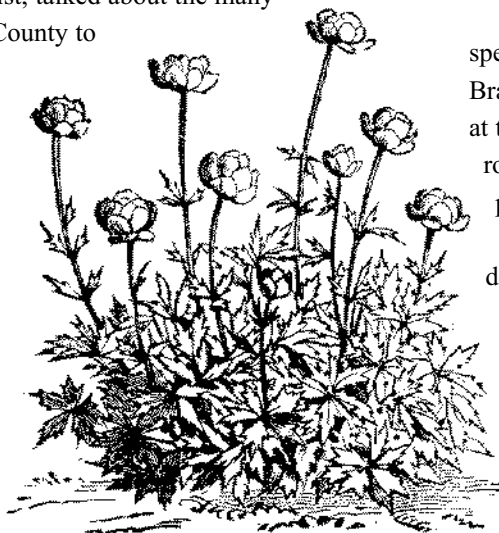
RAINSCAPES

This year's annual meeting speaker, Ann English, Rainscapes Program Planning Specialist, talked about the many incentives offered by the County to help improve the whole Chesapeake Bay watershed and reduce stormwater pollution. There are a number of ways that the program suggests homeowners can help in this area. Ann English showed ways in which a homeowner can design a "rain garden" to capture and soak up stormwater, to plan what is called "conservation landscaping using native plants adapted to local rainfall and soil conditions rather than a traditional lawn, expand the tree canopy, install permeable pavers instead of sidewalks and driveways that merely cause water to runoff, green roofs, rain barrels and cisterns and drywells.

Aside from the environmental benefits of this kind of landscape, there are specific incentives that Section 3 residents may apply for. Funding for FY 2011 begins in July, so preparing now to apply for a limited rebate fund make sense. To get the next application, check at www.rainscapes.org. There is a maximum rebate for residential properties of \$1,200 and that can be applied to multiple projects. If you replace turf with conservation landscaping, you can qualify for up to \$500 in rebates, if you plant a rain garden, you could get up to \$1,200 in a rebate. If you put in pavers, up to \$1,200, a rainbarrel may qualify you for up to \$200, a cistern up to \$500 and even a dry well, up to \$300 based on 50 percent of the actual cost.

None of these rebates will actually pay for what you will end up spending, but they are designed to be a significant enough incentive to encourage your participation. You have to file a formal application (not yet available for F Y 2011 as of this writing). You will be contacted by someone in the Department of Environmental Protection to visit your home and you must maintain your project following its completion. Projects must be installed within 6 months of the preliminary inspection date.

Even if you don't decide to use the incentive program, this site is filled with information on native plants, on plant material that thrives with "wet feet", and plants that do well in our Chesapeake Bay Watershed.



HOUSE TOUR DRAWS GARDENING CROWD

This year's House Tour featured two homes and three extra-special gardens in Section 3. Visitors to the Isbell home on Bradley Lane strolled through the elegant gardens and discovered at the rear of the property a gracefully hidden tennis court surrounded by magnificent perennials and bushes that create a transporting atmosphere a world apart.

Around the corner from the Isbell garden is a wonderful outdoor room created by gardeners **Jody Jose and Ellen Wilson** on Raymond Street. Lovely perennials show how clever use of perennials, good sun and an enveloping sense of an outdoor living room can make what might have been an ordinary front yard into an extraordinary space.

The **Brown/Whately** home is an homage to the 1920's vintage house the couple purchased recently from Carol Blair who lovingly took care of the house. The couple managed to update the spaces while retaining all the vintage touches. The "scallop" were removed, but the lovely built-ins retained and enhanced with vintage pottery in some of the cubicles, and 1950's Saturday Evening Post covers framed on the walls.

The magical world of a transporting water garden guarded by a Xian worrier was the next stop on the tour—the back garden of the **Steptoe/Carson** family. Here a garden designer Diane Sieffert helped by homeowner gardener MaryLou Steptoe and garden Coach Andrea von der Pfordten created a symphony of lush green textures. The evergreens, the stone brook, the carp swimming in the pond, the happy hosta sitting in the shade all create a tranquil experience in seconds. At the front of the house, visitors got a chance to see the still growing moss garden that MaryLou Steptoe has been cultivating and the graceful arbor that marks the entrance to this entrancing property.

The final stop on the tour was the under-renovation home of architect/designer couple **Neil Nott and Carolyn Greis**. The couple tackled this cottage style house and managed, with a few well-placed modest additions, to add considerable volume to the home...a new eat-in kitchen, a mud room, a fabulous master bath and two delightful third floor bedrooms were all squeezed out of spaces with such grace and attention to light and volume that it was a delight to tour. Bethesda Contracting and Section 3's own **Mike Theide** was on hand to explain the work underway.

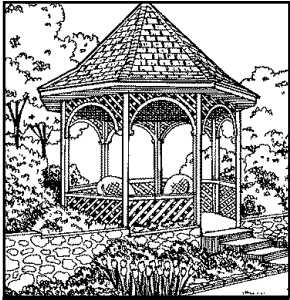
All in all, everyone enjoyed themselves immensely and we managed to collect hundreds of soaps, shampoos, lotions and towels for Shepherd's Table's showers for the homeless. If you missed the event but have shampoos and/or gently used towels for the homeless, feel free to drop them off in a plastic bag on the Village Manager's porch (3801 Bradley Lane).



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

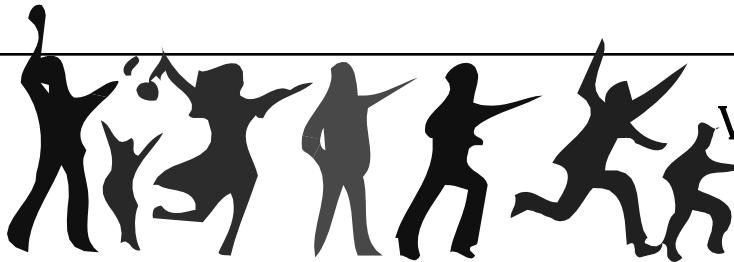
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



**SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**

News & Views

JUNE 2010



**WELCOME NEW
NEIGHBORS BBQ:
THURSDAY, JULY 15**

It's time to welcome some of our many new neighbors again...Everyone is welcome to join us for an old-fashioned Barbeque featuring Rocklands Barbeque. The feast begins around the Gazebo Park on Thursday evening, July 15th. This special event is for Section 3 residents only and it's on a first-come, first served basis.

Join us and welcome all our new neighbors and take this opportunity to meet old friends and neighbors as well. How do you know who is new? Well, everyone gets a name tag, but the new neighbors get to wear a Hawaiian lei so we all know who they are and can introduce ourselves.