

NEWS&VIEWS

March 2016

SECTION THREE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

### CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2 Bulk Trash Pick-up, Curbside—the first of 2016!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9 Council Meeting CCUMC, Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17 Everybody's Irish Party Gazebo Park, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. (rain or shine) (See story this issue)

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon 11:45 a.m. (see story this issue)

FRIDAY, MARCH 25 5:00 p.m. Submission Deadline for Candidates for Council Office

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 Council Meeting CCUMC, Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG

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### EVERYBODY'S IRISH MARCH 17



What better way to begin 2016's social events in Section 3 than our "Everybody's Irish" Party. Join us at the Gazebo Park for this festive annual event. Wear green and enjoy Irish adult beverages as well as appropriate children's drinks. Food focuses on taste first (tiny corned beef sandwiches, but green second---great guacamole, green eggs

and ham, green bagels and cream cheese and much more! Regardless of the weather, we celebrate St. Patty's Day in style...there is no rain date for this party! We've held it in the snow when the government was closed, we've held it in the cold with barn heaters and cold, cold beers and stout, and we've held it in unseasonably warm March days... Join us; it's lots of fun! The event is from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on March 17.

### EASTER BUNNY TO ARRIVE!

Get your baskets out, the Easter Bunny is coming your way on Sunday, March 20. Every year the Bunny comes to Section 3 and, with the help of neighborhood children, "hides" eggs in the Gazebo Park. Children ages 6 and under bring baskets and in shifts (youngest first, then "older" kids) they collect 10 filled "eggs" apiece. The Easter Bunny greets everyone and watches the festivities, which includes a light luncheon for family and their children, even the older ones who can't collect eggs anymore but can help hide them.

So plan on coming to the Gazebo Park on March 20 at 11:45 a.m. for a delightful hunt followed by a quick luncheon for all who attend. Only children 6 and under are allowed to participate, but other Section 3 children and grand-children and their families are invited.

# THINKING OF RUNNING FOR VILLAGE COUNCIL?

Section 3's Annual Meeting and Election is always held the second Tuesday in May. This year's date is May 10. The Council is composed of five elected officials whose two-year terms rotate so that at any given time, at least two or three Council members have served longer than the others. Any resident of Section 3 is eligible to run for the Council. If you have the time and the desire to participate and feel that you can contribute to the life of the Section and its residents and would like to run, let the Village Manager know and prepare a statement to be published in the newsletter. This year the terms for **Melissa Brown** and **Mike Dietrich** are up for re-election. Each has indicated their desire to serve. That does not, however, preclude others from wanting to run as well.

\*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.



The Council met on Wednesday, February 10 in room 107. The meeting began at 7:55 p.m. All Council members were present before the meeting concluded.

The minutes of the January meeting as published in the February newsletter were approved.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

The Council hopes to interview candidates for a second police patrolman this month. The State Highway Administration is going to bring their proposed improvements to the intersection of Brookville and Taylor Street to a meeting with members of Martins Additions and Section 3. The date has not yet been set by State Highway officials.

#### BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The **Jacobs** family of Raymond Street has received a permit for a patio and in ground pool.

The Village Manager reported on the progress on planning for spring road improvements:

- WSSC has determined that it will probably be after 2019 or 2020 before they install water lines on Delaware Street and Georgia Street since there's not sufficient money under emergency funding. This frees us to schedule the reconstruction of the short block of Delaware Street between Shepherd and Taylor Streets and the Council decided to defer the reconstruction of Georgia Street until next year as we have so much going on elsewhere in the community.
- 2. The County continues to work with contractors as they prepare measurements and drawings for the replacement of the storm drain on Shepherd Street running from Delaware to Florida Street. We don't have a schedule as yet and we need to have that so that we don't schedule the work on Delaware Street at the same time.
- 3. We will be milling and paving three areas this spring. Once the milling (scraping of the top layer of asphalt) is completed, the base will be evaluated for structural integrity and, where necessary, concrete will be removed and a coarse base of asphalt filled in. The areas slated include the first and last blocks of Raymond Street (Connecticut to Delaware and Georgia to Brookville ) and Spring Street from Delaware Street (including the "top" of Spring at Delaware) to Fulton Street.

4. Washington Gas has informed Section 3 that they plan on PAGE 2

replacing the gas service line on Bradley Lane from Brookville Road to Connecticut Avenue late this summer. They will also be replacing the service on three Section 3 homes there at the same time. The Village Manager is working with the operations chief in Chevy Chase Village as they control the road maintenance. The Village also plans to mill and pave the street once the work is completed this summer. We are working with our civil engineer to refine the proposal to draft the appropriate contractual documents.

The Council discussed the solutions arrived at to clear our streets during the blizzard and the possibility that FEMA would reimburse us for some of those expenses. It remains to be seen if they will reimburse for snow shoveling of sidewalks. We have the opportunity to select the most costly 48 hour time period for reimbursement under a FEMA emergency declaration. The Manager once again stressed that the success of our street clearing efforts was made possible only because everyone got their cars off the street, making it possible for us to do a thorough job. Our contractor Snow Central and their crew did an amazing job.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Village Manager reports that a special meeting with all the municipalities and the County and officials from the Office of the Comptroller is scheduled for February 19 to discuss the independent audit of the income tax distribution system used by the Office.

The manager has received reports concerning the numbers of taxpayers within income tax brackets in Section 3 and is trying to understand the discrepancies between the numbers of taxpayers on that report and the numbers on other documents published by the Office of the Comptroller.

The challenge in confronting all the differences in income tax revenues this year is how to plan next year's budget. The Council begins planning in March for the budget presented and voted on at the May annual meeting.

### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Village Manager reported that plans were in hand for the Everybody's Irish party on March 17 and asked the Council if they had any suggestions for changes or improvements in the event. The Party in the Park is scheduled for September 18 with a rain date of the 25th.

The Village manager is working on a Section 3 "Market Day" with a local farmer selling vegetables and someone else selling baked goods. The Council suggested that we look into asking a florist to attend. The Village Manager is working to make June this event, a nice kick-off to a possible monthly summer "Market Day" for our residents. Much depends on the success of the initial venture.

The public meeting adjourned at ?????? p.m.

#### News & Views



It is with sadness that we report the passing of **Virginia Ruth Brown**, devoted life partner of **Marley Weiss** of Delaware Street. Virginia fought a three year battle with cancer and, at age 81, succumbed at home.

Her life work and passion was theoretical nuclear physics. During her career, she worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, MIT, the University of Maryland College Park, the National Science Foundation. She did physics research in both Germany and Italy and held many leadership positions in the American Physical Society.

Her burial took place on February 21 and a memorial service was held at the Washington Ethical Society. A second memorial service will be held at a later date at MIT. Memorial contributions can be made to the American Cancer Society—Hope Lodge, 636 W. Lexington St., Baltimore, MD 21201.

#### College News

It's still early, but if you've got news about where your child will be headed next fall for college, let us know and share the joy!

### STREETCAR SUBURBS: How a 10 cent Ride Changed Washington

Attendees at the Chevy Chase Historical Society's winter lecture on Sunday, March 20 will be treated to an illustrated lecture on how the electric streetcar in the 1890s helped foster suburbs like Chevy Chase. The free talk, which will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall at 4:00 p.m., is open to the public.

Using vintage photos from his recent book: Capital Streetcars: Early Mass Transit in Washington, D.C., author John DeFerrari will demonstrate how city dwellers escaped to the countryside to live and community.

History buffs will be interested in a popular local history block (blog??) that DeFerrari began in 2009 called Streets of Washington. As a complement to the March 20 lecture, the Historical Society will host a special trip to the National Capital Trolley Museum on Saturday, April 9 at noon.

### Key on-line resources

Alert Montgomery is a wonderful resource that alerts you to areas that are backed up due to an accident, it warns you about upcoming weather that might be of concern, lets you know about school closings and provides amber and silver alerts. If you drive a lot around the County, it's an invaluable resource that lets you know about areas to avoid because of accidents or fires. Go to www. AlertMontgomery.com and sign up for the ways you would like to be notified (both your email address and your cell number are accepted) and the situations that interest you the most.

????? Section 3 residents looking for a large listserv of folks in our area should sign up for the BCC community listsery. It's a moderated listserv with some references to BCC high school but it's got over 500 members and is very active---if you want to rent a vacation place from someone who lives in the area or need a reference for a good contractor or sub-contractor, or if you have tickets or other items to sell, it's a great resource with lots of really helpful people. To sign up send your first and last names, neighborhood/school and email address to BCCommunity-subscribe@yahoogroups.com and let them know that you'd like to be included on the listserv. You can get a daily digest or individual emails, however you'd like to receive messages. The listserv is set to "reply to sending." You have to consciously "reply all." The tradition is if you are seeking a service or information of general interest to the list, members prepare and post a summary so that it will be available in the searchable archive. It's amazing all the contractors, nannies, classes and services that are posted. ???????

This is suggested in lieu of the Nextdoor Neighbor online listserv, a California start-up that combines Section 3 residents with those in Barnaby Woods, east Bethesda and other nearby communities. It does not have the depth or local focus of the Yahoo listserv.

Those interested in planning issues regarding Bethesda can visit the website www.cbar.info to learn more on specific issues such as schools, transportation, or parks as well as reaching planning board and County Council members.

### NEW LIGHT ON CONNECTICUT

You may be wondering why all the drilling on Connecticut Avenue in the area of the median strip... good news for those who like to walk! After years of lobbying for a light and crosswalk by the post office, the State Highway Administration has agreed to a pedestrian operated light, much like the one south of Chevy Chase Circle in the District. The light should be functional sometime this spring...meaning you may not have to risk life and limb to cross the street to get to the post office!

### SERIOUS PHONE AND CONTRACTOR SCAMS

A number of residents have been disturbed by threatening phone calls from someone identifying themselves as calling from the IRS They state they are about to file suit for back taxes. The caller gives a callback number to "verify" that the call is real and discuss payment. This is a complete scam: the IRS does not call taxpayers and threaten to file suit, instead they send letters. These callers should be hung up on the same way you delete pleas for help in "investing" foreign funds from everyone from the daughter of Omar Gaddafi to someone addressing you as "dearest."

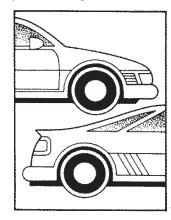
Another phone scam making the rounds is usually a call from someone who purports to be a representative of Microsoft who has "detected" that you have a problem with your computer. This is a scam, hang up. Microsoft does not have your phone number and they aren't big brother watching for problems. There are however, folks who want your password to hijack your computer or a fee for not fixing anything and stealing your credit card.

Another call several residents have received urges that you get insurance for the failure of your water line. They often cite the age of the water line. This "insurance' is unnecessary. If you have water pressure problems, then you might need to have the line from the water meter in the ground near your property line to your home replaced, but you would know if you had a problem. Water lines rarely "fail" and this is unnecessary insurance, usually targeting the elderly.

If you are wondering how so many elderly are targeted, it's simple. You can buy drivers' license information and sort through

### MVA ON WHEELS

Need to get your license renewed? Get new tags for your license plate?



The MVA mobile office comes to Friendship Heights once a month between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. If you need any express services, visit them parked at 4433 South Park Avenue in Chevy Chase (the Village of Friendship Heights Town Hall) on March 21, April 25, May 2, or June 20. for senior citizens, most of whom have land lines listed in the phone book. I have yet to hear any of these phone scams come to folks who only have cell phones.

**Snow shoveling at great expense.** The blizzard happily brought out helpful neighbors and sadly also vulture-like crews with shovels. When faced with the daunting task of clearing out a driveway or a sidewalk, many were tempted but the prices were extraordinary. We hope we won't see another blizzard, but prices should be agreed upon before anyone begins working, not after. And not by the hour, by the job...it's too easy to just drag it out if it's by the hour. If it seems too high, unless you need to go someplace pressing, just say no... as Gilbert and Sullivan once said, "there are lots of good fish in the sea" and we're happy to recommend eager hardworking teens in the neighborhood—some of whom have snowblowers!

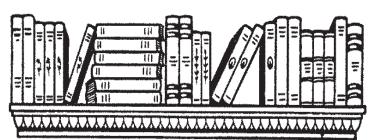
"Tree work." Section 3 residents were approached by a man with a work suit on asking to do tree work in December and January. Montgomery County requires people who do tree work to have a license. This guy had a very sad story and was eager to work and did in fact work for a number of neighbors...However, he had no truck or car, leaving the debris for the homeowner to somehow dispose of. He had no license, so it's hard to know if what he did was the right way to prune. It's better for your trees if you have someone trained to do this kind of work and January is not usually the season to prune most trees.

**Firewood.** The County regulates firewood and defines the dimensions of a cord or half cord of wood. There are reputable firewood suppliers. Guys roaming the neighborhood in trucks at dusk do not necessary provide a proper "cord" or half cord of wood (a cord is defined as... ) and you have no way to see in that light if the wood is properly seasoned or green—not to mention that they are not licensed to sell firewood.

### FOR SALE:

A 3500 watt generator, bought new for \$600 and rarely used. In perfect working order, Price: \$150. Contact Richard Barry.

A charming Victorian Golden Oak Country kitchen/dining table with turned legs and two leaves...square it's 42 square or with the leaves, 42" x 65". Easy to move, legs unscrew from the skirted top. Price: \$450. OBO . Contact Andy Harney.



### EVENTS AT CHEVY CHASE LIBRARY

These programs are made possible through the generous support of the Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter. For more information, call the library at (240) 773-9590.

#### ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

Every Tuesday and Saturday from 10:30 am to 12 Noon. Open to all non-native English speakers interested in practicing English in a friendly, informal and fun setting. Join us! For more information, call 240-773-9590. Free. No reservations needed.

### STEM OPEN PLAY

Come to the Chevy Chase Library on Thursday mornings from 10:30 -11:30 am to have fun with Duplos, blocks, matching and sorting games and other STEM/STEAM activities. Preschool age. No registration needed.

### LEGO PLAY

Drop in for an open session of Lego play on Fridays between 3:30 and 5:00 pm. Elementary age with an adult. We will provide the Legos and space, you provide the imagination. No registration.

# LION DANCE PERFORMED BY THE CHINESE YOUTH CLUB OF WASHINGTON, DC

The Chevy Chase Library celebrates the Chinese New Year on February 27 at 11:00 am with a traditional lion dance. No registration needed. An event for all ages.

### Toddler Time

Please join us Tuesday and Saturday mornings at 10:30 am for fun learning activities. We'll read, sing, dance, explore and learn finger plays just right for two and three year olds. No registration needed.

### FIRST THURSDAY CRAFT MORNING

In addition to our STEM Open Play program, we will have a once a-month art activity for preschoolers; this month, March 3, 10:30 am. No registration needed.

### KEEPING SENIORS SAFE

On March 3 at 10:30 am, the presentation will cover: Safe shopping habits and parking lot safety; Home safety and personal preparedness for an emergency; Fraud, scams and identity theft identification and prevention; Who to call for emergency and non-emergency needs. No registration required.

### FOREIGN FILM SHOWINGS

Join us for screenings of a variety of films from around the world on the first Saturday of each month, unless otherwise indicated. All movies have English subtitles. Screenings will begin at 2:00 p.m. Winter in Wartime (Dutch, English and German; made in Belgium and the Netherlands).

### NON-FICTION BOOK GROUP

Join the group on March 9 at 2:00 pm to discuss *The Dawn* of *Innovation: The First American Industrial Revolution*, by Charles R. Morris. The United States becomes the greatest economic power in world history. Copies of the book available one month before the session at the Information Desk. No registration.

#### GREAT BOOKS DISCUSSION GROUP

This month's selection is *Discovery and Conquest of Mexico*, by Bernal Diaz del Castillo. Join us for an intellectually stimulating exploration of some of the greatest fiction and non-fiction works published through the ages. Registration is not required. Attendees are responsible for obtaining the material to read in advance of the discussion. Group meets the second Wednesday each month at 7:30 pm (March 9)

### SPECIAL JEFFERSON CAFE

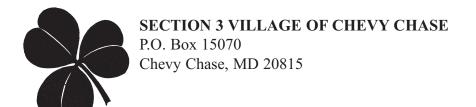
On March 18 at 10:30 am, Lt. Cmdr. (ret'd) E. S. Maloney, Jr., will be our guest speaker. A graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy and Admiral Rickover's Nuclear Powered School, he served on U. S. Navy nuclear-powered submarines for 15 years.

This month's article is "A Roadmap for U. S. Nuclear Energy Innovation" by Richard K. Lester, *Issues in Science and Technology*, Winter 2016. We hope everyone will feel comfortable participating. The group is fairly small so that everyone can see and hear everyone else while seated around a table. Copies of the articles to be discussed will be available without charge on the holds shelf at the library.

# BILINGUAL STORYTIME WITH LUPE MARKS (SPANISH/ENGLISH)

#### 3/22, 10:30 AM

Please join us for a bilingual (Spanish/English) storytime just right for toddlers and preschoolers. No registration needed.





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Newsletter production by Natalie Hamilton