

News&Views

MAY 2014

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7
Bulk Trash Pick-up, Curbside

THURSDAY, MAY 8
FOOD TRUCK NIGHT, Gazebo Park, 5:30 to 7:30

TUESDAY, MAY 13
Elections, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.,
CCUMC Eppworth Room
ANNUAL MEETING, 8:00 p.m.
Elza Hisel-McCoy, speaker

SUNDAY, MAY 18 Annual House Tour, 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4 Bulk Trash Pick-up, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11 Council Meeting, CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14 Wine Tasting Event, 7:00 p.m.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION

This year's speaker for our annual meeting will be Elza Hisel-McCoy, the Planning Board staff's lead planner on the new master plan for downtown Bethesda. This will be the first master plan since the zoning rewrite, so it will be interesting to see how much real input the community will have given the fact that everything has been re-zoned and there is great pressure to increase both building height and density. Like White Flint, Bethesda is a transportation-oriented hotspot, with both the metro line and the anticipated Purple Line coming together at that junction. Already the Council has passed a zoning text amendment allowing at least one building to go up 250 feet in order to accommodate the Purple Line. As of this writing, however, the owners of the building that has been "upzoned" have not decided if it is in their best interest to abandon their current building and redevelop the site. There is a great deal of pressure for them to do so to make room for a below grade terminus for the Purple Line, which has yet to receive Federal funding.

Proximity to downtown Bethesda has helped to make the homes in Section 3 increasingly valuable in terms of location. More density inevitably also means more traffic and congestion. It's imperative that we continue to make our voices heard as they shape this area's future as it will dramatically impact our community.

Mark your calendar for May 13th...voting from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. will be followed by our Annual Meeting. Learn what's in store for Section 3 and for downtown Bethesda.

EASTER BUNNY CAPTIVATES HIS AUDIENCE!

What a surprise! The Easter Bunny came to the Section 3 Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon! He met his fans with lots of hugs and smiles and entertained the children until the magic moment when the gates of the Gazebo Park were thrown open to reveal easter eggs dotting the lawn as far as you could see! The early birds, ages 0-3, got the first crack at the eggs (pun intended) and then the "big kids" came in a rush five minutes later and within minutes, dozens of eggs disappeared into baskets…10 to a customer in most instances!

Parents and grandparents then dug into a delicious light lunch provided by Mindy's Catering. Special thanks to all the children who helped "hide" the eggs and to **David and Debby Glynn** for getting our festive balloons and all those who helped set up and break down the tables. **Josh Grossfeld** deserves a round of applause as a wonderful Easter Bunny!

*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 April 9 meeting began at 7: 55 p.m. in room 107 of CCUMC. All Council members were present.

The Council approved the minutes as published in the April newsletter with one amendment: All Council members were present except **Bill Brownlee** at the March meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

The Council discussed the recent carjackings in Chevy Chase, Maryland and Chevy Chase, DC and considered increasing the hours of our patrolmen in May as they were unavailable for additional hours in April. As arrests have been made in all of the recent carjackings, the Council decided to wait on increasing hours of our police patrols in May in hopes that the swift arrests will discourage others who might consider similar moves. The Council will revisit this issue if problems persist.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

Upcoming bids for milling and paving parts of Raymond and Shepherd Streets will be due before the next Council meeting. All three expected bidders have successfully worked for Section 3 in previous years. All are accustomed to working in our close spaces, working with the Village Manager, and being considerate of our residents. The Council discussed the special challenges of re-routing traffic around the preschool and closing off blocks for work. It was decided that the bid packages should include the date that each contractor could begin work as that would be key to our ability to get the job done promptly and efficiently. In an effort to expedite the start of this project, the Council delegated the decision to select among the bids to Council Chairman Bill Brownlee and Buildings and Roads Representative Carolyn Greis.

The County is going to repair two blocked storm drains on Raymond Street between Florida and Georgia Streets. The Village Manager will work with the County to get that done prior to the milling and paving job.

The Village Manager has convinced the State Highway Department that their wires for controlling the traffic lights were responsible for the cuts in the pavement which led to the deterioration of the sub-base and big potholes on the westbound lane at Bradley Lane and Connecticut Avenue. Although that portion of the street is NOT a state highway, they have agreed to make the necessary repairs.

The sanitary sewer issues which plagued the house at 3815 Bradley Lane have all been repaired and the line has been photographed as clear. New pipe was installed across Connecticut Avenue and the one location where the pipe collapsed due to a dry well required by Montgomery County has been replaced as well and will withstand the heavy load of the stones for the drywell. Many thanks to neighbor **Marc Weller** for allowing his entire front yard to be dug up to resolve the problem. Who knew a sewer line went from 3815 Bradley Lane all the way out to the center lane of the southbound lane of Connecticut Avenue?

The **Saifee** family got a permit for a patio in their rear yard. The **Quigley** family got a permit for the fence on the perimeter of their property, having already received a variance for a six foot fence on Connecticut Avenue.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council recently opened a new one year CD with Congressional Bank which offered an extraordinary one percent promotional rate, roughly double what investments elsewhere have been netting. The Village Manager continues to seek banks offering higher interest rates to invest our funds.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

All is in place for the upcoming elections. Elza Hisel-McCoy of the Montgomery County Planning Commission staff will be speaking about the plans for downtown Bethesda where building heights may go as high as 250 feet. He will give a brief presentation of the status of the master plan and then take questions.

Food Truck Night is all set for Thursday, May 8th. We are expecting four food trucks with lots of food and a dessert truck. All the trucks that came to our inaugural food truck night will be coming with more food than last time and the fourth truck should minimize lines. Good weather may make it possible for people to bring blankets and sit in the park for a picnic.

The Easter Egg hunt and luncheon is all organized. The Village Manager cancelled the tent as the weather is supposed to be lovely. **Debby Glynn** has organized older "alumni" kids to hide the eggs and help set up the tables.

The House Tour is almost set; we are just waiting to hear from one final family for a total of five locations.

Bob Salmon has been finishing up the first cut at all our records and then the challenging part of organizing records begins.

The meeting concluded at 9:00 p.m.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Decorating Den, a national franchise decorating service owned by Section 3's own **Carol Bugg** and her husband **Jim**, has opened its first retail outlet in Kensington. The shop, located at 10426 Fawcett Street, offers full interior design services, has sample wallpapers and fabrics and books filled with different furnishings options.

COUNTY VOTING FORUM

May 21st marks the date when you can hear all the At-Large County Council incumbents and their challengers at a forum at 7:00 p.m. at the 4-H Center in Chevy Chase. There are nine elected members of the County Council, four are at large members representing the entire county. They determine development plans, school budgets and construction and the way we live in the county. Moderator Charles Duffy, host of "Political Pulse" on Montgomery Municipal Cable TV, will focus on issues of primary interest to our community. So take a moment before the June Democratic primaries to listen to the incumbents, Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreeen, George Leventhal, and Hans Reimer along with Democratic challengers Beth Daly and Vivian Malloy. Also speaking are folks who will be competing this fall for your vote, Republican Robert Dyer and Green Party candidate Tim Willard.

This unique opportunity, of which Section 3 is one of the many co-sponsors, will enable you to make an informed choice of the candidates you would most like to see leading our county in the future.



The primary elections in Montgomery County will be held June 24. If you want to vote in the primary election, you must be registered with a party. If you're not, you have until June 3rd to change your party affilia-

tion. Go to the Montgomery County, MD board of elections and they will lead you to the link where you can print out a voter registration form and fax it in to the Board of Elections. The same form is also used to switch party affiliation.

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT, THURSDAY MAY 8

Section 3's second Food Truck Night is slated for Thursday, May 8th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The fall event was such a success that the lines were long and a number of vendors ran out of food. We hope we'll get just as many folks this time, maybe more, because all those trucks promise to return with lots of food and we've invited two more trucks! Almost every taste is considered in the list of invitees:

Los Lobos Burritos
Greeneggsandburgers
GoFish
Corned Beef King
Carmen's Italian Ices

www.loslobosburritors.com www.greeneggsandburgers.com www.gofishtruck.com www.cornedbeefking.com www.carmensrockville.com

So bring your wallets, your friends, and a blanket to sit in the park and enjoy the event and camaraderie! We've invited Section 5 and Martins Additions; feel free to ask your friends from other areas as well. It will be a fun, casual evening for all! No dogs, please. If you are curious about the menus of any of the above, their websites are included so you can look at their offerings in advance.

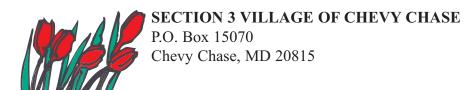
HOUSE TOUR FOR CHARITY

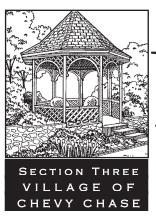
This year's house tour on Sunday, May 18th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., includes two new houses and two stunning renovations. Lots of inspiration for us all! Included is a two-story addition to a classic bungalow belonging to the **Dorsey/Williams** family; an upbeat renovation of an older home on Raymond Street now for sale and unoccupied; a brand new home built with panelized construction, also on Raymond Street belonging to the **Bakhash/Warden** family; and finally, a totally contemporary home at the corner of Bradley Lane and Connecticut Avenue belonging to the **Bruetman/Porras** family.

To see these homes (first floor only, except for the one for sale), you have to be a Section 3 resident—this is a neighborhood event only—and bring some gently used towels, travel soaps and lotions. and other toiletries for the homeless shelter Shepherd's Table in Silver Spring. The non-profit offers the homeless free showers. If you have old eyeglasses to donate to the Lion's Club, bring them too and we'll get them to the right folks.

You drop your donation/entry fee into one of the recycling bins in front of each host home. You can leave the donations at the first house you visit, the order doesn't matter. If it rains, you may be asked to leave your shoes at the front door for the sake of those nice floors... otherwise, you're more than welcome and you'll get a chance to meet some of our newer neighbors at a few of these houses. (see insert brochure for more information)

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YOU ONLY HAVE ONE HEAD!

USE IT...WEAR A HELMET
IF YOU ARE BIKE RIDING. IF YOU ARE DRIVING, REMEMBER
SPRING IS A TIME
WHEN LOTS OF NEW
BIKE RIDERS PLY
OUR STREETS...

PLEASE PROCEED WITH CAUTION.

MAY IS A BUSY MONTH FOR SECTION 3

Make sure you take advantage of all the activities for the month... We start off the month with the usual bulk trash pick-up on the 7th—perfect timing for spring cleaning. Then on the 8th, we have Food Truck night, on the 13th, the Annual Meeting and on the 18th, the Annual House Tour .So look for additional details elsewhere in this newsletter and make sure to mark your calendars; it promises to be a fun, busy month for Section 3!