

# NEWS&VIEWS

**OCTOBER 2014** 

# CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8 Council Meeting, CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 Food Truck Night! Gazebo Park, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31
Halloween Parade and Pizza Party
Gazebo Park, 4:45 p.m.
(In case of rain, meet at 5:00 p.m. at CCUMC
Phillips Hall; we will parade there then have pizza.)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4
Election Day
Section 3 residents vote at CCUMC, Phillips Hall

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 Bulk Trash Pickup, curbside

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 Council Meeting, CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

# VILLAGE COUNCIL

www.chevychasesection3.org

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# FOOD TRUCK NIGHT OCTOBER 12

Bring friends and family — beer, wine, and blankets, too — and come out for a great October Food Truck Night from 5:30 to 7:30, Sunday evening,

friends and family over for dinner, but don't want to go through all the hassle but want the fun? This is your chance! Ask them to join you, the more the merrier for us and for the food trucks!

October 12th. Have you been meaning to have

We'll cluster around the Gazebo
Park which will be open for the event
(we are sodding soon). Who have we
invited to come serve up a delicious selection
of choices for your dining pleasure? Go Fish

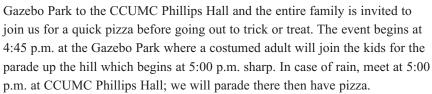
truck with its delicious fish tacos, the **Corned Beef King** again and new this time, **Curley's BBQ...** complete with a special kid's menu of beef frankfurters and mac and cheese as well as adult favorites like chicken, ribs, pulled pork and brisket. For dessert, we've asked back **Carmen's Italian Ices**, with their great ice cream, custards and delicious desserts.

So bring your wallets and/or credit cards, invite your friends as we need a crowd to keep the trucks returning to our neighborhood.

# HALLOWEEN PARADE

AND PIZZA PARTY
OCTOBER 31

All Section 3 Ghosts and Goblins in second grade and under are invited for our annual Halloween Parade and Pizza Party. Older children can watch their siblings as they parade up the hill from the



Looking forward to seeing you there!

\*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, September 10th at CCUMC, room 107. All Council members were in attendance. The meeting began at 8:00 p.m.

The minutes of the July meeting were amended to reflect that the Carstens-Trenor family had applied for a variance for a heat pump, not an air conditioning unit that would intrude into the side setback. The size and appearance of the unit is very similar to an air conditioning compressor unit. With that change, the minutes were approved.

#### CHARTER AMENDMENT

The Council discussed the difficulty in meeting the current charter requirement that all items in excess of \$10,000 except personal service contracts had to be put out to bid when both street signs and street lighting, for example, might be available as specified by the Council from only a single source. Most other jurisdictions have an exception for sole source contracting but the Section 3 Charter does not.

The Council therefore voted to change the charter such that Section 703 of the charter , paragraph 2 will read:

"Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter to the contrary, the Council may contract for material or work without having first invited bids for the same if the contract award serves a public purpose and: (1) there is only one source for the required material or work which can meet the needs and specifications of Section 3; or (2) there exists a threat to public health, safety, or welfare or where delay would seriously injure Section 3 financially or otherwise."

The process for adoption is as follows: The Council adopted the amendment at their regular monthly meeting. After the adoption, the resolution is posted at a public space for at least 40 days (see town bulletin board) and advertised in a newspaper of general circulation for four times at weekly intervals within the 40 day period following the adoption. If 20 percent of qualified voters in Section 3 submit a petition for a referendum, the amendment must be subjected to a referendum election. If no sufficient referendum petition is received, the charter amendment will be effective on the 50th day after being passed, provided it is duly registered with the state.

If residents have questions about this new provision, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Council members.

#### PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Police patrols continue with no significant events. We are scheduling one of our patrols to be with us at the Party in the Park to meet residents and be on hand in the event of an emergency. Police continue to monitor stop sign compliance and speed at Taylor Street and Brookville Road and also compliance with the Do Not Enter signs by CCUMC Preschool during the appropriate hours.

#### Buildings & Roads

The Council approved the variance requests by the **Afnan** family for their home at 7102 Florida Street and discussed the timing of the demolition and construction. The Buildings and Roads Representative and the Village Manager are going to work on an alternative bus stop that will be safe for children while demolition and construction are underway. Once a location is determined with the help of the coordinator for the school system, all parents will of course be notified. That may not happen until after Thanksgiving, however.

Regarding the **Carstens-Trenor** request for a variance for the addition of a heat pump in the side setback next to their two AC compressors, there was considerable discussion about noise concerns raised by the **Neu** family regarding the heat pump in the side setback. There was little concern about the physical intrusion into the setback, only the noise factor. Ms. Carstens-Trenor explained that the heat pump is less noisy than the ac units and would only be on when the basement went above or below a certain temperature. She was doubtful that the noise would be an issue but promised to see if the existing AC units might be serviced to be less noisy to the Neu family. The variance for the intrusion into the side setback was approved.

The Village Manager indicated that the Gazebo Park would be closed soon to be re-sod, but that the date wasn't certain as yet.

The Council agreed to have our electrical engineers do a final inspection of the revised wiring installed by Pepco to make certain that no stone was left unturned in terms of the age and reliability of our wiring. Since we had our initial outages in July of 2011, Pepco has installed new feeder lines to our community and replaced much of the secondary wiring. The Richter Associates review will just determine if there are any additional steps we might ask Pepco to address before we go to them about street lighting again.

We have hired our lighting designer to research firms manufacturing both induction and LED lighting in teardrop style. The Council and the community is asked to take a look at the light levels in the three lights installed in Martin's Addition on Bradley Lane extended and compare those with the one "teardrop" induction light installed opposite the **Jester/Giblin** residence at 6705 Georgia Street and let us know which you like better. We hope to

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Welcome to new neighbors, **Daniella Landau** and her boys **Nicholas** (17) and **Dylan** (13) who moved into 3616 Raymond Street. The family comes to us from Virginia and are settling nicely into their new digs and into BCC and Westland.

Welcome to **Antoinette Nucci** and her husband **Jeremy Patten** who have moved all the way from Martins Additions to
Section 3 on Spring Street! We're delighted to have them as
neighbors! Tony runs a placement agency for healthcare professionals like nurse managers, physical and occupational therapists.
Jeremy runs a personal training business: Excel Fitness.

# BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

The Chevy Chase United Methodist Church is holding its annual Blessing of the Animals on Sunday, October 4th on the Church playground on Shepherd Street at 10:00 a.m. In the event of inclement weather, the event will be held in Phillips Hall. Paster Kirkland Reynolds will individually bless each animal as part of a short service. Section 3 residents and their animals are invited. Following the service there will be animal treats as well as coffee and juice and light fare for their human companions. The Church expect at least one horse, so let's hope it doesn't rain because it might be a little tricky getting into Phillips Hall!

# STREET SIGN SALE BENEFITS RESCUE SQUAD

When Section 3 changed all its street signs, the question arose, "what to do with the old signs?" Rather than send them to be recycled, the Council decided on a better "recycling" route: why not offer them to our residents for sale? A remembrance of the street perfect for a playroom or recreation room. The Council decided to sell the signs at \$20 apiece and donate all the proceeds to a charity that benefitted the entire community— the BCC Rescue Squad. A check in the amount of \$830 was sent on behalf of Section 3... a win-win for all involved! For all those who purchased signs, we thank you for helping us make such a generous contribution.

If you missed the "sale," there are a few signs left at the same price: 3 Taylor Street, 4 Spring Street, 3 Fulton Street, one large Brookville Road 7100 sign and a single East Bradley Lane sign. We also donated signs to Martins Additions and to Chevy Chase Village.

# SPRING STREET GAS LEAK BRINGS OUT THE TROOPS!

The contractor working for the Voorhees family on Spring Street had done all the right things, contacted Miss Utility, waited until the locations of gas, water and communications lines were marked. So on an early September morning, they began to work. And no sooner had their contractor put a spade in the ground when, much to their surprise, they hit a gas line!...unmarked by Miss Utility!

Following appropriate protocols, they contacted emergency services and in a flash, police and fire were on the scene, quickly followed by Washington Gas's emergency team who quickly shut off the gas valve and repaired the leak. The entire incident took about 90 minutes. Thanks to all the folks who helped with this situation, luckily for us, no harm came to anyone but for a faint gassy smell in the air for about an hour....

# MEDIAN STRIP TO BE PLANTED SOON

Section 3 will be distinguished by some new landscaping on Connecticut Avenue very shortly. Now that the street has been milled and paved, the median strip covered over with faux-cobbles, the lines painted straight...our little median strip gardens are about to be planted. In a special agreement with the State Highway Administration (SHA), Section 3 has asked for modest gardens to punctuate the strips with plant materials we selected with the help of a State Highway landscape architect.

As of this writing, the contractor, Ft. Myer, is digging out the garden strips of debris, putting in quality top soil and then is planning on planting a mixture of dwarf crepe myrtle and ornamental grasses. We look forward to a softening of the median strip as you drive through our segment of Connecticut Avenue and hope that our residents on Connecticut Avenue appreciate the look. We will be contracting with our on landscape specialist to keep these areas watered, weeded and in good condition. Our agreement with SHA lasts three years and assuming we all want to continue, we will renew that agreement at that time. Once it's planted, let us know what you think!

## VARIANCE REQUEST

**Lynn Geisert** of 7104 Fulton Street asks for a variance to replace her deck which is in the side setback and only five feet rather than eight feet from the side property line.

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# LIBRARY HOURS TO INCREASE ON OCTOBER 6

Starting October 6, the public library on Connecticut Avenue will once again be open on Monday mornings at 10:00 a.m. The library hours will be 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday and on Wednesday, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m.

## FIRE STATION OPEN HOUSE

Neighborhood children and their parents will enjoy this year's open house from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on October 18 at the fire station on Connecticut Avenue. Kids and their parents will be given free rides on a fire truck, kids will tour the fire station and get a chance to play on the big inflated slide and receive fire hats and refreshments. So make it a special trip, and while you think about it, check those smoke detector batteries!

## CHEVY CHASE AT HOME

On Tuesday, October 7, at the mini-mingle, Chevy Chase at Home members share their expertise with our own Section 3's **Marion Robertson** showing members how to produce a family calendar on the web and **Mary Gorman** and **Jan Augustine** talking about travel tips for those planning some new adventures.

On Sunday, October 19, our own **Tim Healy**'s International Conservatory of Music is sponsoring a master guitar class with Carlos Barbosa-Lima at Chevy Chase Village Hall from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to watch and listen as this master works with students of guitar.

On Sunday, October 26, the organization is sponsoring its annual big open house event for members and supporters with a talk by Mark Schriver about his father, "Rediscovering my Father." The event runs from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Women's Club of Chevy Chase. Attendees must pre-register.

For this and information about the organization's active exercise program and knitting circle, call (301) 657-3115.

# SIGN UP FOR LEAF BAGS BY OCTOBER 15TH

Section 3 offers every family in the community 25 large leaf bags a year, but you have to sign up to receive them. So many residents use lawn services and others had stockpiles of them when we delivered to every house, so now, if you want them, you have to OPT IN...email the Village Manager by October 15 and she will make sure that you are on the list if you want them!

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 have a list of qualified manufacturers of the lighting we are considering by October.

Buildings and Roads representative Carolyn Greis reports that two permits were issued: to the **Woo** family of 7107 Georgia Street for a fence and to **Susan Toffler** of 6805 Georgia Street for a patio, for which a variance was already granted.

The Village Manager reports that there are four more intersections needing new signage: Connecticut Avenue at Shepherd and Taylor, Bradley and Georgia Streets and Fulton and Spring Streets. In addition, we have some 31 stop sign posts that need replacing. We are trying to identify other vendors for at least the stop signs. The sale of old street signs is going very well, she reported (see story this issue).

The Buildings and Roads Representative and the Village Manager are working on some drainage issues affecting residents on Raymond and Georgia Streets and are working with State Highway and the Church to help resolve an issue of drainage at the Church as well. Our consulting civil engineer Bill Bissell has been contacted to assist with these issues.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Council has agreed to seek a new bank with experience dealing with governments to place its primary checking account. After querying other municipalities, M&T Bank has been selected and the Village Manager is in the process of shifting funds. Unfortunately, SunTrust Bank did not provide either the interest rate or the service required and due to promises of higher interest rates that were not honored, the Council agreed it was time to move on.

The auditor is in the last stages of confirming deposits, checking on activities and verifying funds and should have a draft for the October meeting.

#### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Council discussed the need for new "bags" for new neighbors, as our stock has finally dwindled. They opted for more canvas bags and the Village Manager is going to research a source for "old school" type bags.

The Party in the Park is slated for September 21. Natasha Saifee is heading up the effort to get at least 24 volunteers to man the two large inflatable rides, the Village Manager will coordinate set-up and tear down, and the train and Council members will man the bar in shifts. All the sub-contractors have been confirmed and we are looking forward to a wonderful event.

The Council discussed holding another food truck night and settled on Sunday, October 12. They asked the Village Manager to find a replacement for Los Lobos Burritos with a child-friendly menu. (See story this issue).

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

# PARTY IN THE PARK FEEDS OVER 400! FUN FOR ALL



A giant slide dominated the park landscape and an inflatable obstacle course delighted little ones at Spring and Fulton Streets. The electric train spent hours chauffeuring little folks and their parents down Fulton Street and the carousel was the delight and fright to many little people. On the other hand, the "throw up machine" attracted a slightly older crowd. The Party in the Park on September 21st was a huge success, with something for everyone. The Face Paint lady did amazingly quick, artful faces to the delight of their owners. The buffet, catered by Mindy's Catering was well attended, and the sea of tables on Florida Street was filled with families chowing down on steak, chicken, mac and cheese and delightful pasta dishes...not to mention those delicious brownies! The ice cream man, Copperfield Davis, served up almost 400 cones and sandwiches to the crowd and by the end of the evening, lots of folks had won cakes in the cakewalk, the best part of the event!

Special thanks go to **Jen Roberti** for organizing the cakewalk and for all the bakers who diligently made exciting and creative cakes. D.J. Keith Robinson of Bristol Sounds made things



keep moving and had kids totally engaged in dances, hoola hoop contests and of course, the cakewalk.

Thanks to the **Barry family** for the use of both their front porch for storing items for the event and their front lawn which served as a handy adult beverage stand! All the volunteers who helped keep our children safe on the train and the two inflated "rides," we thank you! The folks who helped set up tables and chairs and take them down at the end of the evening, we could not have done it without you!





The Party in the Park seems to have something for everyone regardless of their age, and for that we are grateful. It's a great way for new folks to meet lots of neighbors and see the special kind of camaraderie we have in Section 3. It's a wonderful way for multi-generational families to get together and for neighbors old and young to enjoy one another's company. Thanks to all the volunteers who made it possible!

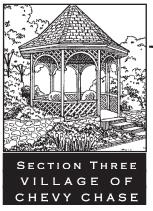


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## SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815



# News&Views

OCTOBER 2014



BEWARE OF GHOSTS AND GOBLINS...

PLEASE CLEAN YOUR WALK-WAYS OF LEAVES AND PUT THE LIGHT ON IF YOU ARE HOME FOR HALLOWEEN!