

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

OCTOBER 2018

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3
Bulk Trash Pick-up, curbside

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10
Council Meeting
CCUMC, Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31
Parade and Pizza Party
Gazebo Park then Phillips Hall,
CCUMC, 4:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
Bulk Trash Pick-up, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14
Council Meeting
CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.



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FARMERS' MARKET OPENS TO RAVE REVIEWS

New Morning Farm has a new outlet—a Saturday morning farmers' market in Section 3! Saturday, September 22 was the first of many farmers markets to be held on Taylor Street just near Brookville Road in Section 3. We're all very excited about the market and hope that residents make a plan to buy

from our local merchants on Brookville Road and stop by, empty bag in hand, to purchase fresh produce, eggs, cheese, fresh apple cider, Spring Mill breads, Firehook crackers, olive oil and baked goods from



this plentiful, well staffed market. What could be better? Right in our own backyard? The hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday. We need to continue to support this market if we want him to stay with us so tell your friends and walk to the market if you can.

La Ferme has graciously agreed to allow us to use their parking lot, so if you have friends who would like to use the market but live too far to walk, please let them know they can park at La Ferme and walk across the street to the Farmers' Market. We are hoping this will keep parking on our streets to a minimum.

New Morning Farm has long had a stand at Dupont Circle and another at the Sheridan School. This will be their only outpost in Maryland, so we are fortunate. They've been farming for 46 years and will be offering goods through the winter unless snow is too difficult to reach our area. They take a break from around mid-March to early June, but otherwise plan to be with us, every Saturday morning, rain or shine. **Jen Roberts** is the manager of the market and will be there every week to greet you. For more information, go to newmorningfarm.net.

**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.*



COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, September 12 at CCUMC in room 107. The meeting began at 8:50 p.m. All Council members were in attendance.

The Council approved the minutes of the July meeting as printed in the September newsletter with one correction, Mike Dietrich was in attendance.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The State Highway Administration improvements at Taylor Street and Brookville Road have substantially improved the visibility of the stop signs. Our police patrols report fewer violations (although they still have issued citations).

The sidewalk repairs are completed and residents appear satisfied. We have eliminated all the tripping hazards of which we are aware.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

Carolyn Greis, our Buildings and Roads representative, listed six permits issued to Section 3 residents: a permit for the use of a PODS to the **Douoguih** family of 3703 Bradley Lane; permits for the use of a dumpster to the **Foley-Warren** family of 6801 Delaware Street, and to **Russell Weil** of 6822 Delaware Street; a permit to build a fence in the rear yard to the **Salmon** family of 3623 Raymond Street; a permit to build a driveway and also a patio in the rear yard surrounding the already-permitted pool to the **Matan** family of 6817 Connecticut Avenue; and a permit to con-

struct a fence in the rear yard to **Barbara Scupi** of 6802 Delaware Street.

The **Horst/Ehsassi** family of 3702 Shepherd Street was granted a variance by a 4-1 vote to build a 6'-0" fence along their property line on Spring Street with the condition that that the variance is not granted in perpetuity; it expires with the life of the proposed fence so that a subsequent fence shall conform to village ordinances at a maximum height of 4'-0."

The Village Manager discussed the status of the property at 3602 Taylor Street. We are waiting for the demolition permit to be issued by the County. Once that is issued, the owner knows to get a permit from Section 3 before taking down the property. After receiving a County citation but three days late, the owner took down the decaying tree whose large limb had fallen on the property. The sidewalk could then be reopened.

The Village Manager met with a civil engineer who made recommendations to ameliorate the flooding caused by "Lake Bradley" and he also made recommendations regarding drainage solutions for five houses on Georgia and Raymond Streets that will require more discussion with civil engineers to come up with a definitive plan.

The County has proposed relaxing the accessory apartment rules, which would be difficult to implement in single family zones. The Village Manager testified to that effect at the hearing on September 11 (see story this issue).

The Council discussed our Hurricane preparedness when it was anticipated that Hurricane Florence would severely affect our area. The Village Manager discussed what steps we have taken and an arrangement with Chevy Chase police and the homeowners at 3701 Bradley Lane to close a section of Bradley between Brookville and Georgia Streets if the flooding becomes excessive. The formerly flooded area at Taylor and Brookville seems to be ameliorated by the changes that have been made in that intersection.

FINANCIAL REPORT

We rolled over our funds at Colombo bank into a CD paying two percent. As expected, we will probably have to dip into our capital improvement fund for the extensive sidewalk repairs.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Based on the most recent weather forecast, the Council has decided to forge ahead with the original date for the Party in the Park. Jen Roberti has already been recruiting cake bakers for the cake walk. We will begin contacting volunteers for the safety monitors for the two rides. The Council signed up for bartending duties.

The Council voted to close off Taylor Street between Brookville Road and Georgia Street to hold a weekly farmers' market. They agreed that before announcing anything, the Village

VARIANCE REQUESTS

The **Douoguih** family of 3703 Bradley Lane is requesting a variance to build a patio that extends 19' into the front yard setback and extends to the property line in the east side setback, surrounded by a 6'-0" fence in the front yard. This nonconforming patio and fence already exist in this same location and configuration. The residents are asking to replace the aging patio and fence with new materials.

The **Weller** family of 6705 Connecticut Avenue is requesting a variance to construct a 6'-0" fence along their northern property line in front of their house and extending all the way to Connecticut Avenue, which is two feet taller than the fence allowed in this location per Section 3 ordinances.

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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A special welcome to **Asher Stephen**, newly arrived on September 20 to proud parents **Brad and Sondra Hoffman** of Georgia Street. Little Asher weighed in at 7.4 pounds and 20.25 inches! Congrats to Todd and Sondra.

A special welcome to **Teresa and Jake Dune** who have moved into 6823 Delaware Street. Recently married, the couple enjoyed our Party-in-the-Park so have met lots of neighbors and are happy to be part of the Section 3 family.

A welcome too to **Clair Carlin and Brendan Parete** who have moved into 3616 Taylor Street. He is policy counsel to the Senate Republican Policy Committee and she is the national account director for Washingtonian Magazine.

On September 23, long time Section 3 resident **Rusty Flint** passed away at the age of 89. A high school teacher and guidance counselor at BCC, Rusty spent her retirement years as an active volunteer at Hillwood Museum, with Round House Theatre and the Audubon Society. She was also active in the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church where she sang in the choir for over 50 years. Rusty was widowed at a young age and raised four children largely on her own. She sold her home in 2015 and moved to the Army Distaff retirement home nearby. She leaves four children, Kerry Butler, Wendy Franklin, Tracy Judah and Christ Flint. A celebration of her life will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 11 at the Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church in Kensington. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association or the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee or the Cedar Lane Church.

Where in the World? Join our own intrepid traveler **Jan Augustine** on Saturday, October 13, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, for some fascinating virtual travels to Armenia, Nuuk, El Calafate, Hanga Roa, Durness, Akureyri, Cabo de Hornos, and who knows where else!

PARTY IN THE PARK PREVAILS ON ONE OF THE FEW SUNNY DAYS

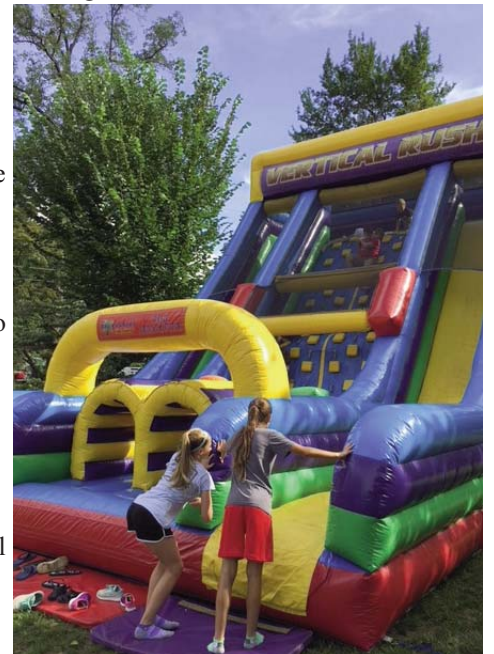


As we watched Hurricane Florence rush towards the East Coast, we waited until the last possible moment to decide to go ahead with our annual Party in the Park on September 16. The day was won-

derful, the rides terrific, the Mindy's Catering food delicious, the DJ fantastic, the face paint lady as always creative and the ice cream man his usual jovial self.

But the standout of the day was the amazing number of cakes baked by Section 3 residents for the cake walk—an all-time record 50 cakes! Thanks to Jen Roberti's amazing organizing skills and the cooperation of many talented bakers in the community, we have gone from a single table of donated cakes the first year of the cake walk to this year's record four full tables of Cake Boss quality imaginative cakes. We want to extend a special shout out to Jen for all her efforts and to all the families who contributed to the effort. More than 30 volunteers made sure no child was hurt on the rides and helped set up and clean up all made the day a success.

And thank goodness we didn't postpone when it rained all the weekend long the next week!



FIRE AT RAYMOND AND DELAWARE STREETS

Wednesday afternoon, September 26, Montgomery County's fire-fighting assets came out in force to fight a small fire at the

Foley-Warren home. Happily, **Kerry Foley** was home and discovered the fire and called the authorities who were here with easily 10 pieces of equipment. The cause of the fire, a freak



accident: A small magnifying mirror suction cupped to a third floor window which opens out fell from the window onto a roof below and sat, perhaps for days in the rain on the roof of the side porch, mirror facing the siding on the second floor. On one of the first semi-sunny days we had, the sun shone down on the magnifying mirror and created enough heat as it faced the siding, to create a small fire. Clearly a freak accident, but it burned a hole in the roof and siding and there were flames.

At the time, she was taking a moment to read some emails when she smelled smoke, and followed it to where she saw part of the roof smoldering and some flames which she tried to put out with water from a nearby bathroom as she phoned 911. The fire department was there quickly and put it out in moments and no one was hurt. Had Dr. Foley not taken a moment to read her emails and instead gone out as she had planned to do, the story might have been very different.

MARVIN KALB TO DISCUSS NEW BOOK OCTOBER 25

Chevy Chase At Home and the Fossils, a local non-profit membership organization for retired men, will co-host An Afternoon With Marvin Kalb on Thursday, October 25, at 1:30 p.m. at the Town of Chevy Chase Town Hall. Mr. Kalb, a long-time resident of Chevy Chase and one of America's most experienced and admired journalists, will discuss his new book, *Enemy of the People: Trump's War on the Press, the New McCarthyism and the Threat to American Democracy*. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing at the event. Seating is limited, so registration is required via email at info@chevychaseathome or by calling (301) 657-3115.

FOOD TRUCK NIGHT

Unlike the rest of the week, Food Truck Night on September 30 proved to be dry and sunny...the perfect time for a get together.



Friends and family gathered at the Gazebo Park which has taken a real hit with all the rains. We had a good crowd—some grabbed food to go while others took time to seat and visit on blankets in the Gazebo Park. We had a new addition to our usual "family" of favorite trucks this time.

Go Fish, a longtime favorite, had a last-minute conflict and suggested Holy Crepes, a truck producing both sweet and savory crepes. They were a big hit, with vegetarian offerings along with meat crepes as well as delicious dessert crepes.

Special thanks to our food truck operators and all those who turned out. We look forward to seeing them all at our Spring Food Truck night in May.

BROOKVILLE & TAYLOR INTERSECTION WORKS!

School buses are now stopping at Brookville Road because our revised intersection is considered by MCPS as a safer place to stop! Thank you State Highway Administration.

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Manager would talk with the three homeowners most directly involved to be certain they are comfortable with the plan. We will make certain that the residents on Taylor will be able to come and go and that the market doesn't start near their driveways. We are working with New Morning Farm's owner, Jim Crawford, to hold our first farmers' market on September 22. He is an organic farmer and is part of a farmer's cooperative in Pennsylvania so will be bring goods he has grown as well as items from others in the coop and elsewhere. Lauren Biel, a former Section 3 resident now living in Martin's Additions, brought the farmer to us after we had searched for over six months for a farmer to come to our community. We will be publicizing the market's presence throughout the area to have sufficient business for the farmer to return each week.

Food Truck Night is slated for Sunday evening, September 30 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Gazebo Park.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

ACCESSORY APARTMENT RULE RELAXATION PROPOSED

Last July, the County Council introduced a proposed relaxation of the Accessory Apartment Rules which would consider them a “limited use” or “by right” use in residential zones, obviating the need for a public hearing. The 300-foot separation between similar uses would be retained, but with the ability of those who want a unit closer than 300 feet to get a waiver of that and the on site parking requirement.

Section 3 is one of the most densely populated communities in the county. Other than Washington Grove, we have the narrowest streets. And as many of those with shared driveways know, parking is already at a premium. Allowing an accessory apartment to be licensed without a public hearing, which is now required, would be detrimental to our community.

According to the nonprofit Montgomery County Civic Federation, after spending seven years doing a comprehensive zoning rewrite, complete with public hearings, etc., the County Council has introduced 77 ZTAs (zoning text amendment) in the last four years since the rewrite and enacted 70 of them. There has been no reduction in the number of ZTAs since the comprehensive zoning rewrite which was meant to cut down on the number of ZTAs proposed by the Council.

Why is the Council proposing these changes? They say that by making it easier to license accessory apartments, they will be providing more affordable housing for tenants. But according to the Civic Federation, data show that these new apartments are being used for short term rentals, such as Airbnb. There is no data to show that their actions to date have increased affordable units for long-term tenants and there is no effort to track this. There is also no limitation offered in the proposed ZTA or accompanying license bill that would limit owners’ ability to simply license the apartments and use them as short term rentals. Because they would not need to seek a short term rental license, there are no controls or regulation as to the use by owners. In short, while there is evidence that more affordable housing is needed in the County, there is no evidence that the relaxation of accessory apartments is the solution. Moreover, it would have detrimental effects on our ability to plan our budgets (for how many new residents?) and our already serious parking issues. By relaxing this rule we put another ding in the concept of single family housing.

SMALL CELL TOWER ZTA PROPOSED

In a seemingly well-meaning effort to make it easier for 5G communications to reach County citizens, the County Council has proposed that cell companies be given free reign to place cell towers and the accompanying equipment boxes anywhere in Montgomery County (including Section 3) about 30 feet from a house (ZTA 18-11).

We have already protested this proposal when it first aired and will protest it again, because for Section 3, this move could be really difficult. Our 16-foot wide streets mean that when many of us back out of our driveways, our bumpers extend well into the narrow greenway on the opposite side of the street. Without a required hearing to discuss the design and placement of this equipment, companies would be allowed to come into communities all over the county and stick these small cell towers wherever they want. The equipment boxes needed for these poles would also be placed in the right-of-way and can measure 20 cubic feet, large enough for a person to stand in. The poles, according to the nonprofit Civic Federation, could be located every few hundred feet. Moreover, the County has no provisions for post-installation inspection or for maintenance requirements for the boxes.

The September 25 hearing on the subject before the County Council drew massive community opposition. It remains to be seen how the Council will respond.

INSTRUMENTS NOW ON LOAN FROM LIBRARY

Montgomery County Public Libraries launched its new musical-lending program called “Library of Things,” which allows library cardholders to check out specially selected musical instruments.

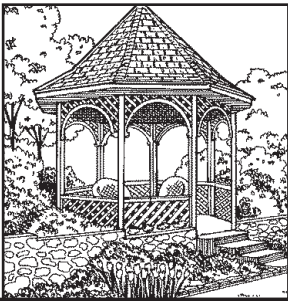
To borrow an instrument customers must have an account in good standing, and will be asked to verify their identity with a photo ID. Instruments may be borrowed for 14 days by young people at least 14 years of age and by parents for children under age 14. Please see the library website’s “music” page for detailed information about the instruments and program policies (the instruments are not visible in their online catalog). Staff can reserve an available instrument for a customer for the balance of the business day.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

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**SECTION THREE
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NEW NEIGHBORHOOD DIRECTORY IN THE WORKS

Don't use that landline much anymore? Disconnected your landline? Have a new cell phone number? Have a new email address? Let us know—we are putting together a new directory and we need this info without having to make 282 phone calls to everyone! Email the Village Manager with your information.