



SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

FEBRUARY 2014

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

No bulk trash pick up this month

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Council Meeting

CCUMC, Rom 107, 7:45 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

First Bulk Trash Pick up of 2014!

Curbside pick-up

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

Council Meeting

CCUMC Room 107, 7:45 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 17

EVERYBODY'S IRISH PARTY

Gazebo Park

PLANNING & ZONING ROUND-UP

In a straw vote taken early in their hearings, the County Council voted 7 to 1 to support the zoning rewrite while tabling a discussion of the adoption of the district map amendment until April 7th to be certain that the conversions from the current zoning to the new map are accurate and an issues can be settled. The plan is now for the Council to further review the changes to the zoning and take a final vote on the re-write portion in a few weeks.

One of the issues that has yet to be resolved is parking. Developers dislike minimum parking regulations for highrise buildings because the spaces add to construction costs and rarely pay for themselves. This is a particularly troublesome issue for buildings in Commercial/Residential (C/R) zones because the parking regulations under the proposed rewrite define the numbers of spaces needed for various uses, but leave it to the developers to determine what they think is an adequate amount. In C/R zones, they don't know what the mix will be. This is not an acceptable standard, particularly since once a building is built, if the uses change, the parking will never change and may be inadequate. We urge you to write to members of the Council expressing concern for this issue otherwise we will have intolerable densities and inadequate parking.

In a surprising development, the Chairman of the Planning Board, Francoise Carrier, has decided a single four year term was enough and is moving on, which means a new Board Chair will have to be named. During the course of the rewrite, the consulting firm drafting the rewrite was fired, the chief planner, Roland Stanley resigned under duress, and a new Chair of the Planning Board was named...All this at a time crucial to the development of plans for the growth of the entire county. As it stands now, a search for a new Chair is underway and that person will be appointed by the County Council and planning in the county is in a state of flux in every possible way.

For residents concerned about the zoning rewrite, we urge you to consider carefully the impact of the current recommendations for parking in what will doubtless be a much more densely populated Chevy Chase Lake and downtown Bethesda, for example. If you are concerned about height restrictions (some buildings slated to be 200 feet tall under the current proposals), you need to better understand what the overall thinking is about the community and how it will impact you. At this point, we in the downcounty region can only grow up—there is very little land left, so understanding the overall thinking is essential.

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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.*



COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, January 8 at CCUMC room 107. All Council members were in attendance.

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

POLICE SAFETY ISSUES

Police continue to patrol and monitor stop sign enforcement at Brookville and Taylor Streets as well as stop sign enforcement within the community. No other activity to report.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

There were no new building permits issued. The Buildings and Roads person has been in touch with the builders renovating 3616 Raymond Street to ask that they clean up the yard as debris is strewn around front and back yards.

The Village Manager updated the Council on the status of the zoning rewrite and the key issues that remain of concern (see story this issue).

The Village Manager is getting a consulting engineer to draft the specs for the upcoming milling and paving bid package for Raymond and Shepherd Streets this spring.

The Village Manager and the Buildings and Roads person have identified 16 locations for new street signs that will include stop signs and, in some instances, reduce the number of poles and signs at intersections. The next step is to get competitive bids for the street sign design we have selected.

The Village Manager alerted the Council to the upcoming Bethesda Master Plan process beginning and the “minor” zoning amendment which would allow developers of the site of the Regal Cinemas to build a 250-foot-tall building. No word on the progress of talks with the developer.

The owners of 6700 Brookville Road renovated the house and put it on the market as both for sale and for rent and have now removed all signs. Other than writing to them at that location, we have no way to get in touch with them as their address of record is the same as the house.

The Buildings and Roads person will be meeting with our consulting civil engineer about an apparent change in the drainage situation on Fulton Street causing severe flooding and ice backups. We may explore installing rain tanks in the greenway as we have on Georgia Street.

The Village Manager reported that there are some serious pot-

holes developing on Bradley Lane right at the intersection with Connecticut Avenue which we had our consulting engineer examine. She is also talking with the Village Operations Manager in Chevy Chase Village about getting a temporary repair. The road will be dug up in part next summer for the installation of high pressure gas lines and a number of residents will get new service from the street to their homes. The Village Manager has also been working with the owner of 3815 Bradley Lane and WSSC representatives regarding some sewer issues.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Village Manager reported that interest rates continue to be low on our investments and we continue to seek CDs offering the best interest rates when we rollover and existing CD or invest in new funds.

The Council discussed briefly some options for making a gift to the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church for their generosity in letting us hold all our Council meetings on the property as well as many other community events. We are awaiting a “wish list” from the Church before making a decision as to what kind of gift we will give.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The Village Manager reported on the new neighbors in the community.

The Holiday party with the Wonderbunny was a huge success; we will probably call on him for next year’s event.

The archives process is moving forward slow and steady. Town archivist **Bob Salmon** is about 70 percent through years and years of records and has reviewed them with the Village Manager. At the end of the process, we will have a much better history of our community and the State Archives will also retain some of our records.

The Council voted to go into executive session to review the Village Manager’s activities and salary. The public meeting ended at 9:30 p.m.

BETHESDA MASTER PLAN PROCESS COMMENCES

Public meetings have begun for the master plan process for downtown Bethesda. In many ways, more than Chevy Chase Lake, this plan will affect all our lives. In keeping with smart growth planning, Bethesda will become a transportation oriented high-rise development with a heavy mix of commercial/residential buildings. Plans call for an additional 3,000 residential units over and above the ones now under construction! We will continue to keep you posted regarding these developments and urge you to attend public meetings.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

After a lot of work and much anticipation, the **Warden/Bakhash** family has moved into 3700 Raymond Street. The family has moved here from Georgetown, so they're familiar with the neighborhood. Welcome to **John Warden, Haleh Bakhash** and their children **Ariana** (12) and **Karenna** (11). The girls attend Sidwell Friends School.

Welcome to **Larry and Claudia Lanpher** who moved into 6814 Spring Street. The Lanphers hail all the way from Grafton Street in Chevy Chase and have moved into Section 3. They are now even closer to their son **Mark** and daughter-in-law **Ann** and three grandchildren, **Peter, Harper** and **Jenna** who live on Raymond Street.

One of the things we all love about Section 3 is that it is such a tight-knit community. It shouldn't be that surprising to learn that the neighborhood is filled with folks who are related: **Marcia Shannon** lives next to her twin brother **Walter Pennington** on Taylor Street. **Pier Haffenreffer** on Brookville Road is the sister of **Hollis Dittersdorf** on Delaware Street. **Lisa Jaycox** of Georgia Street is the sister of **Tamara Kessler** on Florida Street. **Barbara Prince** on Georgia Street is a cousin of **Laura Chap** on Shepherd Street around the corner. **Rhonda Baines** of Florida Street is the sister of **Deborah Harris** on Georgia Street. **Nancy Clark Smith** of Connecticut Avenue is a cousin of **Pat Wyman** on Raymond Street. **Anu Connor** of Georgia Street and **Anjali Chaturvedi** of Florida Street are sisters. And finally, **Deborah Scheck** of Taylor Street lives around the corner from her father, **Nathan Billig** on Florida Street!

A number of our adult residents live in the same house they grew up in. That includes: **Celeste Meininger** of Spring Street, **Joel Adler** of Florida Street, **Mary Weadon** of Shepherd Street, **Andrew Sutherland** of Delaware Street, **Matthew Burke** of Taylor Street, **Martin Elwell** of Fulton Street, **Becky Streeter** of Raymond Street and **Laura Chap** of Shepherd Street.

Finally, people seem to like it so much here that when they move it's never very far! The following families are living in their second home in Section 3: **Ohrenstein/Eaton, Saifee, Harmon, Brown/Whatley, Dietrich, Kiyonaga, Toffler, Borders, Romansky, Augustine, Boyd, Zehner, Glynn** and **Jennings!**

If we've missed anyone, please let us know.

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON THE DOCKET

This spring and summer there will be a number of projects coming to Section 3. When a street is milled and paved, the top 1½ to two inch layer of asphalt is ground down and removed from the roadbed, repairs are made if needed to the sub-base, and then a new layer of asphalt is laid on top. We have several projects in the offing.

Connecticut Avenue: Prep work on the road bed was done this fall. The next step will be that the contractors with the State Highway Administration will be milling and paving both north and southbound lanes from Chevy Chase Circle up to East West Highway. The work will be done at night as this is a major artery for the metro area. Happily, milling and paving do not take that long, a matter of days, not weeks, but the noise will be a factor for Section 3. As soon as we have a schedule, we will inform all residents along the path of the construction. This project has been a long time coming as the roadway is in terrible condition.

Once the milling and paving are completed, gaps in the median strip in Section 3 only will be planted with ornamental grasses and dwarf crape myrtles which Section 3 will maintain.

Bradley Lane: Washington Gas is busy putting in high pressure gas lines in Chevy Chase Village. You have no doubt seen the foot-wide trenches around the Village Hall for the new lines. By next summer, they will be at Bradley Lane (the northernmost section of the work planned) and they will be digging trenches and putting in new service lines to some of the homes whose service is considered too old. Once that is done, Bradley Lane will also need milling and paving.

Raymond Street: We plan to mill and pave the street from Delaware Street to Georgia Street before the brick speed bump in early spring.

Shepherd Street: We plan to mill and pave the street from Delaware Street to Georgia Street east of the intersection in early spring. Both Raymond and Shepherd Streets will be done by the same contractor. We will advise residents well in advance of the work and coordinate closely with the preschool because the intersection near CCUMC needs to be milled and paved.

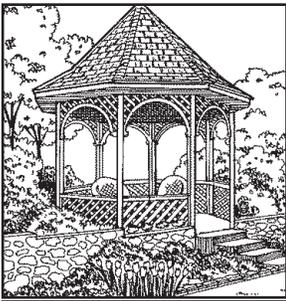
Pepco Tree Trimming: Minimal tree trimming has to be done in the community on Raymond Street, Georgia Street, Bradley Lane and Brookville Road and on Florida Street. The Village Manager has met with Pepco and will be notifying all homeowners involved.

Parking will be the biggest challenge during these times, particularly making certain that those who are on vacation or out of town get their cars off the streets. We will of course, give you as much advance notice as possible and ask that you cooperate with us as the results will be worth the trouble.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

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FEBRUARY 2014

NEW DIRECTORY TO COME IN FEBRUARY

We have so many new residents, it's time for a new directory! This year, as you know, we've decided to include cell numbers for those who want them shared and we're expecting to have a much larger directory as a result of all those new lines of type! We're also re-designing it a bit to make it easier for you to use.

If you regularly use a cell phone number for a neighbor or a friend in the community, then that's wonderful, but some of your neighbors have included their cell numbers only in the event of an emergency—so if you haven't communicated with them before by cell, use their land line or email first. And of course, as always, this information is not to be used for commercial purposes, broadcast emails, fund raising, political campaigns and the like. We want to facilitate neighbor to neighbor communication and since so many people don't even check their land line answering machines anymore, we're moving to cell phones...and of course some of us have given up land lines entirely!