

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER 2013

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
Last Bulk Trash Pickup, curbside, until March 2014

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11
Council meeting
CCUMC, Room 107, 7: 45 p.m.

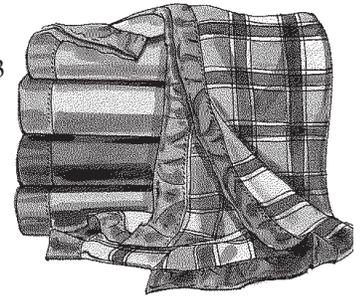
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21
Section 3 Holiday Party—
Comedy and Magic with Amazing Balloon Sculptures
(for children 8 and under)
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
CCUMC Phillips Hall

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8
Christmas Tree Pick-up Curbside
(no plastic bags please, trees recycled)

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

WARM CLOTHING AND BLANKET DRIVE DEMONSTRATES SECTION 3'S GENEROSITY

Thanks to the generosity of many Section 3 residents, homeless and poverty-stricken clients of Martha's Table had a warmer Thanksgiving! With the help of **John Dorsey and Kirsten Williams** and **Pat and Arantza Murphy**, we managed to collect three car loads of clothing and warm blankets for those less fortunate.



We had 22 blankets, dozens of coats and jackets for men, women and children, lots of sweaters, men's and women's pants, children's clothing, warm scarves, mittens and hats. Unlike many other charities, Martha's Table only allows those in need to use their shop, "Martha's Outfitters." So, suburban kids looking for cool "vintage" clothing can't shop here. And we feel proud to help out!

All the clothing is sorted by type and separated so that it can quickly go on the racks and meet Thanksgiving needs. Special thanks goes to **Jonathan and Joseph Murphy** for their help in organizing the clothing and blankets.

HOLIDAY PARTY: UNIQUE COMBO OF COMEDY AND MAGIC WITH THE WONDERBUNNY!

The One-Step MagiCompany is coming to Section 3. After an incredible Chevy Chase debut in Martins Additions where he wow'd everyone with his creative balloon sculptures, Magician/comedian/balloon artist Tom Lilly is coming to Section 3 to entertain our children for the holiday. The program, geared to those eight and under, will take place in Phillips Hall at CCUMC on Saturday morning, December 21 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. We ask that children bring a gently used toy which will be donated to A Wider Circle as the price of admission.

After the show, Lilly's Wonderbunny will demonstrate his skills in Balloonacy for the children and perhaps a few of our guests will get to take them home! If you'd like to see some of the exciting things he does in Balloonacy, go to www.wonderbunny.com and click on Balloonacy.... No simple dachshund dogs for this artist! Cookies and a simple beverage will be served at the conclusion of the show.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG

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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, November 13 at CCUMC room 107. All Council members were present. The Village Manager was on vacation. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

Police have been monitoring stop sign compliance on Brookville Road as well as speeding on Spring and Georgia Streets.

FEMA and MEMA require that we pass a resolution in support of the County's mitigation plan in order to qualify for funding should there be a problem. If we don't sign onto their voluminous plan, then we will not qualify for any assistance in the event of an emergency unless we choose to develop our own plan. All other municipalities are signing onto this plan as it will only benefit our community and the county. The Council adopted a resolution in support of the plan. The Council also agreed to discuss at a subsequent meeting what elements of the county plan would be most useful to us.

The Council discussed giving the two patrolmen who have worked with us since 2011 a raise of \$5 an hour for their work in Section 3. The Council agreed that this would be a good thing to do for such constant and reliable additional police coverage and authorized the raise effective January 1, 2014.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Village Manager testified before the County Council on the proposed Zoning Rewrite (see story this issue).

New building permits were issued to: owners of 3616 Raymond Street for a dumpster for interior renovations, the **Nesbitt-Schmids** of 3615 Spring Street for a fence and the **Jacobs** of 3622 Raymond Street for a fence.

Work is continuing on the new house and backyard pool at 3700 Raymond Street.

The Council approved the new contract with Snow Central for snow clearance.

The Village Manager communicated with the Council in advance to advise them that Chamberlain Contractors came through the community on October 16 and sealed cracks in the roadway. We will mill and pave parts of Shepherd and Raymond Streets in the spring. We delayed doing anything on Raymond Street until the construction of the new house was completed. Both streets are now in need of milling and paving at least in part. Bids will be sent out over the winter so that the work can start as soon as it is reliably above 55 degrees.

The Village Manager attended a meeting on upgrading to high pressure gas lines. She reported to the Council in advance of the meeting that much of that work is being done in Chevy Chase Village, but they will get to Bradley Lane by next summer or fall. Getting a schedule was important and Section 3 will work with Chevy Chase Village on the work to be done on Bradley Lane and work with our residents to coordinate activities. The work involves laying a new high pressure gas line in the street and then upgrading the service to each house through underground bores from the street to the house where the gas now enters. If residents have a gas meter still inside the house, it will be brought to the outside for remote readings.

State Highway's contractor Ft. Meyer has installed concrete "bus pads" and upgraded the roadbed for foundation issues and inlets on Connecticut Avenue in preparation for milling and paving the roadway next spring. A geotechnical engineer has evaluated the street and identified areas that are now being patched to a deeper level than the milling and paving to make for a smooth final surface. Unfortunately for the neighbors, the work was done at night and involved window-shattering noise from the jack hammers taking up the areas where the concrete pads were located. Happily, that work is complete and those areas will, needless to say, NOT be milled or paved next spring.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Village Manager addressed the Government Operations (GO) Committee of the County Council on the tax duplication issue. It appears that a task force of members from the Office of Legislative Oversight, the County Council and municipalities will try and work out a solution that the GO Committee can offer to the full County Council. (see story this issue)

Section 3's audit report is complete. All the members of the Council have received copies and any member of the community can review the full audit by simply requesting a copy from the Village Manager.

Our funds have been withdrawn from Capitol One as the interest rate we were getting dropped from .9% to .2%. At the same time, we were able to negotiate a second money market fund with SunTrust Bank that for at least three months, possibly six, will pay .5%. We rolled over another CD with Washington First at a rate of .7%, but the interest rate environment is not very good and opportunities are few and far between. The Village Manager has polled some other communities for locations where they have accounts and thus identified some additional possible small Maryland FDIC-insured institutions that may offer better interest rates. We have opened a second money market account with SunTrust at favorable interest rate.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Welcome to baby **Julian Martin Michaels**, born November 10 to **Megan and Brett Michaels** of Spring Street, joining siblings **Cameron** and **Ian**.

Like many Washington communities, Section 3 is filled with lawyers. Some toil for the government and get unexpected “benefits” like an unexpected fall “furlough,” others work in private firms. As in Lake Wobegon, where all the children are above average, we think all our lawyers are, too! But a few have been singled out by a peer-review process run by “Best Lawyers” and we thought it would be nice to highlight this recognition. To wit, the “Best Lawyers for 2014” singled out the following private practice attorneys for being especially good at what they do: **Alan Berkeley** of K & L Gates for his work in both corporate law and securities/capital markets law, **Marna Tucker** of Feldesman, Tucker, Leifer Fidell for her work in family law, **Bill Wood** of Wood Law Offices for his work in medical malpractice law, **Ted Voorhees, Jr.** of Covington and Burling for his work in product liability litigation, Jay Epstein of DLA Piper and **Paul Kiernan** of Holland & Knight for their work in real estate law.

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of a longtime Section 3 neighbor, **Elinor Harris Solomon**, who passed away after a brief illness on Thursday, October 31, with her three children around her. Elinor and her husband **Dick** moved into their home on Delaware Street in 1959 when the house was new. She was a lecturer at American University from 1964 to 1966 and a professor at George Washington University from 1982 to 1994. She was the author of *Virtual Money* (Oxford University Press), a book that is considered the definitive text on electronic banking as well as many other books. Those who wish to make donations in her memory are asked by the family to either make a donation to JSSA Hospice or to the Cosmos Club Foundation.

TAX DUPLICATION SOLUTIONS POSSIBLE

County and State law provide for a reimbursement to municipalities for selected services that the County would otherwise provide to residents were the municipality not handling those services. Formulas were developed a number of years ago to determine the reimbursement. In Section 3, we have been reimbursed about \$30,000 a year for both road maintenance and park maintenance. We are reimbursed because, otherwise, you as a citizen, would be paying twice for the same service, through your taxes and then again through the expenditures we make using your taxes. The idea was to level the field through a payment to each municipality.

Unfortunately, we have not ever received what the formulas called for and the final amount is now dictated by the County Executive, so the award of these funds, instead of being reliable and transparent, is a political decision. Over time, some municipalities have been reimbursed for certain services while others have not. Five years of negotiations by County officials and representatives of municipalities did not result in any agreement. The Office of Legislative Oversight was then tasked with a study and came up with a series of recommendations which the municipalities did not wholly agree with.

On Tuesday, October 28, the Government Operations Committee of the County Council was poised to act on a series of staff recommendations with which, once again, the municipalities did not agree. All the members of the Montgomery County Chapter of the Maryland Municipal League signed a letter outlining our stance on the issue and asking that we get a new task force together to address these issues and come up with solutions. There are 23 municipalities in Montgomery County—three large ones, Rockville, Gaithersburg and Takoma Park, and then many smaller municipalities like ours. Speaking at the hearing were the mayors of each of the “big three” and **Andy Leon Harney**, Village Manager, who addressed the need for a series of formulas to reimburse for different levels of service with a common methodology. It was agreed that a task force should be organized and that using a common methodology to unite different formulas would be a wise direction for the group. The timing of the work of this group is still up in the air, but it’s hoped that we will finally have clarity on this topic.

FEED YOUR STREET TREES THIS WINTER...

IF WE GO A LONG PERIOD WITHOUT RAIN OR SNOW, WATER YOUR SERVICEBERRY TREES AND ANY TREES ON YOUR PROPERTY, PARTICULARLY THOSE YOU MAY HAVE RECENTLY TRANSPLANTED TO HELP THEM SETTLE IN NICELY.

ZONING REWRITE

As was noted in the October *News & Views*, there are two major issues involved in the proposed zoning rewrite. One is a wholesale adoption of a new zoning map for the entire county, thereby undercutting individual master plans that are developed as a collaborative effort between stakeholders and members of the community. The second issue involves the detail of the changes being proposed. Apparently, the change of the zoning map is so controversial that the subcommittee in charge of making recommendations to the County Council is going to review this and other issues raised by the public in January. Many developers and land owners have made complaints that this revision severely inhibits, compromises and otherwise alters the plans they had made for parcels they already own. Others raise the issue of emasculating the master plan process by pre-determining zoning.

The other areas of concern are changes proposed for the R-60 (our zone) and the R-90 (also single family) zones that would allow for non-residential “floating zones,” easing of requirements for re-zoning single family residential properties to higher density multi-family residential, limits on barnyard pets—miniature goats, ducks, rabbits, etc and a ban on front yard farm stands and markets in residential neighborhoods.

The Village Manager testified before the full County Council, raising objections to the idea of wholesale adoption of new zoning for every part of the County as antithetical to the master plan process. Further, she indicated the need to look carefully at parking issues, transportation and any proposed changes which directly affect R-60 zones like Section 3.

LOOK AT YOUR OUTDOOR LIGHTING—AND YOUR HOUSE NUMBERS

Can a visitor get to your front door easily with the lighting you provide? Can an emergency vehicle see your house numbers?

If not, consider investing in one or both of these items...your safety is too important.

HALLOWEEN PIZZA PARTY & PARADE LED BY LONE RANGER

The Lone Ranger led a posse of costumed ghosts and goblins to the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church on a slightly chilly windy Halloween night. Kids and their families polished off 17 large pizzas in about 45 minutes and were off to devour lots of candy before the night was over.

Special thanks to **Rob Naddleman** for leading the charge, to **Vicki Hutson** and **Marion Robertson** who helped hand out pizzas and safety lights to the children, to **Tabitha Bailey** and **Alison Mandell** for help with decorating! This year’s addition of Polaroid pix of our munchkins to remember the event added to the fun!

CHEVY CHASE AT HOME

In December, Chevy Chase at Home plans some exciting and interesting events. On Tuesday evening, December 3, the group will hear from representatives of Jewish Social Services and IONA House regarding professional care management for older adults. This is a program that may be of interest to the children of elderly parents as well as those anticipating the need for additional help at home. The representatives will also outline services available to members of Chevy Chase at Home at a discounted rate. The evening at Chevy Chase Village Hall begins at 7:30 p.m.

Chevy Chase at Home will also host a movie and holiday party on Tuesday, December 17th at Chevy Chase Village Hall. See their website for further information: www.chevychaseathome.org.

COUNCIL ACTIONS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

This year’s Holiday Party will be held at CCUMC on Saturday, December 21 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. (see story this issue, page 1)

The success of the Food Truck Night continues to have neighbors talking. The Council will explore further opportunities for food truck events.

OTHER

The Village Manager will be on vacation from November 13 through 28.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

HOLIDAY GIVING: IN KIND

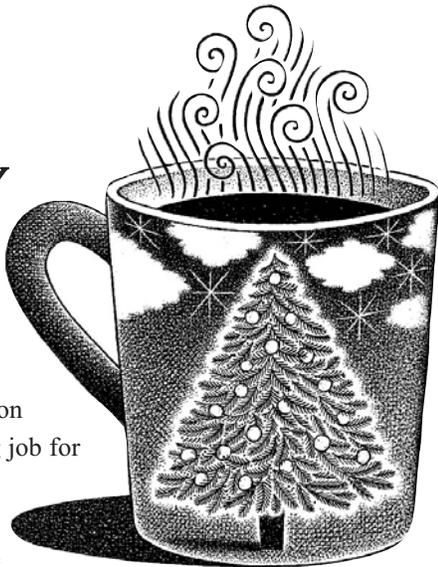
This is a season when lots of people are after you to give to this or that charity and it's hard to meet all the demands on your wallet. But there are things in your home that should/could be recycled and help someone else when you aren't using them! As you know, Section 3 regularly donates household items to A Wider Circle in Silver Spring. They make items available to clients referred to them who have been homeless and are moving into a new home and need just about everything. They come to their warehouse off Brookville Rd. in Silver Spring, go through the place making selections themselves. Those items are moved onto a truck and, when clients move in, they have beds, sofas, tables, chests of drawers and can make a fresh start. Sometimes, however, the items you have are not appropriate for A Wider Circle—a used wheelchair, maybe some old bikes or bike parts, a sewing machine... There are two excellent databases that will help you make charitable donations to worthy causes and find just the right charity for almost any item. So keep these two addresses handy: [www. CharityChoices.com](http://www.CharityChoices.com) and www.montgomerycountymd.gov/useitagain. The second address has information on national and local charities, what they accept, what they don't accept and where to take them or if they pick up. We have so much "stuff." Why not recycle the things you aren't using, don't want, and don't need?

EXPECTING GIFTS OR PACKAGES FOR THE HOLIDAYS?

If you're not going to be home, ask a neighbor to take them in for you or place them out of sight on your back porch. Why leave an open invitation for someone to take your gifts before you can get to them? Let neighbors know where you are going and how to get in touch with you if you're going away. Stop papers, leave on lights and lock both the house and your cars! If you are going away, PLEASE PARK YOUR CARS in the driveway in case it snows while you are gone so we can clear the streets. If you are going away, make arrangements for someone to shovel your walkways while you are gone!

HOLIDAY TIPS: WHAT TO DO?

Our trash collection guys do an outstanding job for us. If you want to tip them, we suggest that you write a note on the trash can and ask them to come to your door (there are always two on every truck) to give them a holiday thank you. There are two more who handle recycling as well on Thursdays. People often ask how much to tip, and of course it's up to you and your own wallet, but \$20 per person would be a reasonable amount to give. If you're not home, then put your tip in an envelope and tape it to the inside of the trash can AFTER December 16 through the 23 (that gives you a Monday, a Thursday and another Monday to remember them). There will be trash pickup on Thursday, December 26! So you can get rid of all your papers in recycling and all that remains of Christmas dinner in household trash.



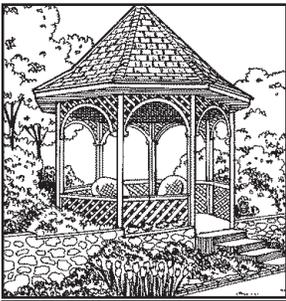
NEED SOME LEAVES RAKED? SNOW SHOVELED? WANT TO EARN SOME EXTRA MONEY DOING EITHER? LET US KNOW! WE TRY AND MATCH UP TEENS LOOKING FOR EXTRA HOLIDAY MONEY WITH RESIDENTS IN NEED OF A LITTLE HELP! CONTACT THE VILLAGE MANAGER AND LET HER KNOW THE SERVICES YOU PROVIDE OR THE SERVICES YOU NEED.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815



**SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**

NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER 2013



**IF IT EVEN LOOKS LIKE SNOW—
PLEASE PARK YOUR CAR IN THE
DRIVEWAY, NOT ON THE STREET!**

Be considerate of others, it's very hard for a plow to get down our narrow streets and around corners. When you park on the street, you make it doubly hard for the snow to be removed and harder for drivers to get around your car.