

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

SEPTEMBER 2014

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3
Bulk Trash Pickup, curbside

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
Party-in-the-Park!!!
(rain date, September 28th)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1
Bulk Trash Pickup, curbside

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

CONNECTICUT AVENUE GETS A NEW LOOK!

At this writing, Connecticut Avenue is a series of noisy grooves as they mill down the top layer of asphalt prior to laying down a nice new street. As with rehab jobs everywhere, once they removed the top layer, they discovered all sorts of surprises, not the least of which was deteriorated concrete foundations in many areas, all of which had to be cut out and replaced before they could proceed. That of course, took more time, but the job is getting done and we look forward to its completion sometime after Labor Day weekend.

Clearly the most affected of our residents live on Connecticut Avenue who endured not only night-time noise, but the “dust bowl” effect of the milled surfaces during rush hours. Happily, that will soon be only a bad memory.

Once the road work is completed—in Section 3 only—we will have some ornamental grasses and dwarf crape myrtle plants in small gardens in the median strip. Section 3 has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the State Highway Administration to maintain these small gardens so that instead of a sterile median, we have enhanced it with a little life and color. We hope that these gardens will do well and thrive under our watchful eyes and with the help of our landscape contractor!

PARTY-IN-THE-PARK SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 21ST

Mark your calendars for the Annual Section 3 Party in the Park, slated for September 21 (rain date September 28.) We will have the classics... the train ride, the carousel and the “throw up machine” as well as two massive “inflatable” climbing/sliding rides. The Painted Lady will be transforming faces and Keith Robinson will DJ and help us with our annual cake walk. Bakers, get ready, you’re about to be recruited for the fabulous cake walk, organized by our own **Jen Roberti**. Each year the cakes are more imaginative than before! Mindy’s Catering will provide a delicious meal as we fill the table-lined street... everyone can sit, chat, and eat then the ice cream man will be on call for dessert.

Those who’ve never attended will soon learn it’s one of our most ambitious and fun events, as well as a great way to meet neighbors. For Section 3 residents only, it’s an event that’s fun for all, but not without your help. We’ll need volunteers to help set up, to clean up and break down tables at the end, to monitor children on the train ride and on the two inflatables to make sure no one gets hurt, and of course, we need bakers! Feel free to offer a half-hour of your time with the Village Manager or Council Co-Chair **Natasha Saiffee**.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

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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 Tuesday, July 8th at CCUMC in Room 107. All Council members were present. The meeting was announced and re-scheduled for Tuesday instead of the regular second Wednesday of the month because we would not have had a quorum on the 9th. The meeting began at 8:00 p.m.

The minutes of the June meeting as published in the July newsletter were approved.

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

The Village Manager has reported that once again, suspicious magazine subscription salespeople are circulating in the neighborhood and has warned residents via email. Any suspicious person should be immediately reported to County police by noting description and direction the person was traveling in and calling that information into 911. Our police patrolmen continue to circulate in the community, passing each residence on their patrols.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Council has agreed to have our lighting designer research vendors of both induction and LED lights in the style like the demonstration light on Georgia Street so that we can determine what manufacturer best meets our needs.

The Council voted to approve the variance request submitted by **Susan Toffler** of 6805 Georgia Street to replace her existing patio (originally built 50 years ago) which extends eight feet, four inches into the rear setback.

The Council's Buildings and Roads representative **Carolyn Greis** reported that a building permit was issued to the **Carrolls** at 7104 Florida Street to install a generator per the approval of their variance request at the Council's June 11th meeting.

The **Afnan** family attended the meeting to discuss their purchase of the home at the corner of Taylor and Florida Streets and the variances they will be subsequently requesting. In an unusual step because the Afnans were not yet the titled owners of the property at 3700 Taylor Street and therefore could not yet apply for variances, the Buildings and Roads Representative issued a letter of opinion to the Afnans which, while not constituting approval of

their anticipated variance requests, acknowledged that the proposed variances appeared to fall within the stated definition of "practical difficulties" or "undue hardship" and seemed to be reasonable accommodations to the building site. The Council will vote on the variance requests at the September meeting.

The Village Manager reported that street signs for all interior intersections are being installed and our contractor should be finished soon. We will then address the stop sign posts to unify the signage and finish up with a few remaining combination stop and street signs.

The Council discussed what to do with the surplus signage which no longer fits the current brackets or the typography. The Council discussed possibly auctioning them off for charity but ultimately decided a better way to go would be to offer them for sale and donate the proceeds from Section 3 to the Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad. (see story this issue)

FINANCIAL REPORT

The auditor is busy at work on the confirmations being sent out to banks. The Village Manager hopes to have all of her basic documentation presented early, leaving only the Management Discussion and Analysis for completion on her return from her vacation during the last two weeks in July.

Two CDs mature in August and the Village Manager is working to either roll over the funds if the rate is favorable, or find another institution in which to invest our funds. We won't know the roll-over rates until the CDs mature mid-August and late August. In the meantime, the Village Manager has worked to get a better rate from SunTrust Bank on our money market funds.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Welcome New Neighbor Party planning is complete, the Village Manager reports. Rocklands Barbeque is prepared, the tables have been ordered, the only question is whether we need to order a tent in case of rain or not. The Village Manager will check with Council members before making that decision as it increases the cost considerably.

The Council discussed possibly joining in some sort of event regarding Take Back the Night on August 5 with Martins Additions, but decided that the focus was not clear enough to proceed.

The Council agreed to hold the Party in the Park on September 21 with a rain date of September 28 and discussed volunteer duties.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:15 p.m.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

LOTS OF NEW NEIGHBORS!

Congrats to new parents **Jordan and Ben O'Neil** of Georgia Street. **Rory Thomas** arrived on August 6, weighing in at 7 pounds, 12 ounces. Equally new to the neighborhood is **Charles Francis**, born to **Jimmy and Elizabeth Dodson** of Raymond Street on August 31, weighing 6 pounds, 13 ounces. He joins brother **Fitz**, now a big two years old!

Congrats to new grandparents **Fred and Sudi Press** whose daughter Jordan delivered a bouncing baby boy in Houston, Texas. **Harald Samuel Jensen (Harry)** weighed in at 7 pounds, 10 ounces on August 15th. Mother and son are doing fabulously and first-time grandparents Fred and Sudi are thrilled.

We are also happy to welcome a few older folks to the neighborhood, specifically, in the July issue, we missed mentioning the addition of **Laney and Juan Altamar** who moved into 6811 Florida Street next to the Jennings. They moved from DC and their two boys, **Nico** (age 13) and **Noah** (age 10) attend the National Presbyterian School. Also new to the neighborhood are **Kristen and Marc Salotti** who moved to 3613 Spring Street in August from the District.

More new neighbors! **Scott Burns** and his fiancée **Kristin Hespos** have moved from the District into their first home at 3612 Shepherd Street. Scott works for Homeland Security and Kristin is an attorney with Sutherland. **Katey Vale** and her husband **Eddie** moved into 7103 Florida Street; Katey is a DC native. The couple has moved from the Mt. Pleasant area of the District.

STREET SIGNS FOR SALE!

As you know, Section 3 has replaced most of our street signs with a new collection of combination stop signs and street signs. The goal was to make the signs more attractive, more readable and to eliminate corners where the street signs appeared on one corner and stop signs on other corners. We plan to continue the project and replace all the remaining stop signs with more attractive poles and any remaining street signs will also be replaced.

So, we have a surplus of old signs—what to do? At the last Council meeting, Council members decided the best thing to do would be to offer them for sale and use the proceeds to donate to a charity serving our residents.

The Council decided the charity that served all our residents most in need of additional support was the Bethesda-Chevy Chase
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Rescue Squad. So when you buy the street signs from Section 3, we will then make a donation of the proceeds in one large check to the BCC Rescue Squad. We consider this a win-win for everyone!

Would you or your children like a nice green and white street sign? We're selling them for \$20 each. Some streets have limited supply, so it's on a first-come, first served basis. Obviously, we ask that you not confuse folks by placing the signs on our streets, but they would look great in a child's bedroom, dorm room or even a family room or playroom. If you are interested, contact the Village Manager and she'll arrange to collect the sale price and provide you with the sign.

SCHOOL BUS CAMERAS

Just a reminder, Montgomery County school buses are all equipped with cameras. Drivers are required to stop in both directions when approaching school bus with an activated stop sign and flashing red lights. This includes when driving on a two-lane roadway, a two-lane roadway with a center turning lane and a four-lane roadway without a median separation. The only exception is for a divided highway of four or more lanes with a median separation. The lanes of traffic separated by the median and going in the opposite direction from the bus do not have to stop. Traffic going in the same direction of the bus, of course has to stop.

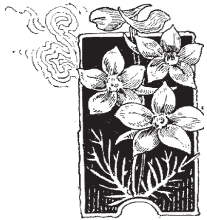
So, if you pass a stopped school bus with stop sign out and lights flashing, not only do you endanger the children getting off the bus, the fine is \$125! If the driver is stopped by a police officer, the fine is \$570 and three points!

VARIANCES REQUESTED

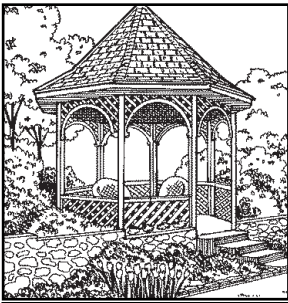
The **Carsten-Trenor** family are requesting a variance to place a third air conditioning unit approximately three feet into the north side setback next to the two existing units.

The **Afnan** family is requesting the following variances with regard to the property at 3700 Taylor Street where they plan to demolish the existing house and construct a new one:

1. Build walkway, front steps and stoop, and retaining wall in front yard setback (on Florida Street) to address grade change from the sidewalk to the house.
2. Build a smaller patio in rear yard setback due to small lot size.
3. Install utility meters, whose location is dictated by the utility companies, in front yard setback (on Taylor Street).
4. Include side roof overhangs in side yard setbacks (southern and on Taylor Street) to enhance architectural design. (The entire footprint of home falls within the allowable building envelope.)



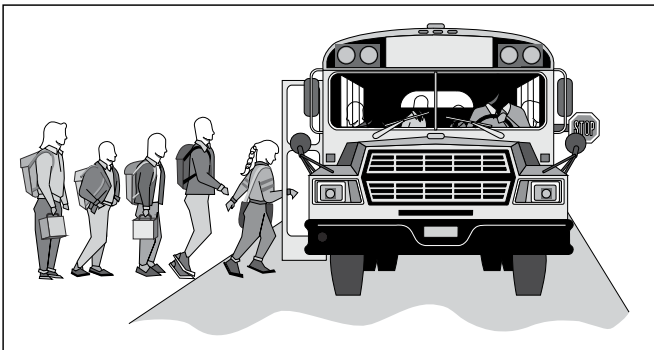
SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE
P.O. Box 15070
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**SCHOOL HAS STARTED
PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY
AND WATCH FOR CHILDREN
WALKING AND RIDING
BIKES TO SCHOOL!**