

SECTION THREE  
VILLAGE OF  
CHEVY CHASE

# NEWS & VIEWS

JULY 2008

## CALENDAR

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 2**

Bulk household trash pick-up, curbside

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 9**

Council Meeting

Room 109 CCUMC 7:45 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JULY 17**

Welcome New Neighbors' Barbeque  
Gazebo Park 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY, JULY 18**

A Wider Circle Furniture Pick-Up

Schedule with Village Manager by July 14th

**SATURDAY, JULY 19**

A Wider Circle donation truck will be parked at  
the Gazebo Park for donations  
10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

No Council Meeting in August

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6**

Bulk household trash pick-up, curbside

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

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## WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS BARBEQUE SET FOR JULY 17- RAIN OR SHINE!

Join us in welcoming all the new neighbors in town with a special Rocklands Barbeque at the Gazebo Park on Thursday, July 17th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This year, in addition to having the wonderful chicken and ribs provided by Rocklands (and the Good Humor truck of course), we'll have soft jazz provided by Section 3's own **Mitchell Crispell**. So mark the date on your calendar, it's a wonderful way to meet and welcome all the new neighbors in town and a great way to catch up with neighborhood friends.

Because July is fraught with so many unforeseen storms, we'll have a large tent where we'll all eat, so this event is rain or shine! Looking forward to seeing you there!

If you are a new neighbor in Section 3, we hope you can make this event and get a chance to meet many of the wonderful people who make Section 3 a very special place to live.

## SECTION 3 BARK AT THE PARK & ANNUAL WINE TASTING BIG HITS

Dog owners and dog lovers alike were thrilled to share a morning of fun activities and contests at the first ever "Bark at the Park" organized by **Michelle Ballarini** and a group of ardent fans of canines. The friendly, vaccinated dogs had a chance to parade and do their stuff before a panel of judges who gave out awards: Best Dressed Dog, King, wearing a crown and cape, won first prize and "Dog Whisperer with Cesar Milan, the Complete First Season" DVD, owned by the **Jennings** family, second place, Cassie, owner, **Julia Ballarini**, third place, Gracie, owner, the Jennings family. Best Talent first prize went to Henry, the **Wilson** family's lab (prize: Fun with your Dog Kit), Second prize went to Abby, owned by the **Warren** family and 3rd prize winner was Molly, the **Howell** family Dog. Best Owner/Pet Look-A-Like went to Tracey D'Angelo and their dog Moose (Prize: Do You Look Like Your Dog Game) (Tracey, you're MUCH better looking!), second prize went to Casey, the **Berkeley's** setter, and third prize to Sunny, owned by **Clare Wolfowitz**. The Biggest Dog prize went to Moose, owned by the **D'Angelo** family. Moose is a Golden Doodle and received as a prize the Dogopoly game. Henry, the Wilson family lab, won second prize and Palone, the **Romansky's** Golden Retriever, won third prize. The Smallest Dog

**BARK AT THE PARK & WINE TASTING, CONTINUED ON PAGE 4**

*\*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, June 11, 2008. All members were present. The meeting began at 8:50 p.m.

### POLICE REPORT

The Chevy Chase Police have been snagging speeders and people not driving with proper license, tags or registration on both Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road. They are also making sure that cars do not park in areas close to intersections painted yellow. There was further discussion of potential problems with the County regarding speed cameras. Apparently there is some resistance at the County level to having Chevy Chase Police be responsible for cameras not in their jurisdiction. This will have to be worked out with the County and the two other jurisdictions who want speed cameras on Connecticut Avenue.

### BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The Park and Planning Commission staff has scheduled a Design Review on the proposed revised subdivision plan for the Bradley and Connecticut Avenue property for July 24th. The staff has promised to share their findings with the Council prior to the meeting.

The Council discussed the plans for road repairs, sidewalk and storm drain repairs, signage improvements, etc. (see story this issue).

A new picnic table is on order for permanent installation in the park. The material of the benches and table top is a recycled plastic, similar to the recycled slats on the park benches in the park.

The Village Manager has been working with Verizon to clear out obsolete telephone lines properly so that we can begin discussions regarding the first phase of installation of FIOS lines in Section 3. Hopefully they will be able to begin work sometime this summer on phase one of that installation. Phase II would take place this fall if all goes well and then residents would be able to compare pricing on the services Verizon offers versus Comcast or Direct TV or other vendors. Cavalier, another firm who had announced intentions of offering cable TV and other services in Montgomery County, has withdrawn its application at the county level.

Carolyn Greis, the Council person in charge of Buildings and Roads, reported on the status of various building projects or proposed projects within the Section. The Council then discussed

the problem of the two Florida Street properties owned by developer Jim O'Brien and it was decided that we would try to facilitate the demolition of the house on the dead end of Florida Street so that it was less of a liability and an eyesore. Until various minor subdivision issues have been resolved, the Council felt that it would be better for the neighborhood as an empty lot properly planted with grass and properly maintained. It was also decided that the Village Manager and the Buildings and Roads person would meet with Mr. O'Brien to try to better understand the status of both properties, their timetable, and ask that he work harder to maintain the two properties.

The Council discussed the two homes with dangerous dead trees leaning towards Brookville Road. The Village Manager said she would contact each homeowner to discuss the problem and also explore if the County had any remedies for problems that present this kind of danger. (One homeowner has had a tree taken down since the Council meeting.)

### FINANCIAL REPORT

Council Treasurer Jon Newhard reported that Section 3 is in good shape financially and that we would be seeking new Maryland chartered FDIC insured banks to invest our funds in CDs. A CD will mature on June 24th and the Village Manager has been instructed to find the best interest rate possible for re-investment. The Council also agreed to hire Dennis Alexander, CPA, to handle this year's mandatory audit, with the proviso that this year's fees for the additional reporting requirements not exceed \$9,000.00

The Council voted to send Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling, our trash contractor an additional \$2,500.00 check in light of the fact that diesel fuel has gone up \$2 per gallon in the past year and their contract has no proviso for a fuel surcharge. A letter thanking for their service will go with the additional funds.

### COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The Council discussed both the Bark at the Park and the Wine tasting events and ways to make them better next year. The new neighbors barbeque is slated for July 17th. Council Chairman Bill Brownlee asked Donna Harmon and Natasha Saifee to organize volunteers to help with set-up and clean-up. The Village Manager has already arranged the menu with Rocklands Barbeque and will be getting the tent, tables, chairs and linens, ice and drinks, etc.

The Council agreed to hold the collection of household goods for the homeless through A Wider Circle on July 18 and 19th.

The Party in the Park and the Section 3 K Run are slated for September 14th with a rain date of September 21st.



It is with sadness that we report the passing of a long-time Section 3 resident, **Vincent Burke**, who died suddenly in his sleep. Vincent worked for many years at Bloomingdale's and lived with his father **Joe** on Taylor Street. He was also an avid manager of a lacrosse team and will be missed by friends and family. Vincent was 52 years old and leaves his father Joe, brother Matthew, and sisters Adrienne and Denise and nieces and nephews.

Donations in his memory can be made to the "Bethesda Youth Lacrosse", in care of Tom Serena, treasurer, at 7607 Holiday Terrace, Bethesda, MD 20817. Said one of the volunteers with the group of Vince, the organization "depended on the efforts of a small group of people for the first 20 years of its existence (it used to be called Montgomery Youth Lacrosse Association), and Vince was one of them; he handled all practice and game field permitting, and lined all the fields for games every week during the season (this was no small feat.)" The group hopes to place a bench in his memory on the hillside where so many people have watched lacrosse games over the years, along with a memorial plaque in his honor. She went on to say, "We feel such a need to make sure that he is remembered, because he was one of those people who works behind the scenes and does not look for recognition."

The *Washington Post* recently noted the loss of a former Section 3 resident, **Emilio Weiss**, a Navy microbiologist for more than 30 years, who specialized in the physiology and genetics of rickettsial diseases, intra-cellular bacteria that cause diseases including typhus. Dr. Weiss was 89 years of age and passed away at Bermuda Village retirement community in Advance, N.C. A bench dedicated to his wife Hilda is located in the Gazebo Park.

Section 3 neighbor **Silvia Lopez** and two friends are holding a special sale of unique ethnic jewelry inspired by the Bolivian native culture. The sale takes place Saturday, July 19th from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the Lopez home, 6707 Connecticut Avenue. Silvia promises some typical Bolivian appetizers, "Saltenas" to all who come! To learn more, go to [www.acantos.net](http://www.acantos.net).

Congrats to **Cherie Mohr** of Raymond Street and her partner in the architectural firm Gardner Mohr for their recent awards recognition. Cherie's partner designed a home at 5706 Bradley Boulevard in Bethesda which won the *Washingtonian* Residential

Design Award and Cherie won a National AIA Small Projects Award for an apartment at Copley Plaza, 1514 17th St., NW in the District. Kudos to both architects!

## ROAD AND SIDEWALK REPAIR WORK COMPLETED

Finally, the road work is complete. Residents on the no outlet segment of Fulton Street and Taylor Street from Fulton all the way down to Brookville Road now have a nicely paved street again.! After dealing with the WSSC water line replacement, which inconvenienced residents on the no outlet segment of Georgia Street and Florida Street as well as all those who drove through that area, we are finally finished! The road has been properly milled and re-paved by Chamberlain Contractors, working for Section 3. Stop bars and markings on the speed bump will be done in late June. We appreciate all the patience and understanding of the affected residents.

D & F Contractors have completed a series of miscellaneous repairs of storm drain outlets, broken or damaged concrete curb and gutter and sidewalks that presented tripping hazards. All the concrete work was performed quickly with minimal inconvenience to our residents.

By the time you read this, yellow curbs will be painted and by early July, we will be replacing old, hard to read and obsolete or improperly located parking and stop signs. The final element of the streetscape renovation program will be to mill and re-pave the dead end of Delaware Street and to replace all the street signs with more attractive and legible street signs.

## ANNOUNCING COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT'S 2008 GREAT COMMUNITIES PHOTO CONTEST!

Show off what you like best about our community in pictures as part of the Montgomery County Planning Department's 2008 Great Communities photo contest. The agency seeks original photographs taken in the county in the last year. Winning photographers will receive cash awards ranging from \$75 to \$300 and have their images displayed at public events and published in Planning Department publications. Submit your entry at [www.mcparkandplanning.org/planning/photocontest/](http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/planning/photocontest/) by August 20. Winners will be announced winners at the Magical Montgomery Festival on September 27 in downtown Silver Spring.

## BARK &amp; WINE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

prize was won by Cassie, a Yorkshire terrier owned by Julia Ballarini. Second prize was won by Gracie, a Maltese owned by the Jennings. The real fun came when the Best Fed Dog (aka the fattest) prize was awarded to Palone, the Romansky's dog, who received a special "Pamper your dog" kit (as if he needed it). Second was Rosie, a mixed breed owned by **Ian Bricknell** and **Gillian Karp** and Sunny, Clare Wolfowitz's Golden Retriever.

The winner who guessed closest the number of jelly beans in a jar was **Elizabeth Wilson**, who guessed 816 and the correct number was 830. The winner who guessed the closest number of doggie bones in a jar was **Sammy Howell** who guessed 109 and the correct number was just one off!!! 110!!

Raffle winners were **Paula Jennings**, who won a Bark Buster Training lesson from David Sutherland. **Sammy Howell** won a month of Tae Kwon Do lessons and a uniform from Coles Martial arts courtesy of our own Michael Coles of Spring Street. Dog toy winners were **Michael Coles**, **Elizabeth Wilson** and **Joanne Murphy**. Winner of the dog wisdoms cards and guide-book was **Sarah Ballarini** and **Jane Whittington** won a \$50 gift card from PetSmart.

Special thanks to David Sutherland from Bark Buster and AnnaLee Cardillo of Zoomin' Groomin and to Montgomery County Humane Society for coming to the event and participating and to Jason Levinson for fun animal face painting in spite of the heat.

Judges for the event were Julia Ballarini and Sarah Ballarini, **Madeline D'Angelo**, **Caitlin Murphy** and **Helen Warren**. The judges recused themselves if their dogs were in a specific competition. All the Ballarinis helped organize, set up and clean up. **Dave Ballarini** was the official photographer. **JoAnne Murphy** helped with organizing and donating prizes. Colin Beebe was an excellent MC. **Kirsten Williams** and **John Dorsey** loaned their yard for a very wet pooch plunge and bubble fete. **Evelyn Gerson** and **Jon Newhard** helped organize, Tom and Elizabeth Wilson helped with cleanup and set up, **Tracey D'Angelo** and **Kirsten Williams** helped with clean-up. **Rebecca and Richard Barry** provided water for the tent set-up and access to their front yard during the event and **Peter Carson** and **Mary Lou Steptoe** provided drinking water for some very hot dogs during the event.

## WINE TASTING HUGE HIT

This year's wine tasting attracted the largest number ever! Over 50 residents participated. We began the evening in the lovely garden of **David and Deborah Glynn** and then moved to the beautifully decorated new home of **Susan Toffler** for the red wines and ended the evening at **Pat and Arantza Murphy's**

recently renovated house with dessert wines. The wine tasting is a great opportunity for people who otherwise don't know one another to meet and enjoy an evening together. The tasting included a New Zealand Sauvignon Blanc, a sparkling Prosecco from Italy and finally, a Sugarloaf Mountain Chardonnay from a vineyard owned by residents of Chevy Chase Village. The reds included a Spanish rose, a French Bordeaux and a Shiraz from Southern Australia. The dessert wines included a Muscat from France, a Vin Santo from Italy and finally a nice Portuguese port wine. Everyone had a marvelous time and special thanks to our volunteer hosts and the lovely hors d'oeuvres spreads they put out for us all so that we could properly taste the wines. Special thanks to **Ken Harney** for making the excellent wine selections at affordable prices.

## BE AWARE OF DOOR-TO-DOOR SALESPEOPLE!

It's the season for migrant salespeople to invade the neighborhood—please pay attention. There are firms who recruit young people from rural areas and put them up in cheap hotels in neighboring counties and drop them off to sell magazine subscriptions and other services in Montgomery County neighborhoods. EACH VENDOR IS REQUIRED TO GET A PHOTO ID LICENSE FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY. Many do not go through these legal hoops and just show up on your doorstep. The firms that hire these people do not do background checks and some of these individuals in the past have been found to have criminal records. Some may attempt to sell you a magazine subscription while taking note of your home and its security situation...be wary please. You can get much better subscription rates through the publisher. If they are selling meat out of the trunk of their car because they were "delivering an order in your neighborhood and have some extra"—don't believe that either. You don't buy stocks from people attempting to sell you something over the phone, you don't answer letters from people living in another country promising you a large amount of money if you would just give them your bank account number...why would you buy a magazine subscription or some frozen meat from someone who came to your door? If the individual doesn't have the proper vendor license, you can report him to the police by calling the non-emergency number, (301) 279-8000 at the time that individual appears in the neighborhood. Please make sure you have a good description of that person as well. The same caution goes for those offering to black-top your driveway or do other maintenance chores around your home—use only licensed contractors with references from people you know.

## THINK CHARITABLY: A WIDER CIRCLE TO VISIT JULY 18 & 19

Two summers ago Section 3 helped dozens of homeless families through the generous donation of household items. We managed to fully fill three whole trucks worth of items from Section 3 homes.

A Wider Circle is a Bethesda-based charity focused on helping families who were formerly homeless get on their feet. Once an apartment has been found for them, they take the families to the warehouse where they "shop" for items to fill their new home and make their new beginning. The group then fills up a truck and moves the family into their new housing.

So we ask that you imagine yourself starting all over-what would you need-beds, curtains, sofas, chairs, kitchen pots and pans, dishware? We are looking for gently used items-the kind of things you would give your child for their first apartment-not the kind of items that belong in the monthly bulk trash. The group will provide you with a receipt for those items you donate so that you can deduct the donation on your taxes. For larger items, we need you to contact the Village Manager in advance so that they can pick up at houses on Friday, July 18th. The Friday pick-up was selected so that those of you who go away on weekends could make your donation before you head to the beach.

For those of us with smaller items, a truck will be parked at the Gazebo Park for smaller donations or donations you can carry there from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, July 19th. We urge you to go through your home, weed out those things you don't need that would be truly useful to a family starting over. In the kitchen, if you haven't used it in five years, assume you won't and pass it on to someone who will!

Just one thing is fine, many things are even better. For those of you with furniture to be picked up on July 18th, please contact the Village Manager no later than July 14th so that we can set up a pick-up route and schedule each pick-up in a timely manner on the 18th. If for some reason you're going to be away, consider giving your donation to a neighbor who will be here so that we can help the most people possible. This is an easy way to help others less fortunate at no cost to you, so take a good look around and see what furniture and items you could/should part with that would help another less fortunate family. Get your children involved so that they too get into the habit of giving to others-perhaps some gently used toys, car seats, cribs or strollers that you no longer use would help another family. Remember, for large item pick up, you must contact the Village Manager by July 14th with a list of what you want to donate so they can plan the route accordingly.

## MVA ON WHEELS

Are you interested in getting some MVA work done easily and quickly? The MVA on Wheels comes to Friendship Heights once a month and parks right in front of their community center on South Park Avenue from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The dates? Monday, July 21st, August 18, September 22, October 27, November 24, and December 22.

What can you do there? Renew a non-commercial drivers license, renew a Maryland photo id card, obtain a duplicate drivers license, a certified copy of a driving record, obtain disability placards, renew a vehicle registration, obtain substitute stickers, obtain duplicate registrations, return tags, change name and/or address, register to vote and register as an organ donor.

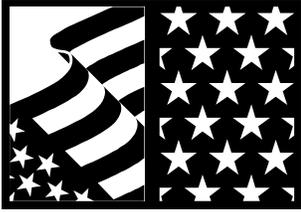
## HOME ENERGY AUDIT MANDATED BY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR HOME SELLERS

On April 22nd, the County Council passed a new requirement, effective August 4, 2008 for any home sales transaction. Under the bill (number 31-07), a home energy audit is required as part of a home inspection completed in connection with the sale of a single family home. Under the act, the seller is required to provide certain utility bills and opportunities for home energy efficiency improvements to a buyer before signing a contract for sale. Home energy audits are to be paid for by the buyer, and the definition of just what a home energy audit means is carefully laid out in the legislation. Before signing a contract for the sale of a single family home, the seller must provide the buyer with

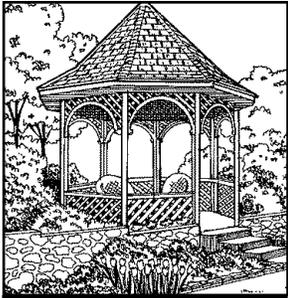
1. Material approved by the Department of Environmental Protection of Montgomery County that gives information about home energy efficiency improvements, including the benefit of conducting a home energy audit.

2. Copies of electric, gas and water home heating oil bills or cost and usage history for the home in the immediate prior 12 months unless the home was unoccupied for the entire prior 12 months.

A layman's reading of these rulings suggests that if a home inspection is required by the buyer, then it must include an energy audit as well and in any case, copies of the energy bills for the prior 12 months or information regarding the usage must be provided.



**SECTION 3 VILLAGE  
OF CHEVY CHASE**  
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VILLAGE OF  
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# NEWS & VIEWS

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JULY 2008

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## TRIM THOSE BUSHES AND TREES!!

Spring has sprung and, with the help of the rains, we've had a record growth of trees, shrubs and ground cover—not to mention weeds. Take a walk around your house with a friend or family member—can two of you fit on the sidewalk? If not, that probably means that the bushes near the sidewalk need to be trimmed back. Similarly, check for creeping ground cover—the sidewalk should be fully clear. Then look overhead—if you're short, take a tall friend with you and prune back any overhanging bushes, trees or shrubs. We're asking you to be a good neighbor so that those of us who are driving less and walking more can appreciate our wonderful neighborhood without tripping on ivy or getting poked in the eye!

Take a special look to be certain you don't have any poison ivy in the bushes—we've had several reports of poison ivy encroaching on the sidewalk. And while you're looking—if your Serviceberry tree is growing suckers, please cut them back to the ground—we want all the growth to go into the tree, not the suckers!!

add-on