

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

MARCH 2007

SECTION 3 CELEBRATES ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

2007 marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of sales of properties in Section 3 by the Chevy Chase Land Company. The original sub-division, dating to 1905, did not result in many sales, but in 1907, the place we call home was subdivided and offered for sale to the general public. In 1912, because sales were a bit slow, the area was once again subdivided into even smaller lots.

But the history of Section 3 is so much more than the carving up of lots—each house has a story and we'd like you to tell us all about it as part of our HOUSE STORIES Centennial Project.

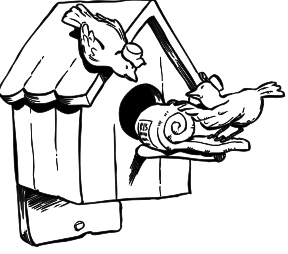
The Council has launched this project to glean as much information as possible about all 278 homes in Section 3—we want to know whatever you know about your house, your neighbor's house, we want you to share photographs, deeds, covenants, stories, and information about your house and any other home in the neighborhood.

Inside this issue of the newsletter is a survey form we'd like you to fill out. The form has been developed by the steering committee for this project: Village Manager **Andy Leon Harney**; **Carolyn Greis**, Council Secretary and an architect; and Chevy Chase Historical Society members and Section 3 residents **Ev Gerson** and **Judy Robinson**. Ev is a cultural historian, Judy, a former past president of the Chevy Chase Historical Society, runs a firm specializing in the tracing of histories of historic buildings. We will have "block captains" help gather this information from you and collect (and return) any photos or other memorabilia you might have about the house or the neighborhood. If you'd like to volunteer as a block captain, please contact **Village Manager Andy Leon Harney** and she'll give you your assignment of a limited number of homes to collect the survey.

At the end of the project, we hope to have a file on every house in Section 3 with lots of information which will then be bound into a book which will stay at the Historical Society, a copy will be kept in Section 3, and you, our residents, will each get a file on your home which may well include information that neighbors provided in addition to materials you have offered us. It will be something you can share with your children and grandchildren, and when you leave this community, we will be able to share that same information with the next owner of your home to keep that historical awareness and add to it with the generations.

This is a massive undertaking, one that should be fun for everyone involved. If you have stories and would prefer to tell someone who will tape those stories, we'll be happy to oblige. If you have old photos, we'll reproduce

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4



CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7
Bulk Household Trash Pickup resumes, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14
Council Meeting
CCUMC Room 109
7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1
Easter Egg Hunt
Gazebo Park

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4
Bulk Household Trash Pickup, Curbside

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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, Feb. 14, 2006 at the Chevy Chase Historical Society. All Council members were present. The meeting got underway around 7:55 p.m.

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

PUBLIC SAFETY ISSUES

The Council discussed asking Chevy Chase Police to step up enforcement of speeding violations on Connecticut Avenue in light of the two recent accidents at the corner of Taylor Street and Connecticut Avenue.

The Council discussed the delays at the County level in getting an approved vendor for speed cameras, which the Council is interested in placing on Connecticut Avenue and possibly Brookville Road. The Village of Chevy Chase will doubtless be one of the first municipalities in the County to use the new vendor. They have already had two different firms trying two different systems on Connecticut Avenue and while individuals have not been ticketed, the results demonstrated that the cameras would have a dramatic effect, as they have had in the District in encouraging compliance with local speed limits—something sorely needed on both Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road.

The Council agreed that the snow removal of sidewalks was later than they would have liked and incomplete. The Village manager will discuss this with the contractor to improve service. Apparently the snow blower stopped being effective as the day progressed and the snow removal team returned with shovels on the following day after the Council meeting.

It was again stressed that people need to remove their cars from the streets in anticipation of a storm so that the streets can be properly plowed.

Russell Weil, a member of the Fire Board from Section 3, reported that there may be a change in the number of firemen required on trucks, which would be good for our community and in keeping with national standards. There are some staffing questions regarding the Hazmat truck that are still unresolved. The members of the Fire Board will keep us informed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Thanks to the time and patience of Council members **Natasha Saifee** and **Bill Brownlee**, we have now spread our funds among four additional banks offering FDIC insurance and laddered our investments.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

Catherine Graham has submitted a permit application for the improvements to her front and back yards.

The Council spent some time discussing the variance application for trees on the **Lanter** property. Having received a number of e-mails and letters objecting to their location, the Council discussed with Mr. Lanter the possibility that he might bring the trees inside his fence, say two feet, to limit the obstruction to the view down Connecticut Avenue. Mr. Lanter is going to consider other options for the placement of the trees, but the Council voted to deny him the variance he requested. He will have to present another concept for the placement of the trees and ask for another variance. In the meantime, the Council agreed that rather than kill the trees by uprooting them now, they could stay until the ground is sufficiently soft to uproot them and move them to a different location.

The Council agreed to continue a search for a stormwater management consultant who could help us work through a solution to the sump pump drainage and icing problem which exists on Georgia Street. It was also agreed that the Council would pay a contractor to connect up the sump pump overflow that is coming from the Schurmeier house and connect that with the storm drain on Delaware Street. This pipe was installed emptying into the street prior to our more recent sump pump permit requirements.

The Council discussed the dilemma of cable or broadband companies wanting to come in and dig trenches in our streets and how best to handle this with our permitting process and how best to preserve the integrity of our streets. It was agreed that we would consult our attorney to determine what solutions he may have seen in other jurisdictions addressing this problem. The Council also discussed the problem of houses on "thru lots" and how our regulations applied to them. We have two blocks with "through lot" homes—Florida Street between Florida and Fulton Streets have several homes on Shepherd too whose lots extend from one street to the other. It was determined that while any addition to the front or rear of a home on a through lot would be subject to a setback restriction from Section 3, the larger problem would be at the County level which has an "established building line" rule that would have to be followed, and which would likely be more restrictive than the stated setback.

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL

The Council agreed to support the "House Stories" project in honor of the 100th anniversary of the subdivision of Section 3 (see story this issue).

The Council agreed to hold the Easter Egg Hunt in the Gazebo Park on Sunday, April 1, Palm Sunday as we have done in the past. **Ev Gerson** is going to put together a group of volunteers to coordinate the event.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



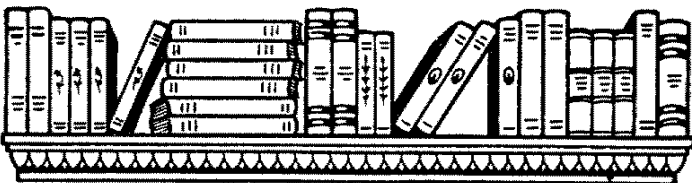
Section 3 residents **Tom Jones and Carolyn Grandy** and **Tamara and Lewis Kessler** have been actively involved in a battle with the County Board of Education regarding the Superintendent of Schools proposal to drop the special education learning centers for children in 6th grade and above that are located within middle schools and high schools throughout the county. Parental pressure caused the Board of Education to grandfather in children who are already in the program, but budgetary cuts will deny that option to children not already identified or in the program. Protests continue but on February 13th, the Board of Education approved a budget that would close off any new students entering the program. **Tom Jones**, leading the fight, says "This is so crucial...we had almost 900 signers of a petition circulated in just 4 or 5 days prior to the hearing. Out of almost 100 who testified regarding the proposal only two testified in favor of the proposal. The NCAA, the Central PTA Council and 21 of 23 education clusters have all stated their opposition to closing these learning centers. Our only hope now is the members of the County Council who will vote on the Budget soon."

Since Section 3 is filled with people from many fascinating backgrounds, the Village Manager, with the help of **Heide Blaker**, helped bring together a group of German-speaking women, all of whom live in Section 3 but never knew one another before. The group plans to continue to meet and get to know one another better.

If you would like to put together a similar gathering of residents with shared interests or backgrounds, contact the Village Manager.

BCC BOOK SALE

Save the date Sunday, March 25, 2007 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the annual BCC High School Book Sale. And if you'd like to donate books, you can drop them off on Sunday, March 4 and March 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the B-CC Chelton Street entrance. Tax receipts will be made available. If you have a large number of books, contact Peggy McIntosh at (301) 951-8605.



NEW DAYLIGHT SAVINGS

DATE: MARCH 11

Remember the old "spring forward, fall back rule?" well, Daylight Savings takes on a whole new dimension this year as we spring forward before it's even Spring...but in this age of global warming, who knows, maybe the daffodils will be up by mid March—they were already popping out of the ground in January!

So remember, at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday night, March 11, we gain an hour...so pack off the kids to bed a bit earlier this year otherwise getting up will be even harder!

IMAGINATION STAGE'S EDGEFEST DEBUTS THIS SPRING!

Imagination Stage, the Washington, D.C. region's theatre arts organization dedicated to children, invites families to the first annual Imagination Stage's EDGEfest, featuring professional theatre productions from Russia, Northern Ireland, Canada and the US. There will also be an array of arts-related festival activities, including drama workshops and mobile-making workshops—all included for the price of a \$20 Day Pass. Come for a play, stay all day! Imagination Stage's EDGEfest runs March 31-April 7 at Imagination Stage in Bethesda. Info and tickets at (301) 280-1660 or www.imaginationstage.org.

THE SNOWBALL EFFECT!

When you don't park your car in a driveway, our contractor has to cut a wide swath around your car, making the road more difficult for others to navigate, making trash collectors squeeze through, and finally, making it very difficult for you to shovel out of your own parking space on the street.

After the last snow, a number of cars still filled our streets despite the forecast for snow. If you need a place to park a car, ask a neighbor, call the Village Manager and please, get your car off the streets.

Our contractor had a very difficult time and could not get past a number of cars parked after the first snow clearing because people had parked so far from the curb, so if your street wasn't given a second swipe, you might want to talk to your neighbors who blocked their path. A snow plow is a large instrument, it cannot pass if the street is too narrow!

SECTION 3 CENTENNIAL, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

them and give them back to you. If you have deeds, covenants, funny stories, plans, we want to see them.

Please take the time to fill out whatever you know about your home before April 1st and get that information and any documents you might have back to the Village Manager's home at 3801 Bradley Lane. We'll email everyone the form as a Word document so you can fill it out on the computer if that's easier.

We want to know everything you've heard about your house or a neighbor's house—we want to know about the house that was reputedly a brothel on Raymond Street, we want to know about the family who lived across from the Church and still lives in the neighborhood, we want to know who used to live in your house and what they did, we want to know about the MG sinking into the mud in the backyard when you bought your house, or what changes were made to the house before you bought it and what changes you've made since. We want to know if anyone was born in the house they now live in, if your house was a rooming house, a B & B, a place lived in by a single owner. If your home sits on the land where another home once sat, we want to know what you know about that previous house-what was it like, who lived there. And we want to know about your house-who designed it, what cues you took from the neighborhood, etc. It's all important, it is all a part of our history. After all, the houses were here long before any of us arrived on the scene and their history is the history of many families and the history of the growth of our little community. Share with us, take the time to fill out the attached form, be as detailed and informative as possible-there is no such thing as too much information.

We'd like to have a single, good quality photo of every home in Section 3—a sort of "from across the street" shot in addition to any other photos you'd like to provide. Steve Balis has agreed to take photos of every home on Taylor Street for us and we're looking for other volunteers with digital cameras as eventually, we'll put all of this information into a word document with photos and scans of relevant documents. We don't need seasoned architectural photographers, just enthusiastic folks with a good digital camera. Join us in this effort-let's try for 100 percent participation—whether you own or rent, you know something about your home and we'd like to know as well.

COSMOPOLITAN SECTION 3— WE SPEAK SO MANY LANGUAGES!

Some careful checking reveals that anytime you need a translator, you have a choice of 17 different languages, all spoken by native speakers living in Section 3! The two languages spoken by the largest number of people-German and Spanish. The most exotic language, Tibetan.

For example, did you know that we have 10 native German speakers? **Mechtild Bach** (Germany), **Irene Tamagna** (Austria), **Heide Blaker** (Austria), **Helga Butler** (Germany), **Karin Reber Ammann** and her husband **Mathias Ammann** and their children (Switzerland) and **Barbara and Joachim Shafer** (Germany).

We have three native Dutch speakers: **Frank Simon-Thomas and Willem VanderMei** and of course, **Anna Azoulay** who works at the Dutch embassy.

We have three Farsi speakers—**Rowheya VanderMei, Ali Fassihi, and Abdi Ghazinouri**. **Tanya Dooher** is a native Russian speaker who grew up speaking Farsi outside her childhood home in Iran. Two families fluent in Urdu—**Natasha and Salim Saifee, Mona Malik and Mirza Baig** and of course their children. **Shalom Baranes** was raised in Italy but also speaks Hebrew as well. **Hanna Fahim** and her mom speak Egyptian Arabic, **Veronica Nieva and Josie Elwell** speak Tagalog from their native Phillipines, and **Catherine Kaylor and Harry Fang** both were raised speaking Mandarin. **Jan and Lene Mikkelsen** and children are from Denmark. **Dennis Papadopoulos** and his wife **Susan** both a fluent Greek speakers, Dennis comes by his Greek the old fashioned way, Susan learned it after marrying Dennis!

And Spanish, well, we have lots of native Spanish speakers—**Silvia and Ricardo Lopez** (Bolivia), **Minerva Keller** (Mexico), **Carola Alvarez and Marcelo Cabrol** (Argentina) and their kids, **Isabel** (Venezuela) and **Walter Vergara** (Columbia) and their children, **David Azoulay** speaks Moroccan as well as his wife's native Dutch, as well as French. **Ruth Balis and Barbara Czachorska-Jones** are native Polish speakers. **Melissa Voorhees** grew up in Brazil speaking Portuguese. And **Phurbu Dolkar** is a native Tibetan speaker.

We have many more people fluent in many languages other than English and we have children now going to immersion schools in Hebrew (**Elijah Adler**), Spanish (**Leah Baer, Leo and Jeremy Scheck**), French (**Harrison and Chase Fang**).

Just another reason why the people living in Section 3 are so interesting!

ROLLINGWOOD HEARING ON GOING MUNICIPAL

On Monday, February 12th, citizens of Rollingwood held a public hearing to discuss the pros and cons of becoming an independent municipality. Although he was out of town and therefore could not testify, Council member **Bill Brownlee** wrote a personal letter in support of the benefits of becoming a municipality. Said Brownlee in his letter, "I have been a resident of Chevy Chase, Section 3, for 47 years. I have been on the Section 3 Council for almost eight years, serving as the Building and Roads Inspector, so that I have been able to observe the workings of the Council closely. It is true that there are many things done by the Council that can be done by an unincorporated local association, things such as neighborhood parties, telephone trees for emergencies and welcoming of new residents. However, I have seen the advantage of having local governmental control of many areas. Some of these are:

TRASH COLLECTION

We arrange a private contract, with terms that reflect the wishes of the residents, for trash collection, recycling and bulk trash pickup. If there is a problem in any of these areas, a resident can call our Section Manager who can resolve the problem, rather than having to go to the County.

SNOW REMOVAL

Again, we contract privately for this, which means that we can decide if the streets need plowing, or sanding and salting.

The Section Manager deals directly with the contract company, often in the middle of the night, if necessary.

STREET REPAIR

We have developed a long range plan for the repair and renovation of our streets. Even though we contract privately for this work, if the contractor has a contract with the County, with more favorable prices, we are able to 'piggy back' on that contract, so that we receive the same prices as the County. We also work with PEPCO, WSSC Verizon and others in scheduling the work that they do in the Section and setting the standards for their work.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

In general, we follow the County regulations, but, where we think necessary, we have more stringent guidelines for setbacks, in order to maintain open space in our crowded neighborhood....

We do have a Section tax which is now set at \$.02 per hundred dollars of assessed value. In my case, that amounts to \$140. However, since we handle the trash collection, we do not pay the County fee of \$337, so we save money there.

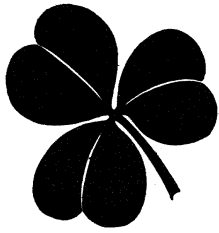
In my personal view, incorporation is a definite advantage to the residents of an area."

If you know people in Rollingwood, talk to them about your views on the benefits of having an independent municipal government to be responsive to your needs.

MAY COUNCIL ELECTIONS COMING!

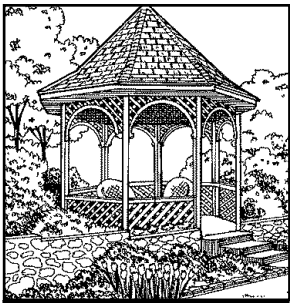
Are you interested in municipal government? If all politics is local, you can't get much more local than Section 3! Consider running for Village Council. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of every month and this election, three Council members terms are up, that of Co-Chair **Natasha Saifee**, Buildings & Roads Head **Bill Brownlee**, and Secretary **Carolyn Greis**.

If you wish to run for office, submit a statement of 250 words or less why you feel you would be a good elected representative and your qualifications no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 24. Drop the statement off at the Village Manager's home (3801 Bradley Lane) or e-mail your statement. It will be printed in the April issue of the newsletter.



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



**SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**

NEWS & VIEWS

MARCH 2007

FORM 502 MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2006, ENDING

SOCIAL SECURITY #		SPOUSE'S SOCIAL SECURITY #	
Your First Name	Initial	Last Name	
Spouse's First Name	Initial	Last Name	
PRESENT ADDRESS (No. and street)			
City or Town	State	Zip Code	
Name of county and incorporated city, town or special taxing area in which you were a resident on the last day of the taxable period. (See Instruction 6)	Maryland county MONT	City, town or taxing area CH CH SEC3	



2006
\$

TAX NOTE:

Be sure to list Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase on your Maryland form 502 Resident Income Tax Return. Do not assume that people at the state level understand the different municipalities which share the 20815 zip code—this is key to the revenues that come to Section 3.

HOUSE STORIES



**A SECTION 3 HISTORY PROJECT
IN COMMEMORATION OF THE
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SUBDIVISION AND SALE OF
PROPERTY WITHIN SECTION 3**

Tell us about your house. Share with us any deeds, covenants, photographs, anything that would show your home today, or in yesteryear. Let us know what changes you know were made to the original house or lot before you purchased the house and let us know what changes you've made since you've owned the house. If there are any funny stories (for example, did you know that one neighbor's home was reputedly used as a brothel a long, long time ago? Or that another neighbor's house was once the site of a chicken farm?) You may know something about the houses around you as well, so please share that with us, too! We promise to copy any documents and photographs you give us and get them back to you, but we'd like to create a book with stories from each home so that generations from now, or when you move away, we can hand the stories about your home to the next owner. At the same time, someone researching the history of Section 3 will have lots of interesting material that would not otherwise be available without your help. If it's easier for you to fill this questionnaire out online, we will be e-mailing a Word document to you so that you can fill it out online and submit it via e-mail to Villagemanager@chevychasesection3.com.

Thanks for your cooperation. Let's begin:

Address

Names of current residents:

Adults

Children

Please describe the appearance of your house such as its color and exterior material (e.g. red clapboard siding, yellow stucco, white-washed brick, brown shingle); its architectural style (e.g. Dutch colonial, Tudor, center-hall colonial, bungalow); and its massing or shape (e.g., 2-story with detached garage, gabled roof with attic dormers, columned front porch).

What interior or exterior architectural features of your house are interesting, unique or otherwise compelling? What about the house attracted you to it when looking for a home? (e.g. the plan or layout of the rooms, the beautiful woodwork, the sense of light in the breakfast nook, the framed views of the garden from the family room)

What is your understanding of the date the house was originally built?

Do you have any idea what color the house was when it was built originally?

Tell us what "improvements" or changes you know about that were made on the house before you arrived... as in "they made a powder room out of a pantry on the first floor, they took down a wall that went between two rooms, or they put up two walls to make three bedrooms out of one, etc."

Tell us what improvements you have made and if you remember, when you made them...

As in, "we redid the kitchen in 1986 and at that time, we moved the bathroom, we added a family room, we put on a deck, patio, porch, etc..."

If you used an architect, tell us his name, or the name of the contractor who helped renovate the house.

When did you move into the house and from whom did you buy it?

Do you know the names of anyone else who lived in the house? And approximate dates?

Tell us stories about the house that you've heard over the years... (if it's too difficult to do on paper, we will have someone come and interview you and tape your recollection...if you would prefer that, just put in "audio interview please."

Tell us what you know about your neighbor's homes:
For example: *"At 6814 xxx St. the people who lived there were professors at University of Chicago for many years and then came here and worked at George Washington University, when they died, they left the house to their son who lived in it until his death..." or "Mr. xxx used to raise trout in his basement..." or, the xxx family who now live on xxx Street used to live in our house... Or xxx was raised in this house and continues to live in Section 3 or lives in Martin's Additions, ... whatever the tale is... let us know, we love local color! It's not all about the buildings, it's also about the people who lived in them and their lives.*

Please remember as you fill out this survey, we are looking for the architectural history of your home, but we also want the cultural history of our community, and that means any information about the families who lived there before you or stories you've heard about what happened in that house or professions of the previous owners... whether it's the great dane bones in the garden or the MG sprite that was sinking into the mud in the backyard when you bought the house-we want to know all about it...or if you remember when the house next door or down the street was built and who lived there... or perhaps you remember some unusual architectural feature of a neighboring house---like the lead-lined compartment for the "ice man" to drop off blocks of ice before refrigerators were common, or the secret compartment in the attic of another neighbor that you played in as a child... all these stories are relevant. And we want to know about them.

When we are finished, we'll give you a copy of "House Story" along with a photo of the house and any other documents or photographs you might have that will provide us with a record of your home and its history. A copy of every "house story" will be kept with the Chevy Chase Historical Society and one will be kept with the Section 3 Village Manager so that future occupants of your home will receive a copy along with their welcome information. And we'll ask them to continue that history.

Feel free to fill out or include as many attachments as you'd like. Please submit this survey along with any photos you might have by April 1st.