



Chevy Chase Village

CRIER

October 2008

5906 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Vol. 96, No. 9

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Tentative Agenda

Board of Managers' Meeting
Chevy Chase Village Hall

Monday, October 13, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.

Note: The full agenda will be available
on the Village website (by clicking on
Board of Managers) by Friday, October 10.

November Appeal Deadline: 10/20 at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Previous Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Appeals

Old Business

New Business

Chairman's Report

Manager's Report

Police Report

Building Permits/Code Enforcement

Mark Your Calendar & See the Enclosed Flyers

October 12: Babysitting Training Course

October 15: Website Design Workshop

October 15: Daytime Flu/Pneumonia Clinic

October 22: Evening Flu/Pneumonia Clinic

October 24: Annual Halloween Party

Article Deadline for November CRIER: 10/27.

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Brookville Road Walkway—Status Report

The current effort to insert a pedestrian walkway along Brookville Road began three years ago. The last major milestone in the project occurred almost a full year ago and constituted a fairly potent setback. In December last year, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) rebuffed significant aspects of the 30% design developed to that point and in a subsequent review by the State Highway Administration (SHA), officials there offered no compromise on the HPC preferences. Essentially, the design was at an impasse and the Village Board of Managers directed staff to gather with the engineers, HPC and SHA representatives and return to the drawing board.

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Website Redevelopment

www.ccvillage.org

Though lightly attended, the Website Redevelopment Kickoff Meeting held on September 23 went well. Residents, Village staff and Board Liaison Susie Eig, heard the redevelopment plan outlined by the Village's contracted website developer and graphic designer. The focus of the meeting was to familiarize the group with the project methodology and to encourage input.

The second meeting in the redevelopment process is a work session scheduled for **Wednesday, October 15 beginning at 11:00 a.m.**, which will be held in the Village Hall's Tuohey Conference

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Verizon FIOS

Some residents have asked why we do not yet have Verizon's Fiber Optic System (FIOS) available in the Village and when we may reasonably expect to have it here. Below is a summary of both the impediments delaying their availability and the initiatives undertaken to move the process along.

(Important to note, is that while Verizon's FIOS enjoys the highest profile in marketing its new services to the area, Residential Communications Network (RCN) is also intent on providing network services in the Village. RCN is the successor firm to the old

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Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers' Meeting, 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall
Telephone: 301-654-7300, Fax: 301-907-9721, E-mail: ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov, Website: www.ccvillage.org

In The Village

...Continued from cover page, "Verizon FIOS"

StarPower. Comcast's potential technical upgrades in response to FIOS and RCN market entry cannot be ignored in the overall scheme of things either. So there are actually three private sector communications firms to consider.)

Impediments – Potential adverse private property impacts, known legal constraints and potential significant disruption to the overall Village of multiple, concurrent, independent construction projects.

First, when *Verizon* first proposed wiring the Village approximately two years ago, its plan was based on stringing overhead wires largely on rear-yard utility poles. (The Village is nearly one hundred years old and unlike its younger neighboring municipalities, it is served to a large extent by rear-yard utility poles.) Stringing new wires (new FIOS & RCN, or *Comcast* upgrades) would likely have triggered significant private property tree pruning and potentially even require that some trees be removed outright.

Second, the adverse impact to private trees along these rear-yard runs was compounded by a widespread lack of documented rear-yard easements. Village staff and Counsel invested significant time in trying to find bona fide easement documentation, but met with sparse success. Without valid easements in place, a single resident on the block could possibly deny permission for construction/wiring crews to work through their property and they could most certainly deny them permission to remove or trim the private tress on their property. Taken together, these first two issues constituted an unacceptable level of business risk to *Verizon* and RCN, and both have continued working in other areas around the region while the Village office develops potentially workable plans to bypass these two problem areas altogether.

Third, the potential for all three private communications systems providers—plus the Village with its own capital programs—to undertake simultaneous construction or installation projects only to be followed a short time later by the next company doing the same. It was in that same timeframe two years ago, that large-scale trenching and rewiring projects of just this sort were routinely closing streets in the District of Colum-

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bia, generating perpetual gridlock throughout the downtown area and piling mountains of excavated dirt helter-skelter in the roadways. The Village Board of Managers was insistent that when and if these wiring projects occurred in the Village, they should be managed in such a way that disruption and inconvenience to Village residents was kept to an absolute minimum.

The result was that two years ago, the Board of Managers directed Village staff to work with, not just *Verizon*, but all the communications systems companies to: 1) find a way to accommodate these technologies in the streets and public rights-of-way instead of along the rear-yards, 2) maintain a priority focus on minimizing the turmoil and commotion by coordinating and even synchronizing these projects, and 3) ideally, stop the stringing of new wires on existing poles and set the stage for the possible transference of other pre-existing wires to public property in the future.

Initiatives – coordinate engineering requirements, collocate all systems.

In the past two years, the Village office has worked with private consultants, engineers, the individual system providers and their engineers to understand their wiring, installation, security and maintenance requirements and to coordinate those requirements with evaluation and planning of projects within the Village's own Public and Pedestrian Safety Initiatives program. (These projects were discussed in last month's *Crier*; please look it up on the Village website at ccvillage.org.)

Among the Village's projects and central to *Verizon*, RCN and *Comcast* requirements, are the proposed pedestrian streetlamp and emergency communications systems. As envisioned at this time, these Village systems will be wired together through a network of buried conduits and the wiring layout for the private communications systems is almost identical to the Village systems' layout. It is possible that all systems could be accommodated in one street-based trench and installed in a single coordinated construction effort.

Status & Next Steps – targeted engineering: Village-wide street lamp network and wiring layout.

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In The Village

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Purposeful work is underway to gather planning-level information. Last summer, the Village contracted for a comprehensive engineering survey of what exists throughout the Village within the public rights-of-way. This includes everything below ground, on the surface of the ground and overhead. The information generated will stand as the technical foundation for two critical engineering efforts to follow.

First of the two, is development of a photometric plan for the proposed street lamp system. Contract authorization for this work is on the October 13 Board agenda. In general, this plan will identify the light dispersion patterns for nearly 400 new street lamps on a lamp-by-lamp basis. Computer models of placement, shielding and bulb intensities will be developed and modified by engineers to make sure light is cast on roadways and sidewalks, but not into the windows of nearby homes.

Second, is the engineering design work for both the Village's street lamp and communications conduit network. Based on data from the survey and photometric plan, this effort will generate the master "wiring diagram" for ducting trenches and locations where conduits will exit the streets and terminate in the green strips. The communications companies will have an opportunity to confirm the Village-led configuration satisfies their own requirements and be asked to design their systems accordingly.

How soon could you get Verizon FIOS or RCN connections to your house?

The benefits these new private communications network technologies can provide Village residents is profound and the objective is to find a way to make them available as early as possible. But, while now in the autumn of 2008 we are farther along than we were two years ago, we still have at least that amount of time to go before any FIOS or RCN subscriptions might be ordered. In a best case scenario, we must prepare for at least a year of engineering and at least that much again for construction and actual wiring. Still very early in the process, this estimated time-frame will likely fluctuate depending on public com-

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ment and feedback on proposed configurations as well as direction received from the Board of Managers.

Beginning this autumn, additional information on this important topic will be posted on the Village website, listserv and printed in the *Crier* on a regular basis.

Public Hearing Notice

The Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers will convene on Monday, October 13, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. to consider adoption of Resolution No. 10-01-08: An Ordinance to amend Chapters 6 and 13 of the Chevy Chase Village Code to modify certain provisions regulating the parking of commercial vehicles on public roads and the fine imposed for a parking violation.

A copy of the draft Resolution may be obtained at the Chevy Chase Village Office between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or you may submit a request for this information to be mailed to you, or you may download a copy at www.ccvillage.org, and click on Board of Managers.

Autumn Leaves

The Public Works Department's yearly leaf collection effort is now underway. Two leaf vacuums began running October 1st and will continue to run as often as needed through the first week in December.

Residents planning to rake their leaves into piles are requested to rake them as close to the curb as possible without putting them in the gutter. Should it rain, leaves piled in the gutter will dam the water causing it to pond. Residents are asked not to box in piles of leaves with cars both for easier accessibility for the leaf crews and additional safety for your vehicles.

Residents on Bradley Lane should put their leaves in paper bags and place them at the roadside. Bradley La. is the only area where bagging is required. Sticks and other sharp tree and garden debris should be left loose and placed in separate piles from the leaves. Sharp debris can tear the leaf collection hoses or dull the blades on the leaf machines, resulting in repairs to the vacuum machinery that can cause delays in the pick up schedule.

The Village Hall

...Continued from cover article, "Website Redevelopment"

Room. Residents are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend the workshop on October 15 please email your comments to Shana Davis-Cook at shana.davis-cook@montgomerycountymd.gov. All comments will be relayed to the website developer.

Keep reading the *Crier* and listserve for progress on the new website and to learn how you can "beta-test" the site throughout the redesign process.

Election Day Procedures

Several residents have called the Village office regarding the upcoming General Election, which will be held on Tuesday, November 4 in the Village Hall. Please be advised that while the Village Hall serves as a polling site, Village staff is not involved in the elections, we are not able to answer specific questions regarding election day procedures, nor do we have voter registration forms or absentee ballots.

One of the primary concern that has been raised by residents is if campaign items may be worn while voting—and the answer is yes. Voters may wear t-shirts, buttons, hats, etc., that promote specific candidates; however, electioneering is not permitted in or within 100 feet of the polling site.

If you need voter registration forms or absentee ballots or if you have questions or need specific information regarding the upcoming general election, please contact Montgomery County's Board of Elections at (240) 777-8500, or you can listen to their informational taped message at (240) 777-8683.

Weekly Toddlers Group

The weekly Toddlers Group meets at **10:00 on Wednesday mornings** in the Village Hall. The Village provides the group with toys and a clean, indoor play space. Most kids are between one and three years old, but all ages—including babies—are welcome! There are lots of moms, grannies, nannies and sometimes dads who attend.

If you have any questions about the group, please contact Kristen Best at (202) 460-1256 with questions or for additional information.

Board Actions - September 8, 2008 Board of Managers Meeting

Minutes: July 14, 2008 Regular Meeting—Approved.

Commission Reports:

Personnel Commission—The Board appointed David Kushner of Newlands Street to serve on the Village's Personnel Commission.

Appeals:

A-5427—4000 Oliver St.: Request to (a)(2) modify a special permit to install twelve (12) masonry piers in the Oliver Street and Montgomery Street public rights-of-way, the capstones on which protrude two-inches farther into the right-of-way than previously approved by the Board of Managers; and (b)(2) modify a variance to install one (1) masonry pier in the Oliver Street front yard, the capstone on which protrudes two-inches (2") farther into the front yard than previously approved by the Board of Managers—both approved.

A-5394—20 W. Lenox St.: Requests to (a) maintain a previously installed arbor measuring eight-feet, nine-inches (8'-9") in height located between the front lot line and the front (Magnolia Parkway) building restriction line; (b) maintain a previously installed fence measuring a maximum height of four-feet, eight-inches (4'-8") located between the front lot line and the front (Magnolia Parkway) building restriction line; (c) maintain a previously installed fence measuring a maximum height of four-feet, eight-inches (4'-8") located in the Magnolia Parkway public right-of-way—all approved.

New Business:

Contract Authorization—Independent Arborist:

The Board authorized the Village Manager to enter into a contract with *Green Legacy Tree Consultants, Inc.* to provide independent arborist services, and to approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 under "Parks, Trees and Green Space" in the FY 2009 budget.

Resolution No. 09-01-08—A Resolution to Amend the Village Investment Policy—approved.

Manager's Report:

FY2009—Re-Appropriation of Unspent FY2008 Safe Speed Program Funds for Brookville Rd.—approved.

This is a synopsis of the Board's actions. To view an archive of the approved minutes from the Board's meetings, please visit the Village website at www.ccvillage.org and click on "The Board of Managers".

The Police Beat

To e-mail Police Chief Roy Gordon: roy.gordon@montgomerycountymd.gov

Village Police Welcome Officer Lacayo



Officer Augusto Lacayo joined the Chevy Chase Village Police Department on September 1.

Officer Lacayo, who has a degree in criminal justice from the University of Maryland at College Park, began his law enforcement career as an intern with the Maryland State Commission on Criminal Sentencing Policy, after which he worked for the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD). While with MCPD, Augusto operated the County's photo speed enforcement (*Safe Speed Program*) mobile vans.

Augusto is fluent in Spanish and he is currently engaged to his girlfriend of seven years. In his spare time, he enjoys playing basketball, football and guitar.

We welcome Augusto to the Village!

New Communications Clerk Fills Vacancy

Keyaak Ridgell-Barnum joined the Chevy Chase Village Communications Center on September 3. Keyaak fills the position vacated by 5-year Clerk Bruce Gessford, who was promoted to Communications Supervisor on July 1.

A graduate of the University of Miami in Florida, Keyaak worked as a 9-1-1 operator in the Sheriff's Office in Jacksonville, Florida. She came to Maryland when her husband, who is a Sergeant in the Army, was stationed to Fort McNair in Washington, DC. Keyaak and her husband have a nine year-old daughter and a seven year-old son, and she is expecting twins!

In her limited spare time, Keyaak volunteers helping other military wives who are coping with deployed husbands and other loved ones. She also enjoys roller skating, bowling, dancing, reading, traveling and, most of all, shopping!

We welcome Keyaak to the Village!



Halloween Safety Rules



Halloween is fast approaching, and it's a good time to remember that our children's safety should come first. A parent or responsible adult should always accompany young children on their neighborhood rounds.

Before Trick or Treating, take the following steps:

- Try to give children a good meal to discourage them from trying out Halloween treats while out and before treats can be checked.
- Make sure costumes are flame retardant; also make sure children can see well through masks.
- Agree with children on an appropriate time to complete trick or treating.
- Keep pets confined in the home.
- Drive carefully and slowly.
- Adult partygoers should designate a driver.

While Trick or Treating, youngsters should always be reminded to:

- Use a flashlight to see and be seen by others.
- Stay in a group and let an adult know where they are going.
- Go only to homes with porch lights on.
- Remain on well-lit streets and use the sidewalk.
- Never enter a stranger's home or car for a treat.
- Obey all traffic and pedestrian regulations.
- Always walk (don't run) across a street and look out for cars and drivers.
- Remove any mask or item that will limit eyesight before crossing a street, driveway or alley.
- No treats should be eaten until carefully checked by an adult at home.
- Any suspicious or unlawful activity should be reported to the Communications Center immediately.

After Trick or Treating, once home, a responsible adult should:

- Examine all treats carefully and throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious items.
- Determine if treats are safe for all age groups and if not, distribute accordingly.

The Village Police Department will have additional officers on duty the evening of Halloween night, Wednesday, October 31. Please report suspicious situations, and inappropriate conduct to the Village Communications Center at (301) 654-7300.

Community News

...Continued from cover page, "Brookville Road Walkway..."

Nine months later, the Village is now back in a position to return to both the HPC and SHA for formal design approval. In the time since, the walkway's width, divider material, handicap access accommodations, and private property impacts have all been revised. Important from the project's inception was that the walkway should be a space separated from vehicular traffic, be installed at-grade rather than elevated and not be made of concrete. The overhauled design remains true to these prerequisites and preliminary informal reviews by both HPC and SHA officials have both been positive.

Summary of Design Elements

The walkway surface will be gravel held in place with a plastic honey-combed matrix. Gravel in this construction is environmentally friendly, handicapped accessible and will replicate both the color and texture of the walking surface as it exists naturally along the corridor today. Sample installations may be seen at the Pentagon's recently opened "9/11 Memorial" and at the Botanical Gardens on Constitution Avenue downtown.

The walkway width will undulate from a minimum just under 3-feet wide to a maximum of 5-feet. Half of the overall walkway's length will be less than 5-feet and half will be at 5-feet.

The divider between vehicles and pedestrians is proposed as rough-sawn timbers with a steel backing plate for additional strength and impact resistance. The timber will be 6"x8" pressure treated material but weather to a grey. It will be rustic but strong and elevated 2 inches above the ground to allow the free flow of rainwater onto the porous walkway.

The roadway shifts have been scaled back. At only three points along the corridor is the existing asphalt road surface shifted to the west. In two of those locations the shift is 1½ feet and less.

The handicapped access ramps' "tactile warning surfaces" will be cast iron instead of yellow plastic appliques that pepper most new constructions.

Understanding that both HPC and SHA representatives had responded favorably to the overhauled de-

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sign, the Brookville Road Working Group met on September 25 to consider the next steps. The Working Group agreed to recommend that: 1) the Board authorize and approve the expenditure of \$34,000 in *Safe Speed* Program funds for the completion of the official 30% engineering design, and 2) the Board authorize staff to both submit documents for formal SHA review and schedule a second Preliminary Consultation with the HPC for its official approval.

The Board of Managers will take up these recommendations at its October 13 regular meeting which begins at 7:30 p.m. Supporting and detailed drawings are available for review in the Village office.

Third Annual Ellen's Run

Sunday, October 19, 2008, 5K Run/Walk

Announcing the Third Annual Ellen's Run to benefit the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School's Community Scholarship Fund (CSF) and the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County in memory of Ellen Vala Schneider, former Chair of the CSF, whose involvement in our community and inspired so many.

To donate, register and to get additional information, go to www.ellensrunonline.org.

Village Listserve Sign-Up Instructions

1. Type *groups.yahoo.com* in your web browser.
2. Click on *Sign Up* in the green box.
3. Complete the form accordingly.
4. After successfully signing in, type *Chevy Chase Village* in the "Find a Yahoo! Group" field, and click SEARCH.
5. Click on *ccvillage*.
6. Click on *Join this Group*. Congratulations, you are now enrolled in the Village listserve!

Now that you are enrolled, you can post and view messages from other residents on various topics. To post a new message, type *groups.yahoo.com* in your web browser, sign-in using your Yahoo! ID and password, click on *ccvillage* on the left-hand of the screen and click on *Post*.

Listserve are a convenient tool for sharing information; enroll in the Village listserve today!

Public Works Department/Trash Schedule

Resident input regarding the contracted services for trash and recycling collection is an important factor during the evaluation of these services. Please report missed services to the Communications Center. Please leave your gates unlocked to allow access to your refuse.

Special pickups of bulk items are collected on Wednesdays. Requests must be submitted either by phone or via the Village website by 2:00 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday to ensure collection.

Motor Vehicle Administration on Wheels

The MVA mobile service will visit the Friendship Heights Village Center (located on Friendship Blvd.) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24.

For further information, go on the MVA website at: www.mva.state.md.us/location/montcty.htm or call the MVA at (800) 950-1682, ext. 2.



**Daylight Savings Time Ends
Sunday, November 2, 2008**

Turn Your Clocks Back **BEFORE**
you go to bed on Saturday, November 1.

Building Permits Issued by the Village Manager September 2008

5508 Montgomery St...Replace patios in rear and side yards
103 Oxford St.....Repairing chimney bricks
117 Hesketh St.....Remodel two bathrooms
1 Quincy St.....Repairing chimney bricks
16 Newlands St.....Install concrete driveway
20 Oxford St.....Replace walkway
3920 Oliver St...Rebuild front stoop and walkway, rear patio
5625 Grove St.....Install dormer
5500 Kirkside Dr.....Expansion of the rear yard patio
5512 Grove St.....Install drainage system, curb cut
1 W. Irving St.....Repair/maintenance of porch railing

Annual Halloween Party

Please join us for our Annual Halloween Party on **Friday, October 24 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.** In addition to the annual Costume Contest, there will be pumpkin decorating and a haunted room with new scary creatures to frighten both young and old.

See the enclosed flyer for additional information and make a point to join us on **October 24!**

**Chevy Chase Village
5906 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815**

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VILLAGE MANAGER

Geoffrey B. Biddle

