May Newsletter

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May 2019 Newsletter



AROUND TOWN DC OFFERS SENIOR PROGRAMMING

Through funding provided by the District, Iona
Senior Services has created a place where
seniors can find a variety of enjoyable and
interesting programs and activities. Join other
seniors at ongoing and new programs and events
throughout Northwest DC that are bringing older
adults together to build friendships, learn new
skills, enjoy conversation, exercise, and have fun.

For those 60 years and older, this website provides ways to tap into neighborhood resources, meet new people, stay fit, or enjoy other recreational and wellness programs. This simple online directory, launched in January



WHAT'S WITH THE FOUNTAIN?

The Chevy Chase Fountain was dedicated by an Act of Congress in 1933, and because of its historic and artistic merit, it is included in the National Register of Historic Places.

Unfortunately, the fountain's archaic pumping system is long overdue for an overhaul.

But just how long will it be before the fountain's ailing pumps and eroded basin break down? The Friends of Chevy Chase Circle are preparing for that eventuality in a number of ways:

1. Besides the work FoCCC does to maintain the landscape on and near the Circle, they are setting

more happening primarily in Wards 2 and 3 so that seniors can easily find programs that match their interests or location criteria.

The website — www.AroundTownDC.org — identifies events, programs, and even some online tools primarily related to wellness, fitness, and recreation. You can sort your search by type of activity you are looking for, the type of location you think best fits your needs, or by the site closest to you.

Around Town DC is also offering fitness and art classes at libraries, recreation centers, and other sites throughout Northwest DC. In addition, it identifies lunchtime concerts, discussion series, and field trips.

To get more information and stay in touch, visit www.AroundTownDC.org and fill out the "Join our Newsletter" form on the upper right corner of the home page. You can also email Iona at Community@iona.org or call (202) 459-9634.



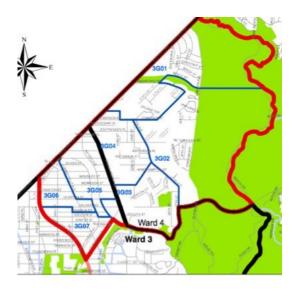
REDUCING YOUR DC WATER BILL

An increasing portion of DC residents' water bills are not related to water usage at all but consist of fees that pay for programs to manage stormwater runoff. The largest fee is the Clean Rivers Impervious Area Charge (CRIAC), which pays for the court-ordered, \$2.7 billion

up an endowment fund specifically targeted for the fountain's maintenance.

- 2. In anticipation that the dollars needed to refurbish the fountain will be found through a joint public-private partnership, FoCCC has also begun to explore lighting the fountain's basin and the water plume. At night, the Circle and its fountain fade into darkness, so for both aesthetic and safety reasons, lighting up the fountain makes sense.
- 3. Authorization to install lighting will need to go through a number of reviews starting with the community. The National Park Service and the Commission of Fine Arts will also need to review the proposal.

Thinking about the future makes sense ...and it is in integral part of the Friends of Chevy Chase Circle's stewardship of all things Circle! For more information feel free to contact Commissioner Dan Bradfield or for any inquires as to what else we are up to, please go to our website.



WHAT IS ANC 3/4G?

ANC stands for Advisory Neighborhood

construction of subway-size tunnels that capture overflow from the combined sanitary and stormwater sewer system so that it can be processed before it's released into the Potomac and Anacostia Rivers. DC Water also collects a Stormwater Management Fee, which covers some of the District government's costs to manage and treat pollution in stormwater runoff.

Both of these fees are based on the amounts of impervious surface on the customer's property—
i.e., roofs, sidewalks, patios, etc. For each 1000 square feet of impervious surface, every DC
Water customers pays \$23 for CRIAC and \$2.67 for the DC Stormwater fee. Because construction will continue on the tunnels for another decade, the CRIAC fee will continue to increase to a projected \$29.31 per 1000 square feet in 2028.

These fees are particularly burdensome for some, including low-income residents and many non-profits. The District created a stop-gap program to provide partial relief for these groups. The ANC testified before the Council urging that this funding continue at adequate levels to meet the need (http://bit.ly/2KVH0na). The ANC has also urged the Council to provide more comprehensive relief by paying the District's fair share for stormwater runoff from streets, alleys, and sidewalks that are currently exempt from CRIAC (http://bit.ly/2U65Unm). In addition, DC Water has taken steps to make CRIAC fairer by using sewage usage as one component in paying for the Clean Rivers program.

Individual residents can also take advantage of several District government initiatives to reduce their CRIAC fees. These programs administered by the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) provide subsidies for installing "green" Commission. A few facts about our ANC and others in the District:

- Congress created DC's ANCs in 1976.
- Non-partisan, voluntary, and no compensation.
- Commissioners represent approximately 2000 residents.
- Our views are entitled to "great weight" but we have no authority to order, require, or legislate.
- We can advise on virtually anything that affects the neighborhood - traffic, use of public space, zoning variances, liquor licenses, sidewalks, historic preservation, transportation projects, and testimony before the DC Council
- We are unified by a love for the community and a commitment to making it the best it can be for our neighbors!
- We meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays monthly at 7:00pm at the Chevy Chase Community Center.
- Read biographies of Commissioners here.



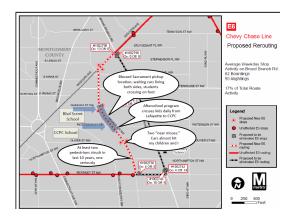
ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES!

A number of transportation projects are currently underway or will begin soon in our neighborhood. Here are updates on the major projects.

infrastructure — e.g., rain barrels, rain gardens, removal of paved surfaces, and planting trees.

These programs are described on DOEE's website at http://bit.ly/2Vh5ivL. The ANC is doing what it can to minimize the impact of CRIAC on

residents, businesses, and institutions.



ANC WEIGHS IN ON LAFAYETTE/E6 PROPOSALS

In front of a very large crowd (close to 75 people) The Department of Transportation (DDOT) and Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) presented proposals at the April 22nd ANC3/4G meeting to improve safety around Lafayette Elementary School. The Commission also heard from many residents about these proposals. Based on this discussion, the Commission supported the limited changes that DDOT proposed (e.g. better signage and an increased height for the crosswalk at Northampton Street and Broad Branch Road). However, by a vote of 7 to 0, the ANC opposed WMATA's proposal to reroute the E6 bus from Broad Branch Road to Nevada Avenue (additionally, a petition was presented that was signed by 117 residents that also opposed the rerouting proposal) and instead urged WMATA to investigate other and safer alternatives to the current route on Broad Branch Road.

Beach Drive:

- Expected to be completed on time in Fall 2019.
- Beach Drive currently closed from Joyce
 Road NW to the DC/MD border.

Wise Road:

- Closed to allow last portion of Beach
 Drive to be completed.
- After feedback from Councilmember Todd,
 ANC 3/4G, and the community, the
 National Park Service (NPS) will resurface
 the roadway during the closure.
- NPS expects Wise Road to re-open in Fall 2019.

Oregon Avenue:

- The entire roadway will be re-constructed from Military Rd. to Western Ave over the course of approximately 27 months.
- Construction is expected to begin in the second half of 2019.
- DDOT will discuss the latest timelines and updates for Oregon Avenue reconstruction at the June 24th meeting of ANC 3/4G.
- Bingham Drive remains closed and will reopen when the Beach Drive project is complete in Fall 2019.





VIDEOS OF APRIL 8TH & 22ND ANC 3/4G MEETING AVAILABLE ON YOUTUBE

Videos of the <u>April 8th</u> & <u>April 22nd</u> regular meetings of ANC 3/4G are available to view on YouTube. Video from the May 13th meeting will be uploaded soon.



12 PROPOSALS WERE RECEIVED FROM FIRMS FOR MODERNIZATION OF CHEVY CHASE COMMUNITY CENTER AND FINAL NEGOTIATIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

The Department of General Services (DGS) received 12 bids from firms hoping to secure the contract for the design of the modernization for the Chevy Chase Community Center. The updated schedule currently looks like this:

- 12 proposals were received on March 13 and a winning bid is now being selected.
- DGS has scheduled a 6 week period from that selection (which would be around June 7) to negotiate the final terms with the winning bidder on the design contract.
- This would mean if all dates are met a design contractor will be on board approximately mid-June.



INGLESIDE TASK FORCE COMMUNITY GRANTS

Ingleside Continuing Care Retirement community is in the process of expanding and renovating space on its site. Our ANC created the Ingleside Expansion Task Force (IETF) to draft specific protections for the community during this expansion and monitor Ingleside's compliance with that agreement. Occasionally, construction agreements will be violated by various contractors and they will be fined. The IETF decided to donate the funds from these fines to local non-profit organizations who applied for them.

After soliciting and evaluating a number of applications, the IETF has recently distributed funds from these fines to the following grantees: (1) Martha's Table, \$14,000; (2) Humane Rescue Alliance, \$15,000; (3) Friendship Place, \$14,000; (4) So Others Might Eat (SOME), \$14,000; (5) the Police Foundation, \$2,000 (to support the all-day meals on May 16, 2019, in appreciation to first-responders); and (6) the Transition Assistance Program at the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, \$6,000 (to assist returning citizens to integrate in the community); and, (7) Wilson Crew Booster Club, \$2,000 to purchase ten new oars.

All updates will be communicated to the community.





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