

# NEWS&VIEWS JULY 2021

Village of **CHEVY CHASE** 

# CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7 Recycling, Bulk Trash Pickup, Curbside Council meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m. Residents will be sent meeting ID and passcode via email. Meeting is open to all, and interested members of the public are invited to contact the Village Manager for login information

THURSDAY, JULY 8 Welcome New Neighbors BBQ **Everyone is welcome!** 

Gazebo Park 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 14

Pepe's food truck **Gazebo** Park 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Order online in advance-see emails

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, 21, 28 **Recycling Curbside** 

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 4 Recycling, bulk trash, curbside No Council Meeting or newsletter in August

# VILLAGE COUNCIL

www.chevychasesection3.org

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### WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS **BBQ JULY 8**

Finally, a return to a fun Section 3 event—the first New Neighbors BBQ since the start of the pandemic. In that time, we have had some 30 families

move into Section 3 so it's time we all got together and welcomed them. Rocklands BBO is catering the event around the Gazebo Park on July 8 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. (Rain date July 15 same time, same location.) Everyone in Section 3 is invited. Name tags will



be provided so that our newest neighbors can learn who you are. New neighbors - we're looking forward to meeting you!

We think the time is right to return to in-person outdoor events. Montgomery County lifted its separate COVID-19 restrictions as of May 28, and the State of Maryland is lifting all emergency mandates and restrictions as of July 1. As of late June, Montgomery County's rate of COVID-19 cases is lower than at any time since March 2020, and more than 70 percent of Montgomery County residents 12 and older have been vaccinated. Our goal is to be safe and respectful of people's different comfort levels as we bring back the fun community events that help make Section 3 special.

Residents who wish to wear masks are welcome as well as those who are fully vaccinated and no longer wish to wear a mask. We have made a few adjustments to the buffet line. We will have sneeze guards and masked servers so that only gloved hands will touchserving pieces. Paper plates and wooden disposable utensils will be used. We will be offering adult beverages, juice boxes, milk boxes and bottled water. And of course, our favorite ice cream truck will be there.

Tables and chairs will be set up for groups to eat together on Florida Street. We will have Hawaiian welcome leis for all our new neighbors so that everyone knows to introduce themselves to you. Finally, we will have a musical surprise for everyone.

We look forward to seeing everyone and meeting all our new neighbors.

### – News & Views –



The Council met on Wednesday, June 9. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m. with all Councilmembers present.

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

The Council agreed to shift the July meeting from its regular second-Wednesday schedule to July 7 so that we can hear from our civil engineer about possible plans to address stormwater problems on Raymond Street, Georgia Street, Brookville Road, and the areas bordering Section 5. These areas were detailed in the June News & Views issue.

#### BUILDINGS & ROADS

Buildings and Roads Representative Carolyn Greis reported that the owners of 6818 Delaware Street had received a permit to renovate and build a rear and side addition to the house.

The Council discussed two variance requests. The **Bruno/Bren** family of 3811 Taylor Street received a variance to replace their existing deteriorated rear patio with a new one of the same size and location (extending 14' into the 20' rear yard setback and 7' into the 10' side yard setback for a corner property). The Council took up the variance request by the **Sternberg/Sherwin** family of 3618 Spring Street to construct a front porch to extend 5' into the 30' front setback for the length of 16' across the front façade of their house. Council Chair Susan Manning recused herself from the vote, which was 3 to 1 against granting the variance (Lanpher in favor). Thus the variance request was denied.

The Village Manager announced that Delaware Street would be repaved before the end of June and a new speed bump will be added on Raymond Street just west of the intersection of Georgia and Raymond Streets.

The Council agreed to sign onto the letter to the County Council on Thrive 2050, with the Council authorizing Chair Manning to make any final suggested changes. Copies of the letter and the letter by County Executive Marc Elrich are available to interested residents. This plan will be taken up by the County Council in June, two hearings have been scheduled and both are already fully subscribed (see story on possible zoning changes this issue).

The Village Manager discussed the lighting plan for Section 3 (see story this issue).

#### FINANCIAL

The County Council has agreed to give more money to

municipalities for tax duplication payments but we still do not have an amount .

The Council agreed to apply for funds available to local governments under the American Rescue Plan. Although the exact amount of the grant is not yet known, Section 3 is likely to be eligible to receive several hundred thousand dollars, which must be used by 2026. Authorized uses of the funds include investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure and addressing the negative economic impacts caused by the COVID-19 public health emergency. Council Secretary Ellie Nader raised the question of whether Section 3 should use ARP funds given our sound financial situation. The Council agreed to apply for the ARP funds, and to leave the decision of whether or how to use those resources for later Council meetings. If we decide not to use the funds, they can be returned to the state. The Village Manager will proceed to make the formal request for funding.

The Council introduced a Charter amendment that expressly allows us to forgo competitive bidding when piggy-backing on contracts competitively bid by other agencies. The wording is as follows:

Under the Charter Section 703, Contractual Authority would be added item

(4) a proposed contractor or subcontractor has been selected through a competitive bidding process undertaken by another state, county, or municipality, or cooperatively with Section 3, and substantially similar terms are offered to Section 3; (5) the services are professional in nature, including but not limited to, accounting, architecture, auditing, engineering, legal, and surveying services;

The Council will vote on this amendment to the Charter at the July meeting. The full charter is accessible on our website: www.chevychasesection3.org.

#### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Given the rules promulgated by the County Council, the Section 3 Council voted to hold the in-person Welcome New Neighbors BBQ this July 8. We will continue to pursue food truck nights as well.

The Council agreed we will resume in person meetings in September. The Village Manager will investigate options for conducting hybrid meetings so that residents can still attend via Zoom or teleconference. A silver lining to the pandemic is that we have had greater community participation in our meetings via Zoom.

#### OTHER

The Council discussed a request by owners of tiny dogs to have another designated time for them in the Gazebo Park (see

SECTION THREE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

#### News & Views -



June was a busy month for moves... we want to welcome: **Kate & Jackson Ireland** and their 11-month old **Eleanor (Nori)** who moved to 7005 Georgia Street from the District. Kate is Director of Education for the Nature Conservancy and Jackson is Executive Vice Dean of Finance for the Bloomberg School of Public Health of Johns Hopkins University.

Anneke and Chip Altieri are also moving from DC next door at 7007 Georgia Street. Chip is an attorney with Morgan Lewis specializing in assisting institutional investors with investments in private equity funds and other domestic and international investment vehicles. Anneke is an associate with Hogan Lovells and specializes in advising clients on FDA and USDA labeling and advertising requirements, food safety issues and enforcement actions. They are expecting their first child in September..

**Kerry Begley and Amit Mehta** moved from NYC to 3808 Raymond Street. They have two girls: **Nora**, 3 years and **Tara**, 12 months. Amit is a gastroenterologist with Johns Hopkins and will be commuting between offices at Sibley Hospital, the main Johns Hopkins hospital and another Baltimore-based Hopkins hospital. Kerry is an Administrative Patent Judge at the Patent and Trademark Office.

Megan Rupp and Ben Meisel and their boys: John-Bailey and Joey Butswinkas, Marshall and Graham Meisel will be moving into 6705 Connecticut Avenue soon. Megan comes all the way from a home in Chevy Chase Village and Ben lived on Delaware Street in Section 3 before. Ben is involved in commercial real estate.

Melanie Gowen and Justin Myers are moving into 7102 Fulton Street. They plan on doing some renovations before they move. Justin is in the Foreign Affairs Department of the Missle Defense Agency at the Department of Defense. Melanie grew up in this area and is a long-time member of Chevy Chase United Methodist Church. She is a real estate agent with Compass and an interior designer.

**Ethan Guralnick and Caitlin O'Connor** have moved into 3707 Spring Street and just in the nick of time as they are due to have their first baby in early July! Caitlin is the Social Secretary for the British Embassy and grew up in this area, Ethan is an IBM Communications Consultant.

**Gretchen Trese and Chris Regan** are moving into 7105 Delaware Street after they get some work done on the house. Chris is with the firm Regan Zambri Long, personal injury and medical malpractice attorneys. Chris also is the pro-bono attorney for the nonprofit Chevy Chase at Home. He grew up in Chevy Chase Village. Gretchen Trese is the Senior Communication and Outreach person for the American Society of Clinical Oncology. The couple plans to be married in September.

Welcome to the newest member of the Section 3 community, Charles Robert (Charlie) Parets, who was born on June 15 and joins big sister Lilly, dad Brendan Parets, and mom Claire Carlin Parets at their home on Taylor Street. Charlie weighed in at 9 lbs 12 oz. and is 21 inches tall!

Congratulations to two Section 3 residents who have joined the new administration. Former Biden campaign manager **Jennifer O'Malley Dillon** has joined the administration as Deputy Chief of Staff. Dillon led the Biden campaign from her third floor office on Bradley Lane. She has worked in political campaigns for the past two decades. In 2003, she worked on Senator John Edwards's first presidential campaign. In 2008, she ran the battleground-states operation for Barack Obama's presidential campaign. After the election, she was the executive director of the Democratic National Committee. In 2012, she served as deputy manager of Obama's re-election campaign.

She was the campaign manager for former Representative Beto O'Rourke of Texas. When Mr. O'Rourke quit the race, O'Malley Dillon was asked to head up Biden's presidential run, the first woman to manage a winning Democratic presidential campaign. And now she is Deputy Chief of Staff. Congrats Jen!

Congratulations to **Leslie Kiernan** of Raymond Street who has just been named General Counsel for the Department of Commerce. During the Obama-Biden Administration, she served as Deputy Counsel to the President, where she advised on a wide range of compliance, risk-management, policy, and oversight issues. She also worked with the White House Council on Women and Girls, and later served as a senior advisor to the U.S. Mission to the United Nations. Recently, Kiernan served as a senior advisor on the Biden-Harris Transition, and she served as Special Counsel in the Office of the White House Counsel. In addition to her government service, Kiernan has over 20 years' experience as a litigation partner at national law firms in Washington, D.C.

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of longtime resident Andrew Sutherland, formerly of Delaware Street. He passed away May 10 from a head injury. Just 57 years old, he was the father of Natalia and Maria, son of **Carol Sutherland** of Delaware Street and husband to YuHua Kuo of Kaohsiung, Taiwan. Andrew taught grade school in the Chevy Chase area for many years.

### PARK SERVICE WEIGHING DECISION ON PERMANENT CLOSURE OF UPPER BEACH DRIVE

The U.S. National Park Service closed northern portions of Beach Drive during the pandemic, creating a popular Rock Creek Park recreation area for people on foot and bikes. There is a heavy sentiment in the District to leave these areas closed weekdays, as well as on weekends as has long been the practice. In fact, the District Council voted in support of that closure. Maryland residents have not been heard from and many are unaware. When we all worked from home, it didn't matter much but as downtown offices open up, more of us will be commuting again.

Pre-pandemic, that section of the roadway that has been blocked off on weekends and holidays since the 1960's, saw an average of 5,500 to 8,000 cars per weekday according to the Park Service. There will be a virtual public meeting on July 8 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. For more information on that microsoft teams meeting, go to https://parkplanning.nps.gov/ document.cfm?documentID=113206. You can dial into the meet-

ing by calling 202 640-1187 pass code 815310000#.

If you would like to express your views on the subject or if you used to regularly use this route to get to work, the Park Service will be taking comments between July 8 and August 22nd. You can go to https//parkplanning.nps.gov/beachdrive or you can write to Superintendent, Att. Beach Drive, Rock Creek Park, 3545 Williamsburg Lane NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

### Possible County Zoning Changes

The County Planning Board is considering a change in zoning that would affect all R-40, R-60, R-90 and R-200 residential zones in the County. (Section 3 is an R-60 zone.) The Board proposals would involve allowing house-scale duplexes, triplexes, quadraplex-

COUNCIL ACTIONS, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2 story this issue).

There are so many families moving into Section 3 in June and July that the Village Manager has announced that she will postpone publication of a new directory until late July. Residents should check their current listings and update the Village Manager as soon as possible with any new information.

The meeting ended at 9:35 p.m.

es, and small apartment buildings in current single family residential zones as a "by right" use. A similar proposal, albeit not as expansive, is included in the County's now-under-consideration Master Plan called Thrive 2050. The County Council is now considering the Thrive 2050 proposals and has not made decisions on them, yet the planning board is proceeding to propose this upzoning of single family residential zones before the Council has determined their response to Thrive 2050.

For more information on these proposals, go to montgomery-planning.org.

## GAZEBO PARK DOG Visiting Hours Revised

The dog population in Section 3 has dramatically increased since the pandemic. A rough count now has Section 3 families owning some 110 dogs! There are lots of "tiny dogs" (under 20 lbs.) and that group asked the Council for another day exclusively for tiny dogs. After much discussion, the new visiting hours are:



7:00-9:30 a.m. Weekdays (note: large dogs may visit from 7:00-8:30 a.m on Thursdays)

 7:00-8:30 a.m. Weekends

 8:00-9:30 a.m. Weekends

 4:00-7:00 p.m. Everyday except Tuesday

 **TINY DOGS (ONLY)** 

 Tuesdays 4:00-7:00 p.m.

 Thursdays 8:30-9:30 a.m.

As the park is small, we urge dog owners using the park to limit the number of dogs to 10 at any one time. This allows for fun for both dogs and their owners and less possibility of conflicts between animals. Rules for dog owners in the Gazebo Park are on our website under Policies.

### SHRED EVENT A SUCCESS!

Residents of Section 3, Section 5 and Martins Additions took advantage of the Shred Event at Brookville Market on Sunday, June 13. In the event that you missed this opportunity, the firm we used this year offers free shredding at their plant in Rockville. You can go to Clean Cut Shredding at 14820 Southlawn Lane Rockville, Md 20850 (phone 301 424-5677). The plant is open Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and they will help you unload your car and you can watch your items being shredded.

### LIGHTING PLANS MOVING FORWARD

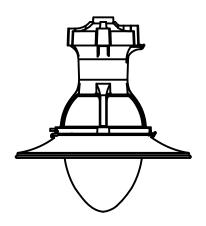
The Council is moving forward on plans to improving lighting in Section 3. Our goals include addressing some of the darker spots throughout the neighborhood by increasing the total number of streetlights and moving certain existing lights to better locations. In addition to converting to energy efficient LEDs, we also hope to improve the aesthetics of our streetlights by investing lights that emit a "warm" colored light,

placing attractive fixtures on arms that coordinate with our street sign design, and include a shade or "hat" that will direct light downward and reduce light pollution. A demonstration light with the fixture and arm style we are considering is installed opposite the home at 6705 Georgia Street. (Note, however, that this streetlight uses induction lighting, not the LED lighting Pepco is moving toward and which we will be using.)

Just as Section 3 agreed to take up the effort to improve lighting community-wide, Pepco presented a multi-year tariff plan to the Public Service Commission which initially did not address municipal-owned lighting. There were many aspects of their proposals that raised concerns because they could prevent Section 3 from selecting the style of lighting we wanted. We were not alone. Chevy Chase Village, the Town of Chevy Chase, and Section 3 joined forces in filing an amicus brief in this rate case (see June News & Views available online at www.chevychasesection3.org). The PSC is scheduled to render a decision in the rate case by June 28, but we cannot predict just what may be decided.

Undaunted, we are proceeding and meeting with Pepco officials to discuss two LED demonstration lights—one on Delaware St. and one on an intersection so we can gauge the effectiveness of the lights we have identified before committing to a large purchase. There are many hoops to jump here... The Council has seen several installations of lights in neighboring jurisdictions and has found the glare more than we want for our community—to give an analogy, we are looking for a "warm white" light, not a harsh, glaring "cold white" light for our streets. That is hard to come by in LED lighting.

Because we have narrow streets, our goal is to have the lighting hover over the center of the roadway, illuminating both sides of the street equally. On all 16' wide streets, we want to have 8' bracket arms extend from the existing Pepco poles. Our lighting designer has come up with a plan for 67 street lights that would be



evenly spaced as much as possible. That means we will have to shift a few lights from one pole to the next, and we'll have to add some new lights. We have 54 lights now, we will have 67 when this project is finished.

Pending a final photometric analysis, here is how the lighting plan will look by street so you can see what we currently envision:

**Connecticut Avenue.** Location of the lights will remain on the same poles, and we plan to place 8 new fixtures on 10' brackets.

Because Connecticut Avenue is a state highway, we may have to meet Maryland standards for lighting.

**Bradley Lane.** All the streetlights are on the Village of Chevy Chase side of the street except at Brookville.

**Brookville Road.** There are only 4 lights in Section 3 on Brookville Road and they are all staying on the same poles at Bradley, Raymond, Shepherd and Taylor Streets.

Existing lights will stay in the same locations except as noted below:

**Delaware Street.** New lights on poles in front of 6802 (Scupi/Witwer), 6808 (Fuher), 6818 (reno), 7010 (Hutson)

**Florida Street.** New light at 6803 (**Waterman**), move light from 6805 (**Wellspeak**) to 6809 (**Jennings**), new light at 7007 (**Chaturvedi/Clark**) all other lights in same locations

**Fulton Street.** New light at 6815 (Lane/Williams), new light at 7011 (Brand), new light at 7109 (Virbikas)

**Georgia Street.** Move light from 6802 (**Luken/Barron**) to 6804 (**Friedman**), new light at 6808 (**Holden**) at intersection of Spring & Georgia, move light at 7007 (**Hoffman**) to 7003 (**Little**), new light at 7009 (**Rodriguez**)

Raymond Street. New light at 3619

(Muhib/Palinaswamy), move light from 3615 to 3613/11.

Shepherd Street. Move light from 3704 (Arconti/Heynen) to 3702/3700 (Horst/Steptoe/Carson), new Light at 3616 (Kaylor)

**Spring Street.** Move light from 3619 (**Brown/Whatley**) to 3615 (**Schmidt/Nesbitt**), move light from **Mott** (Spring Street side of 6810 Georgia Street) to 3605 (**Fitzpatrick**)

**Taylor Street.** Move light from 3607 (**Boyd**) to 3609 (Allen).

The exact specifications are being worked out. We still have to determine how we will be working with Pepco, based in part on the rate tariffs resolution.



### SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815



# GOING ON VACATION? Please make sure the neighbors know you are going and how to reach you. Make arranger ments for packages, newspapers to be picked up. Be sure to lock and park extra cars in your driveway, not on the street. Lock garages and bikes, putting them out of sight.