

News&Views

SEPTEMBER 2021

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 First Wednesday Bulk Trash, Recycling curbside

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 Labor Day: Yard Waste WILL be picked up curbside

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 Hybrid Council Meeting via Zoom & In person 7:45 p.m.

Agenda, Meeting ID, password will be sent via email. Interested persons can contact the Village Manager to obtain the ID and password via email. In person meeting in the Wesley room at CCUMC, enter from the parking lot.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 Party-in-the Park

5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Gazebo Park (see story opposite) Sept. 26 rain date

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6
1st Wednesday Bulk Trash, Recycling, Curbside

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13 Hybrid Council Meeting

See listing above

VILLAGE COUNCIL

www.chevychasesection3.org

SUSAN MANNING

Chair (202) 716-6264 susan.manning@gmail.com

LARRY LANPHER

Vice Chair (301) 652-4785 lawrence.lanpher@klgates.com

ELLIE NADER

Secretary (202) 538-0810 EllieNader@gmail.com

CAROLYN GREIS

Buildings & Roads (301) 718-1737 CAGreis@msn.com

TOM CARROLL

Treasurer (202) 641-3819 tkc91@aya.yale.edu

ANDY LEON HARNEY

Village Manager (301) 656-9117 villagemanager@chevychasesection3.org

PARTY-IN-THE-PARK SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 19

The pandemic sadly put a lid on all of our big social events that characterize life in Section 3. We've done our best to create safe, small group workarounds that wouldn't violate County restrictions. Now that so many of us are vaccinated and many restrictions have been lifted, the Party-in-the-Park is next on our list to revive.

In light of our collective desire to return to the new normal, the Council decided at their August 23 meeting to hold a scaled back Party-in-the-Park on September 19. The plan is to have a catered buffet with servers (as was done for the New Neighbors BBQ); tables set farther apart than usual on Florida Street; and no children's rides, but the ice cream man will be there and the cake-walk will be done in the park—six feet apart. We will have a live band which should be fun for young and old. The event begins at 5:30 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m.

In the event that circumstances change and a large gathering becomes illadvised or contrary to County regulations, we will set up the buffet and arrange for people to come and get their food to bring home in take-away containers.

We hope you'll come! We've learned that live music is something that can bring us all together and no Party-in-the-Park would be complete without the cakewalk! So bakers, get ready: Jen Roberti, the marvelous organizer of this annual event, will be calling on you for your contribution. The last Party-in-the Park needed three large tables just to hold your "cake boss" creative contributions.

4-H CENTER UNDER CONTRACT

The nearby 12-acre National 4-H Conference Center on Connecticut Avenue is now under contract to two different developers. According to Town of Chevy Chase officials, Galerie Living, an Atlanta developer of communities for older residents and a D.C based developer, Community Three, have signed a purchase and sale agreement for the property.

The Town's announcement did not include details on redevelopment plans. However, the buyers will be giving a virtual presentation to the Town via Zoom at 6:00 p.m. on September 9. Galerie Living has done mixed use developments, residential and commercial and resort-style campuses and communities for seniors. Community Three's properties include Grosvenor Park in North Bethesda and The Lauren condominiums in downtown Bethesda. Community Three's website describes the group as specializing in historic preservation and adaptive re-use.



COUNCIL ACTIONS JULY 7 PUBLIC MEETING

The Council met on Wednesday, July 7 via Zoom. All Council members were present.

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

The Council voted on the Charter Amendment which would allow us to piggy-back on contracts competitively bid by other agencies. The amendment becomes effective at the end of August. See Charter Section 703 (4) on our website www.chevychasesection3.org or the July News & Views for complete wording.

Buildings & Roads

Carolyn Greis, the Buildings & Roads Representative, reported that two permits were issued since the last meeting. The Bruno-Bren family of 3811 Taylor Street received a permit to build a patio in their rear yard, replacing the existing non-conforming one in kind, a variance for which was granted at the June council meeting. The Rupp-Meisels of 6705 Connecticut Avenue received a permit to make the following exterior renovations to the existing house: two sets of exterior stairs, one with a covered porch in the rear yard; one set of exterior stairs with a roof in the north side yard; and one covered porch and two cantilevered bays in the front yard.

The Village Manager reported on the status of the Thrive 2050 plan now before the County Council. At the same time the Planning Board has initiated an Attainable Housing Initiative. The County Council will take up the plan again after its summer recess. At this time, the plan seems to be to allow multi-family dwellings along transit corridors within a mile of Metro. Section 3 has expressed its strong support for many of the priorities that underlie the Thrive Montgomery 2050 draft plan, including diversity, inclusive and socially connected neighborhoods, and environmentally responsible stewardship. Section 3 and the Thrive Montgomery 2050 Neighborhood Coalition of which we are a part have also voiced concerns that some aspects of Thrive 2050 take a one-sizefits all approach, rather than implementing these laudable principles in a practical, good sense way. There is a great deal of uncertainty about whether the proposed alteration of single-family zoning in our area would achieve the "attainable" housing desired. There has been no final decision by the County Council.

The Council met with our consulting engineer, Jason Azar of Clark/Azar Associates, and discussed four proposed stormwater

management projects. It was noted that the largest reason for stormwater issues is water runoff from multiple properties. It also was noted that some of the possible projects might involve easements on private properties to allow Section 3 to construct storm drains or swales to remove excess water, with the infrastructure then to be maintained by the Section. Prior to the meeting, Council member Carroll had noted that he would like to understand Section 3's potential responsibilities and whether the Section would be held harmless on easements granting maintenance rights to the Section.

The Council decided that before making any decisions, there was need for an over-riding policy that would guide the Council in making decisions about individual projects. The Council agreed that discussion would require the development of a draft and a separate meeting which they agreed to hold when everyone's calendar would allow prior to the September meeting. No further decisions were made regarding the four stormwater projects.

The Village Manager reported that the Pepco Tariff Case was decided, with the Public Service Commission refusing to grant new tariffs for municipal lighting. The PSC directed Pepco to consult with stakeholders and come back to the Commission with new proposals. No outreach has occurred as yet but the decision only came out a week prior so we are uncertain as to next steps. However, we are proceeding to work with Pepco to get two demonstration lights installed before we order new lighting for the entire community (see story this issue).

FINANCIAL

The annual audit process has begun, reported the Village Manager. It was noted that in future budgets, the Capital Improvement Fund entry will be moved to a new category since it pertains to expenses that may not actually be incurred in the relevant fiscal year.

The Council voted to extend the contract of Montgomery County Sanitation & Recycling for another year, per their contract.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Because of bad weather, the Welcome New Neighbors BBQ was postponed until July 15.

The Village Manager reported on plans to continue to have food trucks come to Section 3 when possible.

OTHER

Because of the significant number of homes changing hands, the Village Manager hopes to come out with a new directory as soon as we can gather the information from new homeowners (see story this issue).

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

As quarantine eases, the post-pandemic housing market has been extremely bullish, and Section 3 has seen an unprecedented number of move into—or in many cases within—the neighborhood. Between June and early October, we will welcome some 18 new families into the community and five of our families will change addresses within Section 3. That's a lot of moving around!

Since the July issue of the newsletter, we have one new resident born just after her parents, **Ethan Guralnick and Caitlin O'Connor** moved in to 3707 Spring Street. **Alice Guralnick** was born at Sibley Hospital on July 15, the date of our Welcome New Neighbors BBQ! Welcome Alice!

A welcome to **Dana Tignor and Mike Hollman** who moved into 3804 Taylor Street. Dana is the Director of Alumni Giving and Programs at the Maret School and Mike is Vice President and Treasurer at Hilton, a global hospitality firm. They have two girls: **Diana Tignor-Hollman**, age 6, and **Aria Tignor-Hollman**, age 4.

Welcome to **Alex and Casey Whitman** who have moved into 3805 Taylor Street from New York. Alex is the co-owner of TR Crandall Guitars in Manhattan. The firm specializes in vintage and high-end guitars and is known for their repair and restoration work. Casey is a Managing Director and Senior Research Analyst with Piper Sandler, an investment bank and institutional securities firm. The bulk of the banks she works with are in the DC area. They have two children: **Lucas**, age 3, and **Cassiday**, age 1. Lucas will be going around the corner to CCUMC Preschool.

Welcome to **Mohammad Khasawinah and Karen Benitez** who have moved into 3706 Raymond Street with their three children: **Amin**, age 9, **Adelina** (or **Addy**), age 7, and **Isla**, age 5. Karen is a pediatric dentist with Chevy Chase Pediatric Dentistry, just up Connecticut Avenue, and Mohammad is a software engineer with Snagajob in the District.

Welcome to **Carrie and Mark Parella** and their three children who moved into 7007 Delaware Street. Mark is an orthopedic/trauma surgeon in Austin, Texas. Carrie spends the school year here in the DC area so that her children can attend Lycee Rochambeau. The children are **Annabelle**, age 17, **Valentine**, age 15, and **Eliana**, age 11.

Welcome to **Steve Cantor and Margaret Smilowitz** who moved into 7007 Fulton Street with their one-year old, Ari. The

family has moved here from Chicago. Steve is a tax associate with Kirkland & Ellis and Margaret just left work as a litigator at Perkins Coie to join the Office of Enforcement at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Soon to move in from DC to 6806 Delaware Street are **J.P.** and Honore Hyland and their three children Killian, age 5, Neve, age 3, and Beckett, age 1. J.P. is Sr. Vice President of Investments at Bonaventure Realty Group and Honore, formerly a fourth grade teacher at Blessed Sacrament, is a stay-at-home mom.

Welcome to **Sharalyn and Andrew Brady** who moved into 3620 Raymond Street with their two children, **Ava**, age 15, who attends Stone Ridge, and **Grayson**, age 12, who is at Blessed Sacrament. The family moved from the Town to Section 3. Andrew is an attorney with Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom where he is Of Counsel with a focus on SEC Reporting and Compliance, Mergers and Acquisitions and Corporate Governance.

Also moving into Section 3 from DC are **Halley and Chris Jensen** and their 17-month-old son **Luke**. They will soon be residents at 3609 Spring Street. Chris is in property management for McEnearney Associates. Halley is a digital marketing professional specializing in nonprofits and a stay-at-home mom.

WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS BBQ A BIG SUCCESS!



The July 15 Welcome New Neighbors party was our first large public event since the pandemic. We made several changes—servers instead of self-serve buffet, sneeze guards and disposable wooden flatware indi-

vidually wrapped. Rocklands BBQ did a great job and even though we ordered more food than we have in the past, we had NOTHING left at the end of the evening. We have many new neighbors and hope that those who attended came away impressed with the warmth and friendliness of all the neighbors.

Special thanks to Ellen McKenny who—along with Council members Susan Manning and Carolyn Greis—welcomed everyone. Thanks also to everyone who helped with bartending. It was great to see everyone come out and make our new neighbors feel at home in their new neighborhood.

September 2021 Page 3

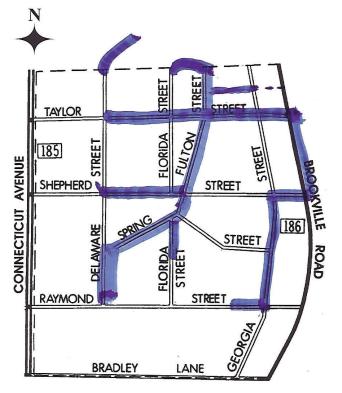
Council actions, continued from page 2

AUGUST 23 PUBLIC MEETING

The Council met in a special session Monday, August 23 via Zoom to discuss stormwater management issues and Party-in-the Park plans. All members were present except for Tom Carroll who had advised in advance that he would be unable to attend and had offered some views on infrastructure plans, which were discussed at the meeting.

Council Chair Susan Manning began by sharing with the community our financial position, which is quite strong. She noted that the current budget projects a \$156,000 surplus of revenues over likely expenses, Section 3 has Retained Earnings and Capital Improvement Fund monies at this time of approximately \$5.18 million, and we can expect federal American Rescue Plan Act funds of \$311,757 over two years. The Council expects to apply available ARPA funds to improving stormwater management infrastructure.

The Council reviewed Section 3's existing storm drainage system (see map below) before discussing with our civil engineer, Jason Azar of Clark/Azar Associates. The four stormwater management projects the Council are currently considering are on Raymond Street, Brookville Road, Georgia Street, and Florida Steet. Azar answered questions and gave both pricing and time estimates for each project. The Council discussed a draft stormwater management policy and agreed on certain minor changes. The final



policy statement is published here (see story page 7).

The Council agreed to retain Clark/Azar to proceed with engineering design work on the Raymond Street Project and to continue to work with the Village Manager on the longer-term Brookville Road project. No decisions were made on the Georgia or Florida Street projects at the meeting.

Raymond Street currently has only a small section of storm drains, and the existing infrastructure is old, undersized, and in poor condition. Numerous homeowners on Raymond Street experience excess standing water after major storms. The project under consideration is designed to alleviate water issues in the street as well as flooding, which is a particular issue for some properties on the south side of Raymond Street. The project would involve installing new stormwater infrastructure along most of Raymond Street between Connecticut Avenue and Georgia Street, including replacing the current, inadequate drainage system. "Stub-outs" would be placed where needed in the storm drain to give homeowners the option to tie in a private drainage system right of way or tie in later if they felt differently in the future. The project would also include a small easement on Georgia Street (to remediate the problems that cannot be tied into the Raymond Street line).

While the County standard for the width of storm drains is 15 inches, the Council agreed that it would be better, given the increasing rain events we have experienced in the last years, that we take a more progressive approach and build for the future, on the advice of Mr. Azar, upping the width of the drain to 18 inches which will not significantly increase costs. The estimated price tag for the work on Raymond Street is between \$575,000 and \$650,000. Estimated construction time is about four weeks.

The next step with the Raymond Street project is to have a survey done to determine the depth and location in detail of all the water, sewer and gas lines on Raymond to determine the optimal path of the new storm drains. Once the survey is complete, the goal is to meet with every affected homeowner to discuss their individual properties and how and if they might tie into the storm drains. There is already an inlet on the north side of Raymond between Florida and Georgia Streets. If there are other areas where water is an issue on the north side, it's possible that other inlets might be added to tie into the storm drain across the street. Much will depend on the survey to determine the need and feasibility of any additional inlets on the north side of the street.

Once the survey is complete, the civil engineers would then be able to discuss the possible location of smaller drainage pipes which could be run from backyards (at the homeowners' expense) to the pipe along Raymond Street where they could tie into the

LIGHTING PROJECT MOVING FORWARD

We are about to give Pepco the specs for two new demonstration lights that we want to install in Section 3, one on the block of Delaware Street between Spring and Shepherd and the other at the intersection of Georgia and Shepherd Streets. These energy-efficient LED lights will allow us to see the quality of light and make certain we like the installation before we order new lights for the whole community.

The Village Manager is working with our lighting designer and vendors to complete a photometric analysis and identify a manufacturer who offers the style, quality, and intensity of the lighting we believe we want. Once that process is complete, specifications will be submitted to Pepco for the necessary approvals. Once Pepco signs off, it will take up to 12 weeks after the order is placed for the installations to occur.

FREE SENIORS CALL CHECK PROGRAM

Interested seniors can sign up for the free Maryland Senior Call Check Program which will contact you once a day at a designated time slot to make certain you are okay. If after three tries, you don't respond, they will contact someone you designate as your alternate who can go to your home and check on you in person.

How does the program work? You can get the forms online and the service is free. It's not the "I've fallen and I can't get up" kind of alert which many local hospitals offer for a fee which alerts emergency services right away if you don't respond but it does check in on you once every day. You will need to name alternates so that if you don't answer, someone you name will reach out to check on you. You can select what time you'd like to be called every day and you can use your land line or your cellphone. If you are on the phone when they call, the program will call you back. They make three tries to reach you before they reach out to your alternate contact. If you are away or sick, you can put a temporary hold on calls by reaching out to their 800 number and you can dis-enroll from the program at any time.

If you are interested, for more information about the program, just google "Maryland Senior Call Check Program"

COMMISSION ON REDISTRICTING MEETS SEPTEMBER 2

The eighth meeting of the Commission on Redistricting will take place via Zoom on Thursday, Sep. 2 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and will be livestreamed on the Montgomery County Council's Facebook page.

The Commission on Redistricting was established after the confirmation of 11 appointed members by the Council on Jan. 26. In the 2020 general election, the Montgomery County Charter was amended by the voters to require the County to be divided into seven Council districts to elect seven district and four at-large members of the Council. The Charter required that the Council appoint a Commission on Redistricting composed of 11 registered voters who reside in the County.

The eighth meeting of the Commission on Redistricting will include the Commissioner's report on outreach meeting attendance and a discussion of upcoming meetings on the subject. The meeting will end with a discussion on the development of maps for the Commission's consideration, as well as a tentative schedule for both the report and the final map's completion, which are both due to the Council no later than November. 15.

The members of the Commission on Redistricting are: Imad Aldean Ahmad, Laura Ard, Mariana Cordier, Keshia Desir, Arthur Edmunds, Valerie Ervin, Bruce Goldensohn, Jason Makstein, Nilmini Rubin, Samuel Statland, and David Stein.

Residents can view the meeting on the Council's Facebook page (@MontgomeryCountyMdCouncil).

SECTION 3'S NEW DIRECTORY ABOUT TO GO TO PRESS

HAVE YOU YANKED OUT YOUR LAND LINE OR DON'T USE IT ANYMORE?
GOTTEN A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS?
CHECK THE CURRENT DIRECTORY (WITH THE DOORS ON THE FRONT) AND MAKE CERTAIN ALL THE INFO IS CORRECT. IF IT ISN'T, NOTIFY THE VILLAGE
MANAGER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

September 2021 Page 5

Council actions, continued from page 4

storm drain, alleviating stormwater runoff problems for those yards. We already have such a tie-in on Delaware Street between Raymond and Spring Streets where the system has worked well for years and removed the serious icing problems in the street that we had endured for years on that block. We are awaiting county approval for a similar tie-in from a home on Fulton Street to the storm drain near the Gazebo Park.

Civil engineers will calculate not only the route of the line and its depth, but essential computations regarding water flow, etc. to be presented to the County for approval using standards that they require. The entire Raymond St. project requires County approval as we expect the County to maintain the storm drains going forward. Once all the stakeholders have been consulted and the County has approved the plans, then we can move to construction. Thanks to our recent charter amendment, we can get bids from one or more firms whose pricing is already determined by competitive bids at the County and state level. If all goes well, we could conceivably begin construction as early as next Spring.

Portions of Brookville Road experience standing water, particularly at the intersection with Bradley Lane, after even typical storms, much less intense rain events. This has been a problem for many years. The proposed storm drain would run from just south of Bradley Lane, perhaps up to Quincy Street and tie into the State Highway Administration storm drain at Shepherd Street. There would also be a smaller line on Bradley Lane in that first block near Brookville Road that would capture some of the water that we refer to as "Lake Bradley" every time it rains. At the moment, some of that excess water which floods the intersection with increasing regularity flows down Brookville Road to Raymond Street and ends up in our storm drain at Georgia and Raymond Streets. Other water on the very flat portion of Bradley Lane west of Georgia Street is directed by a small swale in the asphalt to run water down Georgia Street at Bradley to the same inlet at Georgia and Raymond Streets.

VARIANCE REQUEST

The **Allans** of 6815 Delaware Street are requesting a variance to construct a patio of approximately 250 sf which will extend a maximum of 14' into the 30' front yard setback on Spring Street and 4.3' into the 10' side setback.

This would be a large project, and one that is significantly more complex because Brookville Road is a state highway, and any work requires time-consuming coordination with the State Highway Administration. In addition, we are conferring with both the Village of Martin's Additions and Chevy Chase Village in the hope that they will join us in a cost-sharing partnership with the State Highway Administration. Each of their Councils has to discuss the project. The problem at the intersection of Bradley and Brookville Road has plagued all three jurisdictions for decades.

A conceptual map and some water flow computations have recently been presented to State Highway. After their hydraulics engineers review the initial plans, we will have a meeting with them, our neighbors, and our civil engineer to determine next steps. Azar has estimated that the total price tag for this effort is approximately \$865,000. Much work will have to be done before we can proceed beyond the current conceptual stage, including determining if cost sharing can be worked out.

The Georgia Street project under consideration would address long-time water problems on the portion of Georgia Street between Shephard and Raymond, a particularly low spot within Section 3 that receives runoff from a large area. The project under discussion involves four individual drainage pipes to be installed on private property that would tie in with the existing storm drain on Georgia Street, as well as installing a small amount of additional pipe under the street. They would bring water from backyards out to the storm drain in the street and reduce the flooding emanating from multiple properties draining into the four locations. The price tag for that project is estimated to be about \$230,000. The total project would take 4 to 6 weeks, although work at each one of the locations would only take a week to 10 days. The same survey exercise, meeting with stakeholders and approval by the County would be required.

The Florida Street project is the most modest and would also address runoff from numerous properties to a low-lying area. If adopted, the project would involve creating a catchment structure to get water from back yards on Taylor St. to the area between the property at 7105 Delaware Street and 7106 Florida Street and funnel it down to the inlet at the end Florida Street. That project would take about 10 days and cost about \$80,000. No County permit would be needed for this project.

The Council made no decisions yet regarding the Georgia Street and Florida Street proposals, and both will be subject to future discussion. Each of the projects presents a unique set of challenges and a unique set of solutions as we are retrofitting infrastructure where virtually none exists.

COUNCIL ADOPTS STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES POLICY

On Monday, August 23, the Council met to discuss a draft policy that would guide this Council and future Councils in making decisions regarding stormwater management. The document was modified; this is the revised policy the Council agreed to at the meeting.

Background. Section 3 experiences stormwater management challenges at multiple locations throughout the Village, including on public and private property. While not all properties are equally affected, it is in the public interest to increase stormwater mitigation and management efforts within Section 3 as feasible.

Homeowners are typically in the best position to manage stormwater on their property, and for preventing excess water shedding to sidewalks, roads, and neighboring properties.

The Village recognizes, however, that stormwater runoff cannot always be contained even with the reasonable efforts of homeowners. We also recognize that topography and natural water flow may result in a large area of multiple properties draining to a single area and creating water problems for the downhill homeowner(s).

Priorities. For purposes of future stormwater management projects, Section 3 will prioritize the mitigation of persistent stormwater problems that:

- adversely affect public safety, public property, or multiple private properties;
 - cannot be resolved by a single homeowner; and
- are the result of water shedding from public property (including roadways) or multiple properties.

Examples of adverse effects that properly may be addressed by the Village include, but are not limited to,

- excess water or icing on sidewalks, roadways, or other public property;
- standing or slow-moving water that fosters mosquito breeding; and excessive flooding in private yards.

For purposes of the Village's analysis, the following definitions are understood to apply:

"Excessive flooding" means standing water for more than 24 hours documented multiple times per year over a prolonged period; "Persistent stormwater problem" means a stormwater problem that continues to exist or endure over a prolonged period.

In addition, the Village Code defines "adversely affect" as "to have a deleterious effect on property that unreasonably interferes with the use or enjoyment of property." See Section 3 Code § 6-101(c).

Additional factors. Any stormwater management work by Section 3 will be undertaken at the sole discretion of the Village based on multiple factors including, in addition to the above,

- (1) budget and cost considerations;
- (2) anticipated benefits to the community, including whether the solution will ameliorate a particularly serious condition, benefit multiple properties, or benefit the community as a whole;
- (3) future project considerations;
- (4) engineering evaluations and recommendations;
- (5) the availability of cost-sharing with other government agencies;
- (6) the agreement, where appropriate, of affected homeowners to undertake additional private stormwater management efforts.

Section 3's storm drain system is maintained by Montgomery County. Therefore, any Village mitigation efforts that include construction of additional storm drains or tie-ins to existing storm drains are subject to County approval and, ideally, cost sharing. Similarly, Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road are Maryland State Highways and any Village mitigation efforts will be coordinated with the State Highway Administration and, where feasible, should include cost sharing.

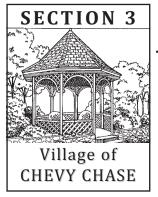
Residents with any questions regarding this policy should feel free to contact any member of the Council. See Council Actions for more information on decisions taken at the meeting.

Septmber 2021 Page 7



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815





SCHOOL HAS STARTED!!! PLEASE CHECK YOUR BUSHES NEAR THE SIDEWALK AND TRIM THEM BACK TO ALLOW CHILDREN AND DOG WALKERS FREE PASSAGE! DRIVE CAREFULLY—MANY CHILDREN ON THE STREETS.

