

SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE

NEWS & VIEWS

JUNE 2007

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Bulk household trash
Curbside pickup

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Council Meeting
CCUMC Room 10, 7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Wine Tasting
7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Bulk Trash pickup-curbside (check)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Council Meeting
CCUMC Room 109
7:45 p.m.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.COM

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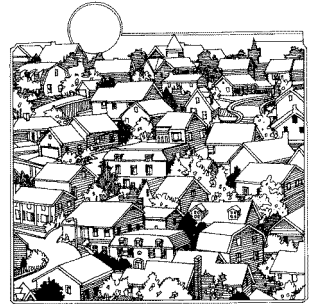
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ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

This year's annual meeting was happily non-controversial, with all members of the Council being re-elected. The votes were as follows, **William H. Brownlee, 29, Carolyn Greis, 30 and Natasha Saifee, 29.** **Rusty Flint** served as volunteer vote counter.



Council Chairman **Mike Shannon** began the meeting by summarizing the many activities that have taken place this year in the Village: In terms of charitable activities, Section 3 was as usual, extremely generous. We celebrated the 8th annual Warm Clothing and Blanket drive in memory of former resident Bill Prigg and collected two carloads of clothing for the homeless served by Martha's Table, we collected eyeglasses for the Lions' Club. The Section donated funds to the Chevy Chase Historical Society to fund a DVD film which was broadcast on WETA and featured Section 3 Vice Chairman Natasha Saifee, former Councilmember and longtime resident **Don Robertson** and Section 3 resident and architectural historian **Judy Robinson**.

Mike noted that in the past we have donated towels and soaps to the homeless based on collections taken during the winter and last spring at the annual house tour. He noted that this year, a number of residents felt they weren't ready to show off their homes or gardens so we will probably not have a House Tour this year, but that next year's tour will doubtless be fabulous!

Last summer Section 3 made generous donations to A Wider Circle, providing three truckloads full of household goods for homeless families starting again.

Socially, the town was active with a June wine tasting, a new neighbor's barbeque, the Section 3 K run, the Party in the Park, the Holiday Sing and Cookie decorating event and most recently, the Easter Egg Hunt and family luncheon.

In terms of improvements, Section 3 put in sod in the park and recently re-seeded it as it gets so much use. A speed bump was added to Shepherd Street and we altered our ordinances to clarify that decks too require permits in Section 3.

Finally, we've begun an interesting process to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the most significant re-subdivision of Section 3 in 1907, when most of our lots were given the dimensions they now have. The Chevy Chase Historical Society celebrated that event at the end of April at their Annual Gala event at the home of **Ambassador and Mrs. Peter Terpeluk** of Bradley Lane. Section 3 residents are busy working on their House Stories to pull together a comprehensive

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**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.*

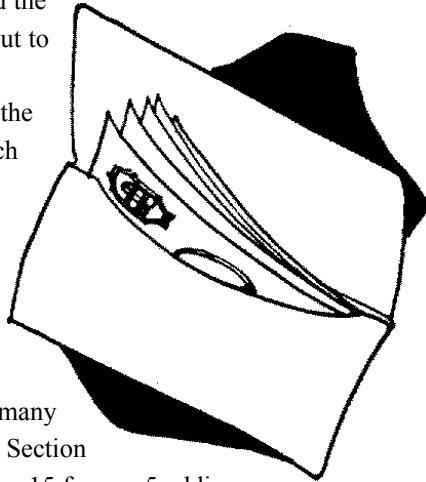
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sive series of stories for each home in Section 3.

Vice Chair Natasha Saifee made a point to thank many of the volunteers who have been so active this year. She thanked **Michelle Ballarini** who single-handedly welcomes every new resident to Section 3 with fresh flowers, a smile and lots of good and interesting information. She thanked **Pat and Arantza Murphy** who each year make the Section 3K run a huge success and a lot of fun and thanked **Evelyn Gerson, Kelly Virbickas** and Carolyn Greis who helped with the Halloween Party and the Easter Egg Hunt and Luncheon. And finally she thanked **Jen Roberti** for her efforts to put together to Red Cross class to train people in CPR for infants and toddlers (see story this issue).

Carolyn Greis took a moment to welcome our many new neighbors since last year—and the new babies just arrived or about to arrive.

Paul Kiernan reviewed the balance sheet and budget which was approved for next year. The tax rate was maintained at \$.02 per \$100 assessed valuation for real property and \$.05 per \$100 assessed valuation for personal property.



Bill Brownlee listed the many additions and fences put up in Section 3 in the course of the last year—15 fences, 5 additions, 4 patios, 2 sheds, 1 garage and 1 demolition permit. The Council voted to grant the **Lanter/Brindley** family of Connecticut Avenue a variance to place their new evergreen trees 1' inside the fence line of their property with the proviso that the trees would have to be kept trimmed to the fence line so as not to become a visual impediment as they grow.

The Council and the attending residents then discussed speed cameras (see story this issue), mansionization (see story this issue). The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

At the conclusion of the Annual Meeting, all the New Council members took their oath of office and then the new Council voted in new officers they are: **Bill Brownlee, Chairman; Natasha Saifee, Vice Chair; Paul Kiernan, Treasurer; Carolyn Greis, Buildings and Roads; and Mike Shannon, Secretary.**



FIRE HYDRANT CHECKS

In light of the recent failure of two fire hydrants in Georgetown during the library fire, a resident inquired as to the last time Section 3 hydrants were checked. We asked WSSC to check all 37 hydrants and they now have completed the work. All have been flushed and are in working order.

We ask that you keep down any weeds growing around any hydrant so that, if necessary, fire fighters can get to the hydrant easily. We also ask that you do NOT PARK in front of any hydrants and that you report any leaks to WSSC at (301) 206-4002. Finally, please DO NOT put yard waste or household bulk trash leaning against any hydrant.

SOD THE GREENWAYS

In the next few weeks, our landscape contractor, Level Green Landscaping, will be filling in ruts in the greenway and putting in sod. Sod is a very expensive and thirsty creature. If you are the recipient of some of this outdoor living carpet—PLEASE water it every day until it is firmly established. If you are going out of town, please ask a neighbor to water it for you. It's essential that the roots get lots of water, otherwise the sod will turn yellow and be worthless to everyone.



We ask our cooperation in this endeavor and thank you in advance!



A belated welcome to one of Section 3's newest neighbors, **Lindsay Grace Derrick**, born March 26.

Congrats to **Tim and Catherine Levy** and sister **Sarah** on the birth of **Alison Julia**, born on May 20th weighing in at 5 lbs, 12 oz and already 19 1/4 inches tall! Wait until Alison meets all the new neighbors about to arrive this summer—lots of new play-mates soon to come.! Welcome to Section 3 Alison!

Just in—another baby has born the following day. **Annika and Steve Lanter** had a healthy baby boy at 6:13 pm on Monday, May 21st. **Ever and Bowie** welcome their baby brother **Emmett Jude**.

NEIGHBORHOOD MUSICAL CHAIRS

Moves in the neighborhood: Section 3 is indeed a special place to live. **Mark and Maura Miller** and their boys **Logan and Liam** have moved—but not far. They purchased the Schirmeier's home at 6814 Delaware Street (the Schirmeier's have moved all the way to Martins' Additions, also so not far) and **Scott and Tanya Allan** have moved into their home. **Susan Toffler** and her boys **Simon and Alex Imbot** are moving to Georgia Street and have purchased **Sylvia Condon's** home and a family with an 18 month old have purchased her home. Best of luck to everyone!

RED CROSS CPR CLASS GREAT SUCCESS

Thanks to the organizing efforts of **Jen Roberti**, sixteen Section 3 residents and caregivers were trained in CPR for infants and toddlers. "I think everyone came away with a better understanding of how to handle emergencies with infants and toddlers and that was a great help," said Jen Roberti.

To maintain certification, a one hour refresher class will be scheduled a year from now for all those who wish to participate. In the meantime, kudos to all those who devoted two FULL (3 hours) Monday nights to the effort and to those who stayed home watching the kids while they took the class.

WINE TASTING SLATED FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 24

It's time for the Annual Wine Tasting Event in Section 3! Every year we pick wines for \$15 or under to taste, a red, a white, and this year, Sangria recipes top the third choice in wines. The idea is to try out wines you might like to purchase and serve at home and to guests. For \$15 per person, we provide the wines, you bring the glass! Hors d'oeuvres will be served at each location so that you're not only drinking but eating as well.

This year's hosts are:

White wine: **Ken and Andy Harney**

Red wine: **Pat and Arantza Murphy**

Sangria: **Rob and Mary Kate Cary**

Fill out the form below, get a local babysitter so you don't have to drive and send in your checks for \$15 a head to Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase no later than June 18 so that we can buy the appropriate amount of wine for each house...then come at 7:00 and walk with us!

REGISTRATION COUPON FOR WINE TASTING EVENT

Name(s)

Yes, sign me/us up for the June 24th wine tasting event. Enclosed is a check for \$15 per person to cover the cost of the wines.

Make checks payable to Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase and either mail or deliver them to 3801 Bradley Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, no later than June 18th.



TREES, VINES— TIME FOR A PRUNING BACK!

Next time you walk around your property, take a look by the sidewalk to see if you have vines or plant life creeping onto the sidewalk that might cause a tripping hazard for some of our more active Spring walkers. Take a pruning shear and cut them back please—and while you're at it, if you have a serviceberry tree in front of your home, please cut back the suckers that grow at the base of the tree!

Imagine now that you are 6' plus tall and take a look upwards—are there branches hanging down that might cause a problem for a tall neighbor walking a dog? Take a moment and cut them back please, out of consideration for others.

CONSTRUCTION AT BRADLEY AND CONNECTICUT

If you're wondering what's been going on at the intersection of Bradley Lane and Connecticut Avenue, the State Highway Department is putting in a new light (the pole will eventually be slightly north of the existing pole) and a new light control box to help adjust the lights and handle any necessary repairs. It's hope that after all the construction is complete that Section 3 can finally put their sign welcoming people to our neighborhood at this intersection while not-so-incidentally obscuring the ugly light control box.

ZONING LAW CHANGES?

At the Annual Meeting, several residents asked about the legislation enacted by the Maryland General Assembly last year that authorizes municipalities to adopt their own building restrictions. Specifically, the residents wanted to know whether Section 3 planned to exercise that authority.

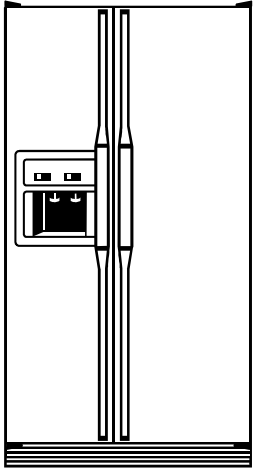
The new legislation can be found in Article 28, Section 8-115.1 of the Maryland Code. In summary, it allows a municipality to adopt "additional or stricter building requirements" than those set by the County, relating to setbacks, house dimensions (height, bulk, design) and lot coverage.

Before this law was adopted (and before the Town of Chevy Chase enacted a "moratorium" which the court later declared unlawful), Section 3 had already adopted revised setback rules to preserve appropriate spacing between homes. Section 3 could adopt new rules regarding height, bulk, or design, using the power it has recently been delegated. The current County maximum height is 2½ stories with a maximum lot coverage of 35%.

In the past, the Council has discussed whether to venture into the zoning area, with all that such a venture would require in terms of laws, expertise, and enforcement. To date, no Councilmember has proposed that the Section begin the process of reviewing possible legislative changes or enacting such changes. But in response to the questions raised at the Annual Meeting, Council Treasurer Paul Kiernan has agreed to coordinate resident input on the question of whether the Council should adopt restrictions which are more stringent than those imposed by the County. Please forward to him your comments, questions and reactions.

WANT TO GO GREEN? GREEN BUILDING FORUM JUNE 5

Interested in learning more about ways to go green? The Bethesda Regional Services Center is sponsoring a forum with Delegate Bill Bronrott, from District 16, Councilmember George Leventhal, Jason Holstine, owner of Amicus Green Building Center, David Pratt of US Green Building Council of Md. and Lise Van Susteren, an area resident who serves as a spokesperson for Al Gore's Climate Change Project. The meeting takes place at the Service Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, MD at 7:30 p.m. The center is a block from the Bethesda Metro Station across from the Safeway on Old Georgetown Road.

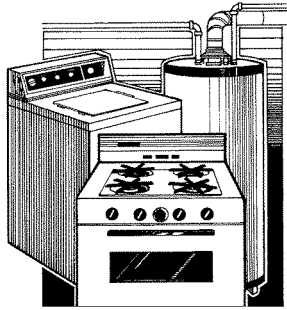


ENERGY STAR APPLIANCES— NO GIMMICK

Next time you have to replace a washer, a dryer, a refrigerator, a water heater... consider purchasing an Energy Star product. It's not just a gimmick, it is a program developed by the Federal government in 1992 that helps you understand the value of appliances with more efficient energy usage.

Originally, the program was established by the Environmental Protection Agency to foster the development of more energy efficient computers. Today the program encompasses more than 35 product categories for both residential and commercial uses. And involves both EPA and the Department of Energy.

In short, it's not just a gimmick, the Energy Star rating means something—it actually translates directly into savings to you. For example, an Energy Star-rated gas furnace can save you \$108 a year. A programmable thermostat on a home with a gas furnace and a central air conditioner can save you \$100 annually. There are savings listed for virtually every possible residential appliance. Only 40 percent of the American public currently recognizes the Energy Star label, the government wants to have at least 60 percent of all Americans recognize the importance of this designation. Why? Because it means less greenhouse gas emissions, and 17 percent of all such emissions come from CO2 from Residential Energy consumption.

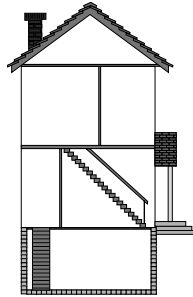
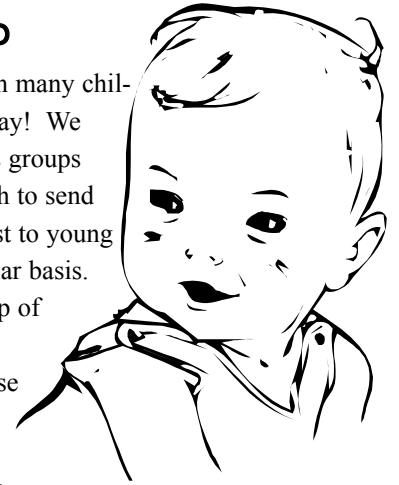


As you know, Section 3, thanks to the suggestion of our own **Charlotte Brewer**, gave a compact florescent light to every family. We continue to do so as part of our Welcome Neighbor packet of goodies and information. If you use an Energy Star product, like that light bulb in five of your most used fixtures, you would have an annual saving of \$60 a year.

In short, your selection of Energy Star products will help you do well and do good for the environment all at the same time!

NEW MOTHER'S GROUP ESTABLISHED

Section 3 is blessed with many children and even more on the way! We already have several mother's groups and Ev Gerson is kind enough to send out notices of items of interest to young families via e-mail on a regular basis. We have yet another new crop of moms that is forming, they include: **Kelly Derrick** (whose baby **Lindsay** was born in March, **Melissa Gilmore**, whose baby **Forest** was also born in March a day earlier than Lindsay), **Anu and Cormac Connor** are due to have their baby or may have already had her baby by now as is **Mona Malik and Mirza Baig**. **Ben and Alix Slade** are due early this summer. **Nikki Mueller and Brad Hartnett** of Brookville Road are expecting their second this summer and **Catherine and Tim Levy** just had their daughter. If we've missed you, make sure to contact organizer **Wendy Eaton**, a new mother the second time around, who is helping to organize the new group. We love new babies in Section 3! We expect to see them all at the New Neighbors' Barbeque this summer—even if they aren't ready for ribs yet!

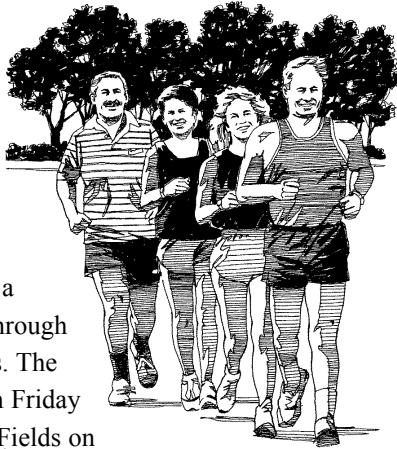


PUTTING ON AN ADDITION? DOING A DRIVEWAY, PUTTING IN A SUMP PUMP?

GET A PERMIT FROM SECTION 3

Water and where it goes continues to be a problem for many Section 3 residents. To help ameliorate this problem, the Council passed new rules last year requiring all residents to get a permit and submit a plan to define where the runoff from your improvement and/or sump pump will go. The Buildings and Roads Council person, Carolyn Greis, will review these plans and if necessary call in additional expertise before a permit will be granted. The purpose is simple—we all have to be good neighbors and we all live so close that your "improvement" could be someone else's wet basement—we'd like that not to be the case, so please, GET A PERMIT (available online at www.chevychase3.com click on permits).

**THE
BROOKVILLE
BRISK
WEEKDAY
WALKERS**



Join your neighbors for a brisk weekday fitness walk through the hills of Martins Additions. The group meets Monday through Friday at 9:30am in front of Amber Fields on Brookville Road. Strollers and/or dogs are welcome. Come every day or whatever works for your schedule. Contact **Kristen Dettleff** (kdettleff@excite.com) for more info.

**SPEED CAMERAS MAY BE
COMING YOUR WAY SOON!**

As you may have already read in *News & Views* and in other local publications, the State Legislature passed a law allowing counties and individual municipalities to install speed cameras on certain streets within their communities. Rockville, which lead the charge for these devices, was the first municipality to install the speed cameras. Very shortly, Chevy Chase Village will follow suit and the County is working on a number of fixed and mobile locations as well.

Section 3 is also considering speed cameras on both Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road. There are a number of legal hurdles which must be overcome as we do not have our own police force and every ticket must be evaluated by a police officer before it can be issued. Chevy Chase Village Police could serve this function for us but we have to be certain that the County is willing to cooperate in such a venture. At the same time, we have to do tests on both streets to be certain that it's economically viable to place speed cameras on both roads and get a sense of the income that would be derived from such a venture. It seems clear from earlier tests done for Chevy Chase Village that there is sufficient speeding on Connecticut Avenue that any costs incurred in hiring the service which tracks speeders would be more than paid for by the portion of each ticket that would be remitted back to Section 3.

One of the firms that will potentially bid on the contract is Optotraffic. They have met with the Council and agreed to do three-day tests runs on both Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road.

Stay tuned and we'll provide you with more information as it becomes available.

STORMY SEASON UPON US

Well, the experts have spoken, the National Weather Service says that we could have 13 to 17 hurricanes this season...so batten down the hatches. Think ahead. Probably the single most difficult problem facing all of us in Section 3 is storm water management. We would ask you to begin by assessing your vulnerability now, while the tree man and the sump pump installer aren't backed up with people waiting weeks for their services.

Look at all the large trees on your property—do any of them look diseased? Do any of them look like they could use a trimming or some deep fertilizer? Section 3 and the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church recently had to take down three large Norway maples that were dangerously diseased on the inside—one whipping 40 mph wind storm might have taken any one of them down on a house or on the road. Happily, they are no longer a threat. As much as we all love our tree canopy, it's time to take a cold hard look at what you have and take steps to avoid damage later.

What about water? Make sure your downspouts are clear, that any grading by the side of your home properly allows the water to run away from not into your house. And finally, if you are putting in a sump pump, please remember that before you have it installed, you need to get a Section 3 permit and show us where that water will go and how it will NOT adversely affect your neighbors...

BROOKSIDE NATURE CAMP

July, 10- 13, Tues - Fri 1:30 - 4 pm For Ages 10-14, Explore the many gifts nature has to offer through activities and crafts such as weaving and basketry, leaf printing, pottery, and soapmaking. Cost: \$100

HIGH ADVENTURE CAMP

June 18 - 21 (Monday - Thursday), 9 am - 5 pm This camp for teenagers features four days of outdoor adventures including rock climbing, caving, mountain biking, and white-water tubing. The fee includes all the equipment, transportation, professional instruction and guides for each day. Ages 14 - 17, Fee: \$300

To register, go to www.parkpass.org Want more information? Call Tina at 301-946-9071

BATTLE OF THE BEES



It was high drama on the "no outlet" segment of Georgia Street for about a week. Why? Honey bees decided to relocate at **Cormac and Anu Connor's** home at the end of the street.

They decided initially to hunt for new digs right on their front porch, leaving the family to sneak out the back door of the house with their little girl **Jaya** every morning to avoid the swarming bees. But alas, no home was found. And so began the saga of the Bees of Georgia Street.

Apparently, when a hive gets too large, some of the bees break off, with a queen and seek new lodgings. As they house hunt—looking for a hollow somewhere that is safe from predators and other disturbances, they swarm. And so they did—first at the Connor's front door, then in front of the home for sale opposite the Connors—just in time for a parade of realtors looking to bring in possible buyers. They then took up residence in a tree right on the Connor's property and later, after a rain (when every expert said they would flee), in a puddle of bees on the sidewalk, making access to the front of the house very difficult. The drama went on for days, with everyone learning all sorts of new things about honey bees and their plight, but the Connors being no closer to being able to park in front of their home or walk up to their own front door!

Calls to bee keepers and a firm called "Bee be Gone" soon taught us all that honey bees are endangered and probably not dangerous if left undisturbed. Nationwide, many bees have left their hives mysteriously never to return and in other parts of the country, it's a real crisis. National Public Radio has had two different programs explaining the problem for those of us

out of touch with the bee community's plight.

For example, many farmers "rent" bees to pollinate their crops at the precise moment they need pollination and there aren't enough bees to do the job.

California's entire almond crop is at risk because of the shortage of bees to pollinate their crop and they produce 90 percent of the world's almonds!

So hitting these little fellows with a can of RAID was out of the question. Ultimately, Anu and Cormac found a beekeeper who makes house calls and, without even so much as protective clothing, whisked them up and brought them home to a nice new hive...all's well that ends well.



SUMMER CRIME ALERT

This is a season when itinerant workers often knock on doors looking for work "repairing" your driveway. Often these individuals are not licensed or even skilled in such work. Before hiring any contractor, make sure that they are licensed by Montgomery County (MHIC) and check references carefully. Similarly, when the inevitable magazine subscription salespeople come to your door, please remember that they must have individual vendor's licenses issued by Montgomery County with their picture on it (Not "my boss has the license"...) and that probably you could get a better deal on a magazine than the one offered by a door-to-door salesperson. While some of these individuals are given permits from Montgomery County, there is no criminal background check done on them and in the past, some have been known to have a background in burglary, petty theft, etc., so since we have no way of knowing, it's probably best not to let unknown individuals into your home.

Finally, every year at this time we hear of bicycle thefts from open garages or bikes left on the lawn that mysteriously disappear. Please be proactive and remind children that the bike might just sprout wings and fly if they don't take care to secure it.

This is a time when there are many workers in our community—landscape contractors, tree people, painters, contractors, delivery men. Pay attention to what you see and report any

suspicious activity to the police by dialing 911. All you have to say is that you wish to report a sus-

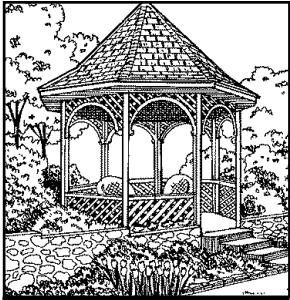
picious person. Finally, be a good neighbor, if your neighbor is away and forgot to ask you to take in the papers, do it anyway so that it doesn't advertise their absence to less than savory individuals.



BETTER SAFE...



**SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**
P.O. Box 15070
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



**SECTION THREE
VILLAGE OF
CHEVY CHASE**

NEWS & VIEWS

JUNE 2007

HURRICANE/WEST NILE SEASON COMING SOON!



Take a moment to look around your house for two sets of potential hazards—**Standing water**—a great breeding ground for West Nile virus and **trees in need of some attention**—something to take care of BEFORE the hurricane strikes! If you have limbs too close to the house, consider "elevating" them—having a tree service clip off the offending limbs. If you have a diseased tree, don't wait, get it taken care of now, for after a bad storm, you could be in a long line for a good tree person!