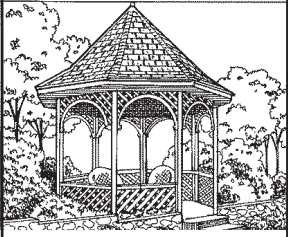


**SECTION 3**

Village of  
CHEVY CHASE

# News & Views

DECEMBER 2020

## CALENDAR

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

Recycling and Bulk Trash Curbside  
LAST BULK TRASH UNTIL MARCH 2021

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.  
Meeting ID and password will be sent via e-mail

### DECEMBER 18-20

Holiday Cookie Competition  
(see story page 5)

### DECEMBER 22

Trash Collection TIP DAY

### DECEMBER 23

Recycling Collection TIP DAY

### FRIDAYS, DECEMBER 25 AND JANUARY 1

NO Household Trash Pick-up

### SATURDAYS, DECEMBER 26 AND JANUARY 2

Household Trash Pickup

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

[WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG](http://WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG)

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## NOVEMBER MEETING ON PROPOSED ORDINANCES BRINGS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council Chair Susan Manning opened the November meeting by thanking those people who had taken time to read the draft ordinances and the summary posted on our website prior to the meeting. She announced that there would not be a vote at the November meeting to allow for a fuller discussion of the ordinance changes. The meeting proceeded to touch on areas of concern to residents specifically: the proposed percentage of vegetation required in front yards; questions about permeable surfaces, ADU registrations and tree ordinances; and definitions of specific terms like patios and front-loaded garages. There was a lengthy discussion regarding front porches and how best to control stormwater runoff. There was a discussion regarding front porches and how best to control stormwater runoff. The Council is busy compiling the comments received from the community, reviewing the draft ordinances and anticipates addressing many of the issues raised in proposed revisions. November 25 was the end of the comment period to get written or verbal input on the ordinances as published on the website. As soon as that revised draft is ready, it will be announced and posted on the website along with a summary of those changes subsequent to the meeting.

At the October meeting, residents expressed a desire to do something to make certain new build sites were not stripped of trees. A short time was spent to briefly discuss some ideas to put in place which would require developers and contractors to preserve mature shade trees not in the building envelope at the time of demolition and a requirement of tree planting after a new home had been constructed. The goal was to address the problem of tear-downs where lots were cleared without any requirements of tree preservation or tree planting. Proposed wording will be included in the revised version of the ordinances.

Manning said she was pleased at the engagement by residents because we want this to be a set of ordinances that clarifies the rules and works to build a better more understandable set of ordinances that preserves the character of our community.

## TIP DAY

Our trash contractors Nelson Galvez and Moises Sarabia work hard all year long for us picking up household waste on Tuesdays and Fridays. If you wish to tip them, we have designated December 22 as their TIP DAY. Carlos Fuentes and Francisco Perez pick up our recycling on Wednesdays. Their TIP DAY will be December 23. We will provide instructions via email as to where to place your tip envelopes.



## COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Zoom on Wednesday, November 11. All four Councilmembers were present.

The Council approved the minutes as they appeared in the November News & Views.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

The Village Manager reported that our patrols continue to work scattered hours in the midnight to 6:00 a.m. window and during the day.

### BUILDINGS & ROADS

In keeping with tradition, those residents in attendance to present to the council were heard first, and so their variance applications were addressed before other agenda items.

The **Sternberg-Sherwins** of 3618 Spring Street were granted a variance to build a two-story addition in the rear yard which will intrude a maximum of 10' into the 20' rear setback. They were denied a variance to construct a front porch which would extend 5' into the 30' front yard setback across the front facade their house (28' in length).

The **Leggetts** of 3719 Bradley Lane were granted a variance for a second curb cut on Bradley Lane for a semi-circular driveway.

The **Richards** of 6822 Delaware Street were granted a variance to build a 220 square foot permeable patio with a permeable walkway connecting it to the existing driveway, to be located entirely within the 30' setback in the front yard on Shepherd Street.

Carolyn Greis, head of Buildings and Roads subsequently reported that the **Bensons** at 6811 Connecticut Avenue received a permit to install a wheelchair lift. The **Catany-Baldinis** at 3808 Raymond Street received a permit to construct a shed in their rear yard. And three permits were issued to build fences: one to the **Whatley-Browns** at 3619 Spring Street to construct one in their east side yard; another to the **Borgschultes** at 3612 Taylor Street to construct one in their front yards (on both Taylor and Fulton Streets) and in their east side yard; and another to the **Buchanans** at 3803 Bradley Lane to construct one in their front, west side and rear yards (adjacent to their western property line).

It was also noted that progress has been made in the construction at 3602 Taylor Street, and it is anticipated that the temporary plywood sidewalk will soon be replaced by a safer concrete

sidewalk.

The Council discussed the proposed ordinance changes with the community (see story page 1).

### FINANCIAL REPORT

The Village Manager reported that the audit has been completed and submitted as is legally required. This is the third year using this auditing firm and the second year of less than satisfactory service. The audit report is available to any Village Resident who chooses to request it.

### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The response to the Halloween block parties was excellent. Special thanks to all the residents who created "no contact" stations for treats at the foot of their driveways or front walks. Section 3 children and their parents paraded and had an "almost normal" Halloween while being mindful of COVID-19 restrictions. Children participating in socially distant block parties all received some sort of toy from Section 3 in their goodie bags along with treats contributed by their parents. A special thanks to all the block party captains who made Halloween happen for our little ones.

S'mores parties. On Saturday, November 7, amidst responses to the election results, many families gathered around portable "fire pits" for s'mores on their blocks. It was a chance to wave at neighbors, warm themselves around a fire and for children and adults to have a little old-fashioned fun food. We hope to do more s'mores parties this winter on driveways and front walks.

The Village Manager once again solicited suggestions for more COVID compliant ideas for Section 3 to do this winter.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. with thanks from Chair Susan Manning to all those who took the time to review the proposed ordinances and give the Council feedback.

### VARIANCE REQUEST

The **Sternberg-Sherwin** family of 3618 Spring Street is requesting a variance to construct a front porch which will extend 5' into the 30' front yard setback across the front facade of their house.



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A welcome to **Chris Renninger and Helen Conaghan Renninger** and new baby **Jack** who was born within days of his parents moving into 3608 Raymond Street on October 12! Great timing guys...new house, new baby and who could possibly be tired after all that? We're delighted to welcome the family to the neighborhood and hope that by next Spring he can meet other little people who have come to Section 3 in the middle of the pandemic!

Welcome to **Howard and Katherine Petty** and their kids. The Pettys have been slowly moving into 7105 Connecticut Avenue with their three children, **Thomas**, age 14, **Cosby** age 10 and **Austin** who is in college.

Imagine moving from Texas to Chevy Chase with two children and a dog and being told the day before your move-in date that the truck, which was supposed to arrive on October 28 was still in Texas! Undaunted, **Janette O'Neill Gonzalez** and her husband **Javier Liceaga** decided to move in anyway with blow up mattresses and some loaned tables and chairs. With their children **Amanda Liceaga**, 19, a sophomore at Purdue University, and **Javier Liceaga**, 17, a junior at BCC, they camped out at 3703 Bradley Lane until their furniture arrived a week later! Neighbors were notified and helped out with gifts of dinners and food and loans of furniture. We welcome them to the community and hope that is the only hiccup in their transition to their new home.

Congrats to **Clare Wolfowitz** of Shepherd Street on the publication of her short novel, *Bali Ok: A Parable for a Changing Climate*. The book, published under her pen name Carli Spero, is available in paperback and Kindle editions on Amazon. It's an engaging love story woven around the theme of climate change taking place in the year 2037. It gives an anthropologist's view of the age-old culture of Bali, enlivened by some of the heroine's pen-and-ink sketches (also by Wolfowitz). The book sells for \$20 in paperback. All the proceeds of the sale will go to support the work of Health in Harmony, an organization that works closely with indigenous communities to empower them to conserve, and restore their forests in Borneo, Madagascar and now in the Amazon.

It is with great sadness that we share the news that longtime Raymond Street resident **Jestyn Portugill** passed away on Sunday, November 22 after a long illness. He was 85. He was a native New Yorker, loved baseball and wrote poetry in his spare time. He worked for many years with USAID and was stationed

abroad in Egypt and Bangladesh working on healthcare issues. He leaves his wife **Bets**, and daughters **Sybil** and **Dilys** and two grandsons. The family is going to have a memorial service at a later date and asks that you make a contribution to your favorite charity in his name if you so choose.

Cynthia Fern, a long-time resident of Raymond Street, then Tucson, Arizona, and most recently a resident of Baltimore County, passed away peacefully on November 25. She was 86 years old. She leaves her daughter Natalie and two granddaughters and two grandsons Her son Chris predeceased her. As she was a life-long horse lover and supporter, contributions in her name might be made to Equine Voices Rescue & Sanctuary, [www.equinevoices.org](http://www.equinevoices.org).

## BILL PRIGG MEMORIAL WARM BLANKET AND CLOTHING DRIVE

Every year around Thanksgiving, Section 3 residents count



their blessings and share their good fortune with others by donating gently used warm clothing and blankets for our annual pre-Christmas drive. The donations traditionally are brought to the front porch of the **Dorsey/Williams**

home because that is where the Prigg family lived for many years and neighbors would drop off blankets in a far more informal way for Bill to bring down to the homeless sleeping on grates in the District. Later, Bill volunteered at Martha's Table and brought those donations to them to serve the homeless.

The Dorsey/Williams family and all of Section 3 have continued this tradition as a way of marking the holidays by sharing with others. Each year their porch is piled high with coats, hats, gloves, scarves, blankets and other warm clothing for children through adults. It is a small way, like our contributions to the Capital Area Food Bank, that we can make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate.

Special thanks to **Betty and Katie Dorsey** and **Audrey Ohrenstein** who sorted through all the bags to put like-kind items together and to **Kirsten Williams** who brought two full carloads to the Anacostia headquarters for Martha's Table. In addition to two loaded-to-the gills carloads, special "job interview" clothing was selected to go to A Wider Circle.

Thanks to everyone who donated items, it means more this year than ever before because there are so many more needy folks.

## THRIVE 2050 PLANNING BOARD DRAFT HEARING

The Montgomery County Planning board has been working on a sweeping set of proposals that would guide all future plans for County development. The plan will have impact on all residents, business owners and employees, regional commuters and visitors for decades to come. It espouses equity, affordability, attainability, inclusiveness, social connections, environmental sustainability, green spaces, parks and walkable communities, so there is much to be commended in this proposed plan.

There are a number of areas however, where communities like Section 3 would potentially see a disparate impact in terms of population density as well as areas where the plan needs additional fleshing out with metrics, maps and practical budgetary considerations. Twenty-six municipalities, including Section 3, signed onto a detailed letter outlining specific areas needing more comprehensive attention. The two most dramatic proposals in the plan are the potential abolition of single family housing in neighborhoods near employment centers and transit to create greater densities in the County and to "stop planning for cars" with a positive emphasis on transit, walking and biking but uncertain treatment of transportation in situations where those alternates are not viable.

If you go to [Montgomeryplanning.org](http://Montgomeryplanning.org) you can see the full text of Thrive 2050. If you are interested, the Village Manager can send you both copies of the document sent to the Board by Section 3 and neighboring communities and the Village Manager's testimony before the Board at their November 19 hearing.

## HELP A SENIOR

This year has been particularly challenging for us all but for many seniors, isolated from family and friends, it's been really difficult. This winter, if you can assist a senior in shoveling a front walk, taking a trip to the store or just making a phone call to say hi, it would be a good deed.

Section 3 has a list of seniors whose public sidewalks will be shoveled if there is two inches or more of snow, but that doesn't include their front walk to the house or their driveways. If you have a child who would like to earn extra cash shoveling snow for one of our seniors, let us know. If you are a senior in search of someone to shovel front walks and driveways, let us know too and we'll try and pair you up.



## BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR— WEAR A MASK, KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, WASH YOUR HANDS!

**COVID-19 INFECTION RATES ARE GOING UP NATIONALLY AND IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY. WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER. WE ALL NEED TO CONTINUE TO BE VIGILANT.**

**PLEASE WEAR A MASK IN PUBLIC, BE SURE TO MAINTAIN AT LEAST SIX FEET BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN AND ANYONE WHO IS NOT A MEMBER OF YOUR HOUSE—**

**HOLD OR "POD," AND WASH YOUR HANDS REGULARLY. IF YOU HAVE SOMEONE WATCHING YOUR CHILDREN OR HELPING YOU AROUND YOUR HOUSE, PLEASE BE CERTAIN THEY TOO WEAR A MASK AT ALL TIMES.**



## HOLIDAY COOKIE COMPETITION

Every year at the Party-in-the-Park we have a sort of unspoken “cake boss” competition where donors of cakes go all out to create the most creative, fun cakes for someone else in the neighborhood to take home. Sadly, COVID made that famous cake walk impossible.

But here we are at the holidays, where families traditionally bake cookies. So why not set aside a date when everyone bakes and then send in photos of your creations which we will share with the rest of the community “virtually” of course—you and your family get to eat them all!

So mark the weekend of December 18-20 to bake up a storm! Take photos and email them to the Village Manager and we’ll put out an email with photos (vertical please) of all the cookies you’ve made so we can share your ideas and creativity with others. What a fun way for our kids to enjoy a holiday tradition.

## COMPOST CREW AND YOU

Earlier this year the Council agreed to pay the monthly charges for any resident who wanted to compost some of their household waste. The response has been excellent. However, we have discovered that composting isn't for everyone. A number of residents who have signed up for the service have not availed themselves of it and week by week, in the darkness of morning hours, crews stop at their house only to find that once again no compost has been set out for collection. We will be in touch with those folks individually, but it's a waste of money to pay for the service if circumstances are such that you can't use it. There's no

shame in saying "this just isn't for me" and you can always change your mind. We will be happy to sign you up again at another time. We ask that those folks who haven't found it as easy to make the switch to composting cancel their subscriptions to compost crew.

## CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK

Section 3 residents have been remarkably generous in their donations to the Capital Area Food Bank. We began collecting money and checks in August. Our Farmers subsequently decided to collect for the same charity at their Sheridan School location. Their contributions are included with ours as we serve as the “bankers” for these two sets of donations and we deposit the cash and write a check and send along any donation checks in the collection box as well.

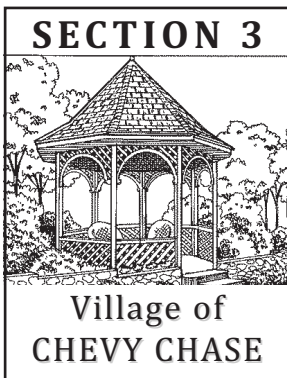
Capital Area Food Bank buys wholesale, so that our donations go as far as possible towards helping with area-wide food insecurity. The Food Bank says that a \$1 contribution pays for 2.5 meals. As of the week before Thanksgiving we have donated a total of \$5,004.75 which translates into 12,512 meals for hungry fellow Washington area residents. We hope that this generosity will continue when the Farmers Market continues their winter markets on December 5.

In addition to cash, Section 3 has a staunch, hardworking volunteer who helps with the nitty gritty of making up boxes for the Food Bank. Our own **Jan Augustine** is a regular and if you'd like to see what she does, go to <https://www.capitalareafoodbank.org/blog/> to view a great report on one of our own. Note that volunteers are always needed as the Food Bank packs emergency boxes seven days a week.





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



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# News & Views

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DECEMBER 2020

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**SNOW IN THE FORECAST? PLEASE CONSIDER PULLING YOUR CAR INTO THE DRIVEWAY...THAT WAY WE CAN PROPERLY CLEAR THE STREETS SO YOU CAN TRAVEL SAFELY IN YOUR CAR SOONER.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SHOVEL YOUR FRONT WALKWAYS OR CLEAR THEM OF ICE SO YOUR NEIGHBORS DON'T SLIP AND FALL.**

**SENIORS, LET US KNOW IF YOU NEED AREA TEENS TO HELP WITH SHOVELING FRONT WALKS AND DRIVEWAYS. TEENS, LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO EARN EXTRA MONEY DOING IT.**

