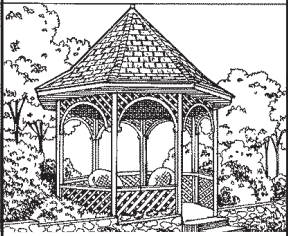


SECTION 3



Village of
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JANUARY 2024

CALENDAR

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Recycling, curbside

Bulk Trash resumes in March 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

Farmers Market Resumes

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

Council Meeting, in-person/Zoom hybrid

CCUMC Library, 7:45 pm

Agenda, Meeting ID and password will be sent via email to residents. Interested members of the public can contact the Village Manager to obtain ID and passcode. At the conclusion of the regular meeting, the Council will enter executive session to review the Village Manager's performance and compensation.

MONDAY, JANUARY 15

Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday

Yard waste will be picked up on Tuesday, January 16

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

Deadline for SNAP gap donations: 5:00 p.m.

3619 Shepherd Street

(see story this issue)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Council Meeting, in-person/Zoom hybrid

CCUMC library, 7:45 p.m.

See above for Zoom information

** 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.*



SANTA AND HIS HELPER TOUR THE SECTION

Santa Claus (aka **Matt Nader**) and his helper (**John Stephens**) spread joy on Sunday, December 17 as they toured the

neighborhood in John's vintage (1991) BMW red sleigh, handing out holiday cookies to over 100 good little boys and girls. They tiptoed through the rain-drops towards the end of an overcast day but managed to bring such excitement and happiness to many children. Any leftover cookies were donated to the Bethesda Cares luncheon program for the homeless.

Thanks to Matt, John, and others who helped bring the spirit of the holiday season to Section 3 children.



VILLAGE COUNCIL & STAFF

WWW.CHEVYCHASESECTION3.ORG

SUSAN MANNING

Chair

(202) 716-6264

susan.manning@chevychasesection3.org

LARRY LANPHER

Vice Chair

(240) 355-9011

larry.lanpher@chevychasesection3.org

ELLIE NADER

Secretary

(202) 538-0810

ellie.nader@chevychasesection3.org

KATEY VALE

Buildings & Roads

(202) 365-0858

katey.vale@chevychasesection3.org

TOM CARROLL

Treasurer

(202) 641-3819

tom.carroll@chevychasesection3.org

ANDY LEON HARNEY

Village Manager

(301) 656-9117

villagemanager@chevychasesection3.org



COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met in person at CCUMC library and virtually on Wednesday, December 13. The meeting began at 7:49 p.m. All Council members were present.

The Council approved the minutes of the November meeting as published in the December newsletter under Council Actions.

BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Village Manager reported issuing a permit for a deck for the **Messan** family of 6809 Connecticut Avenue.

Buildings & Roads Councilmember **Katey Vale** discussed the County's virtual hearing which she and Vice Chair **Larry Lanpher** attended regarding a citizens association petition to close traffic during morning rush hour at Leland Street. and Brookville Road . The County Department of Transportation presented a study which narrowly focused on that intersection without considering either the downstream effects of such a closure on Section 5, Section 3 and Martins Additions or the root cause of the cut-through traffic—a poorly designed intersection at East-West Highway and Connecticut Avenue. The County DOT supported the morning rush hour petition, which was strongly opposed by residents of Section 5, including its Council Chair and Vice-Chair. The Section Council agreed that Ms. Vale would draft a letter expressing concern that the larger impact and causes of the back-ups and potential side effects of Leland Street rush hour restrictions had not been sufficiently analyzed, asking, among other things, the County to confer with the State Highway Administration (SHA) which controls the intersection at East-West Highway and Connecticut Avenue.

The Council also discussed an issue first raised by the Town of Chevy Chase regarding the need for a technical amendment to Maryland law regarding the ability of municipalities without planning and zoning authority (like Section 3, the Town of Chevy Chase, Chevy Chase Village, Martins Additions, Section 5, and many more) to regulate certain aspects of building within their jurisdictions. Maryland law currently allows such municipalities to regulate the setback, massing, and height of "single family residential housing." The proposed technical amendment would clarify that municipalities have the authority to regulate all types of residential housing (not just single-family residential) within their corporate boundaries and thus allow jurisdictions such as the Town and Section 3 to apply their ordinances to all structures in their communities. Zoning would still be governed at the County level, but local jurisdictions would have the ability to maintain consistent standards for multifamily and single-family housing. The Council

agreed to draft a letter to our state representatives.

The Council also discussed the draft ordinance regarding gas-powered leaf blowers (see story this issue, page 5) and asked that residents share their views on the draft introduced by Council Vice Chair Larry Lanpher with members of the Council and/or the Village Manager.

The Village Manager reported that WSSC has turned down Section 3's request for variances from certain WSSC clearance rules for the Raymond Street storm drain project. This WSSC action is a significant and concerning issue, as WSSC has located the water mains under the street in a way that makes it impossible to install a storm drain in the narrow roadbed and comply with WSSC's clearance requirements. Section 3 will continue to pursue this issue. In January, the Village Manager and Section 3's consulting engineer will meet with WSSC to further address the objections and hope to have positive news to report.

The Village Manager announced that 16 street trees would be planted by the end of December and corrected the number subsequently to 21 trees.

The Council discussed the status of the ongoing construction work at 6803 Georgia Street and the problems several neighbors have had to deal with due to the change in contractors. The Village Manager promised to follow up. *{Note: the permit expiring is the County permit, not a Section 3 permit and the contractor has notified the owners of their need to comply. The Section 3 permit (assuming there is a County permit in place) expires May 28}.*

Chairperson Manning noted that a Section 3 resident had written to the Council asking that the Council reconsider its position on Corso traffic as described in the December newsletter. The Council unanimously declined to reconsider its position.

FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

The Council had previously been provided with the financial statements for review and had no follow-up questions. The treasurer approved a roll-over of the Capital Bank CD at the highest possible rate when it matures December 17.

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

The Village Manager mentioned that Silver & Sons BBQ would be next to Gazebo Park on December 14 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The Village Manager reminded everyone of Santa's tour through the community on December 17. Families have been individually notified of the 12 stops and timing so no one is missed.

In January, Section 3 will launch a drive for laundry detergents, diapers, bar soap and feminine hygiene supplies to be distributed through A Wider Circle (see story this issue).

The Village Manager thanked **Sarah Stephens** and crew for the Gazebo Park decorations (see story this issue).

The meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Congrats to Florida Street neighbors **Chase and Lauren Ferrell** on the birth of their new baby boy, **Declan James Ferrell** who made a surprise appearance on November 22, 2023, weighing 7 pounds 14 oz. and 20 inches long!

Congrats to Taylor Street neighbors **Andrew and Emily Borgshulte** on the birth of their baby **Theodore Turner Borgshulte** who arrived a little earlier than planned on November 3. Theodore came home from the hospital on November 26, much to the delight of his parents and his grandparents, Delaware Street neighbors **Charlie and Vicki Hutson**.

Juliette Nadelman will join her sister **Ella** at Tulane University next fall. The girls will share a year together at the New Orleans institution. Congrats to Juliette who will graduate from St. Andrews this spring.

Cassidy Carroll will attend Claremont McKenna College; **Katie Dorsey** is heading to Santa Clara University; **John Slidell** will head north to **Boston College**, while his sister **Hallie Slidell** goes south to **Davidson College**; and **Beatrice Winkler** will attend Colorado College.

College Acceptance News? Let us know and share your joy.

SPECIAL THANKS FOR 2023 WORK ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY

We want to thank some of the many people who contributed to making Section 3 a great place to live whose work may not be apparent. They include:

Susan Hamburger collects donations for the Capital Area Food Bank each week.

Jan Augustine proofs this newsletter, posts it on the Section 3 website, as well as maintaining the entire website.

Before joining the Village Council last May, **Katey Vale** welcomed each new neighbor to the community, taking up the mantle from long-time welcome person, **Ellen McKenney**. Katey continues this important function in addition to her duties with Buildings & Roads.

Tom Wilson keeps an eye on the Gazebo Park and is an invaluable resource when a dog is lost and happily found.

DRIVE TO SUPPLY WHAT FOOD STAMPS DOESN'T

The Federally funded Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as Food Stamps, provides funding for low-income families to purchase food and other household necessities, but has several costly gaps in that coverage. Section 3 has a long relationship with A Wider Circle, a local nonprofit that works to fight poverty and help people live safe, stable, and comfortable lives, including by providing essential support to furnish a home, career support and neighborhood partnerships. A Wider Circle, a local nonprofit with whom Section has had a long relationship, has a pantry at their Ward 8 Hub in DC, allowing neighbors to pick up much needed supplies. Any donations will be delivered to the Ward 8 Hub.

Last year, Section 3 collected these at the same time as warm clothing. This year, because the need is so great, we have two individual efforts. Please consider **donating diapers (any size, opened packs okay); feminine hygiene supplies; laundry detergent; and bar soap** and delivering them to the porch of the ever-generous Dorsey/Williams family at 3619 Shepherd Street no later than **Sunday, January 28** at 5:00 p.m.:

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Nourishing Bethesda provides food to about 300 families or about 1,000 people every Thursday and Friday at the Bethesda Chevy Chase Rescue Squad. While food is the focus of their distribution efforts, they also make children's books available.



With many families having just experienced a host of new toys and gifts over the holidays, perhaps you and your children could review their libraries to select books they may have outgrown but would give another child joy. To donate children's books, please contact Langdon Healy of Section 5 (3714 Williams Lane) at langdon.healy@gmail.com to let him know you have books to donate.

GAZEBO PARK SPIFFED UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Team Stephens went into high gear at the beginning of December layering lights and boughs and bows to give Gazebo Park a special look for the holidays. Special thanks to team leader Sarah Stephens and her husband John, along with **Jim and Naomi Kettler, Lisa Jaycox, Mary Jo Slidell, Tom Haller, Liz Howard, Kirsten Williams, Suzy Richards**, and Catherine Hackett, who regularly visit from outside Section 3 with her lab puppy.

NEW “DON’T BLOCK THE BOX” STRIPING

Section 3 and Town of Chevy Chase residents often find it difficult to get out of their respective communities at Raymond/Rosemary Street because northbound and southbound travelers on Connecticut Avenue often block the intersection.

After two years of steady lobbying, with support from the Town of Chevy Chase, the State Highway Administration painted the intersection in a cross hatch pattern to discourage motorists from blocking the box. It is not a perfect solution, but since the State of Maryland has no legislation prohibiting blocking the box, it can be difficult to encourage eager drivers to be considerate of others attempting to turn onto or cross Connecticut Avenue. We are grateful to SHA for their help in beginning to address this issue.

THINKING ABOUT MAKING SOME IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR HOME THIS SPRING?

Before you get too far along in planning, feel free to consult with the Village Manager about what you need a permit to do, if your plans would require a variance and any other restrictions. The website includes all our regulations (most in Chapter 6 of the Code of Ordinances) and necessary forms.

The Village Manager and our webmaster are working hard making many of Section 3 forms on our website fillable from our new neighbor forms to building permits.

Other innovations will be reported as we work to make it easier for our residents.

CHEVY CHASE AT HOME SPONSORS WALTER REICH TALK ON RESURGENCE OF ANTISEMITISM

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, January 30 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. for this interesting talk on antisemitism. After the Holocaust, in which six million Jews were systematically murdered by Nazi Germany and its collaborators, antisemitism went on a kind of vacation; antisemitic sentiments, if felt, went largely unexpressed. But in recent years it has been on the rise once again. And, in the immediate wake of the brutal attack by Hamas against Israel on October 7, it exploded around the world. This happened even before Israel responded to the Hamas attacks.

On January 30, Walter Reich, former director of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, will put current events in the context of history, from the beginnings of antisemitism over two thousand years ago to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948 and through the numerous wars an effort at international accords between Israelis and Palestinians.

Walter Reich is Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Professor of International Affairs, Ethics and Human Behavior, and Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, at George Washington University. He is a co-chair of the Committee of Concerned Scientists, an independent international organization devoted to the protection and advancement of human rights and scientific freedom of scientists and scholars, as well as numerous other human rights committees.

To encourage open discussion, this Zoom event will not be recorded. This special program is reserved for CC@H Members and volunteers until January 10, when any remaining spots will be opened to the community. Please be sure to register before January 10 to ensure participation in this program, as only 80 spots remain. Please register by email: info@chevyCHASEathome.org, phone (301) 657-3115, or by logging into member account.

**PLEASE PICK UP AFTER
YOUR DOGS... THERE ARE
BAG DISPENSERS
THROUGHOUT THE COMMU-
NITY, PLEASE USE THEM!**



GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWER PROPOSED LEGISLATION

The subject of banning gas powered leaf blowers has come up at several Council meetings, but the Council has not to date taken action to regulate them. Montgomery County recently adopted a law that will prohibit the sale of gas-powered leaf blowers within the county as of July 2024, and will ban their use as of July 2025. At the October Council meeting, the Council asked the Village Manager to research the regulations adopted by our neighboring jurisdictions, and the November newsletter summarized her findings regarding regulations in Washington, DC (gas-powered leaf blowers banned as of January 1, 2022), the Town of Chevy Chase (banned except for October 15 to December 31), Section 5 (no ban), Martin's Additions (no ban), and Somerset (banned as of September 1, 2022). After some discussion, the consensus was that we would investigate the possibility of creating a ban like that adopted by the Town of Chevy Chase in which they were banned except for the period from October 15 to December 31 and have the legislation sunset when the County's ban goes into effect in July 2025.

Draft Section 3 legislation like that of the Town was introduced at the December meeting. In summary, it would ban the use of gas blowers the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within Section 3 except for the leaf-clean up season from October 15 through December 31, 2024. Even during that time, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers would be banned before 9:00 a.m. and after 6:00 p.m. every day of the week. The ordinance includes fines for lack of compliance, and would be sunset on July 1, 2025, the day the County's ban goes into effect.

Here is the language of the proposed amendment to the Section 3 Code:

SECTION 3-303. GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS

(a) It shall be unlawful to operate a gasoline-powered blower at any time on any day from the 1st day of January through the 14th day of October. From the 15th day of October through the 31st day of December, it shall be unlawful to operate a gasoline-powered blower before 9:00 a.m. on all days and after 6:00 p.m. on all days.

(b) As used herein, "gasoline-powered blower" means hand-held, backpack, walk-behind, or similar equipment used to perform landscaping including, but not limited to, the blowing, vacuuming, or moving of grass, leaves, or other debris. "Gasoline-powered blower" does not include a snow blower or blower used to spray herbicide, pesticide, or fertilizer.

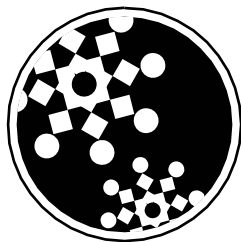
(c) An authorized enforcement officer may issue a municipal infraction citation for any violation of this section 3-303 if: a. witnesses the violation(s); or b. receives written complaints from at least two (2) witnesses, who are not residents at the same address. Complaints by two (2) witnesses are not required to prove that a person violated this section 3-303. The complainants must be willing to testify in court, if required.

(d) A violation of this section 3-303 shall be punishable by a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200) for a first offense; four hundred dollars (\$400) for a second offense; and one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for a third or subsequent offense.

The Council is eager to hear from residents regarding their reaction to this proposal. The last time this subject came up (in April and November 2021), the Council agreed to urge contractors and residents to voluntarily limit use of gas blowers to once in the spring and once in the fall instead of every week. At the time, a number of residents and Councilmembers expressed concern that small contractors could ill afford short life battery powered equipment and that contracts for the year had already been executed. Our own Section 3 landscape contractor voiced the opinion that the battery powered machines were not powerful enough to blow heavy leaf cover and had a very short life, requiring multiple batteries to be charged to complete a full day's work.

The Council recognizes that Section 3 residents have varying views on whether a leaf blower ordinance makes sense at this time, given the County legislation that will go into effect in July 2025. Does it make sense for the Council to act during this period prior to July 2025 or should we continue to rely on voluntary cut-backs on gas leaf blower use during this period? Prior to voting on this legislation, we'd like to hear from you, with residents' views hopefully helping the Council to decide whether a restriction lasting until July 2025 is warranted. Please contact Councilmembers or the Village Manager who will share your thoughts with the full Council.

HAVE A TEEN WHO IS INTERESTED IN SHOVELING SNOW FOR MONEY? ARE YOU A SENIOR WHO MIGHT LIKE TO HIRE SOMEONE TO SHOVEL YOUR PRIVATE WALK? CONTACT THE VILLAGE MANAGER WHO WILL PAIR YOU UP!



SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

FIRST-CLASS

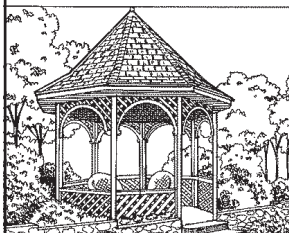
US POSTAGE

PAID

CAPITOL HEIGHTS, MD

PERMIT #1926

SECTION 3



Village of
CHEVY CHASE

News & Views

JANUARY 2024



GOING AWAY?

Put your cars in your driveway in case it snows and we need to clear the streets.

STAYING HOME?

Please remember to shovel your front walkways or clear them of ice so your neighbors don't slip and fall.