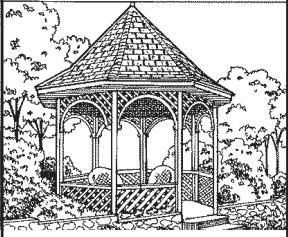


**SECTION 3**

Village of  
CHEVY CHASE

# News & Views

FEBRUARY 2022

## CALENDAR



**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 14, 21, 28**

Yard waste, Recycling curbside

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.

Agenda, Meeting ID, and password will be sent via email to residents. Interested members of the public can contact the Village Manager to obtain the ID and passcode.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 16, 23**

Recycling, Compost curbside

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2**

Recycling, Compost

1st Bulk Trash Pickup of 2022

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9**

Council meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.

See February meeting above for details

## VILLAGE COUNCIL

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

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## GAZEBO PARK DOG VISITING HOURS SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Over the last year, the Council has had many discussions regarding dog visiting hours for the Gazebo Park. At the January meeting, the Council heard comments from the community, and unanimously decided to adopt seasonally adjusted dog visiting hours that the Council hopes will serve as a good, long-term compromise for competing uses of our park.

Gazebo Park has been the setting for two weddings of Section 3 residents, several musical events, the annual Party-in-the-Park, soccer matches, and birthday parties for young and old, as well as everyday play and socializing. We hope to hold an overnight “camp-out” for families in the spring. The park can be reserved by Section 3 residents for private events. We hope that everyone will continue to enjoy this precious resource—open space in the heart of our community.

Wonderful friendships have been made among the dog owners and we want to maintain that special aspect of dog visiting hours. We also want to ensure that children have an opportunity to play in the park after school, and that everyone in the community will take advantage of this tiny jewel at all hours during the day. And, of course, we want to take into account the shorter daylight hours in the wintertime.

With those many different uses in mind, the Council voted for the following allocation of dog visiting hours:

### Mornings (year-round)

- 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. weekdays, 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. weekends
- Tiny dogs only: Thursdays 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

### Afternoons (seasonally adjusted)

- 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. November 1 to February 28
- Tiny dogs only: Tuesdays 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. March 1 to October 31
- Tiny dogs only: Tuesdays 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.

New temporary signage is up, the website has the correct listing, and a permanent sign will soon be mounted at each entry.

Our full rules for dogs using our park are on our website at [www.chevy-chasesection3.org/info-new-neighbors/pages/parks](http://www.chevy-chasesection3.org/info-new-neighbors/pages/parks). Here are the basics:

- Always clean up after your dog.
- There is a limit of two dogs per adult allowed in the park.
- Owners are legally and financially responsible for any damage or injury inflicted by their dogs
- Don't allow your dog to bark a lot, particularly in the early morning
- Treat the park as if it were your own back yard, with care and consideration. If it has rained, for example, please walk your dog elsewhere to avoid tearing up the sod.
- Section 3 reserves the right to ask owners with dogs who bite or fight too much with other dogs to remove their dogs from the park permanently.



## COUNCIL ACTIONS

The Council met on Wednesday, January 11 via Zoom. The meeting began at 7:50 p.m. All Council members were present.

The minutes of the December meeting as published in the January newsletter were approved.

Council Chair Susan Manning introduced the Elections Plan (see page 5 story on the proposed plan).

### BUILDINGS & ROADS

The Council spent a good deal of time discussing a proposed seasonally adjusted schedule for dog visiting hours in the Gazebo Park (see story page 1).

The Village Manager reported that the County Council under new Council President Gabe Alborno is listening to County residents regarding Thrive 2050. There are two big assessments which have to be done before the Council can take a full vote. They await the February 11 issue of the analysis on racial equity and then in mid-March they would be reviewing the Capital Budget. The Village Manager urged people to take a moment to send letters regarding Thrive 2050 as the Section Council 3 has done and as some individual residents have done as well.

The Village Manager also reported that the Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative is proceeding, but without passing Thrive 2050, many of the zoning changes in this initiative cannot be activated.

The Village Manager reported that the Raymond Street drainage project should not be a conflict with the WSSC waterline replacement project (see stories this issue). She reported that Martins Additions has hired our civil engineering firm to complete the data the State Highway department deemed necessary to assess the impact of a storm drain on Brookville Road.

Carolyn Greis, the Buildings and Roads Representative, reported that four permits were issued since the last Council meeting in December. The **McKinnons** of 7108 Brookville Road received a permit for the use of a storage container; the **Howard** family of 3707 Taylor Street received a permit for the construction of a new walkway in their front yard; and the **Dobbins** family of 3702 Raymond Street received two permits. The first of the Dobbins' permits is for the construction of an addition to their house in the rear yard with a covered porch and a patio, the installation of a sump pump, and the use of a dumpster. The second of the Dobbins' permits is to renovate the existing, non-conforming garage in their rear yard (converting it to conditioned living space) with a

change to the roofline but no change to the footprint, for which a variance was previously granted by the Council.

The Village Manager reported that 17 residents signed up for free trees which were to be planted on January 13 and 14. Next spring we will offer Nellie Stevens Hollies and several varieties of Crape Myrtle.

In the spring, Pepco will be coming through to trim trees that threaten power lines. As soon as Pepco has determined which trees it wants to trim, they agreed to go over the list carefully with the Village Manager so we don't have any unpleasant surprises.

The Village Manager also reported on efforts to improve access to Connecticut Avenue southbound from Raymond Street (see story this issue).

### FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

The Council agreed unanimously to take \$250,000 from our M & T account and put it into a Treasury Bill with the same bank. Our accounts at this bank are all collateralized, and the T-bill is backed by the full faith of the U.S. government at a rate quoted of .85%, which is higher than many banks are now paying. Council Treasurer Tom Carroll agreed with a strategy of laddering T-bill investments to allow for possible rising interest rates.

The Council discussed two new part-time positions. A rough draft of the job description for the Permit Processing Coordinator has been prepared. It was agreed that the Village Manager and Carolyn Greis would work together to create a final draft by January 26. The Council plans to discuss the job description at the February meeting, make any necessary changes, and then start advertising for the position.

The Village Manager will work with the Council Chair to draft a job description for an assistant to the Village Manager, which will be disseminated to the rest of the Council when ready and discussed at a future Council meeting.

### COMMUNITY & SOCIAL

Santa's visit is now a regular tradition in Section 3. The Council decided that going forward Santa's visit to all the little girls and boys in his red sleigh should be done on a Sunday afternoon near the holiday rather than in the evening. Having the route published in advance helped. It was also decided to push the timing to 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. so that napping children could see Santa.

The Village Manager urged everyone to donate laundry detergent, feminine hygiene products, and diapers for the needy and leave them on the **Dorsey/Williams** porch at 3619 Shepherd Street. The deadline for donations is January 31.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. and the Council went into executive session to discuss the Village Manager's performance and salary.



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

**Sofia D'Ambrosio** of Fulton Street has received her Ph.D. in Environmental Science from Washington State University. A National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship recipient, Dr. D'Ambrosio grew up in Section 3, was on the CCRA swim team, went to B-CC High School, worked at Rock Creek Park Horse Center for many years, and got her B.S. from the University of Maryland. She now lives in Portland, Oregon.

A special welcome to Section 3's newest resident: **Maisy Borowik**, sister to **Grace** and daughter of **David Borowik and Anne McNamara**, was born at 4:16 a.m. on December 26. After her mom enjoyed a 70-degree Christmas afternoon outside filled with long walks and toddler hopscotch, Maisy decided she was definitely ready to make an appearance. Thankfully she held off for a couple more hours, preserving the Christmas holiday for her older sister Grace (3) and visiting family. Both Mom and baby are healthy and well, and all are enjoying walking the neighborhood and settling into their new home at 3616 Taylor Street.

It is with great sadness that we share the news of the passing of one of Section 3's longtime residents, **Mary Weadon** of Shepherd Street. Mary grew up in the house on the corner of Shepherd and Delaware Streets and raised her son Patrick there. Her sister Sheila lived down the street. She organized her first pre-school in the basement of that house and then went on to work as a nursery school teacher at several schools in the area. In recent years, she has been in ill health. Mary was 91.

## TWO ISSUES WHICH AFFECT RESIDENTS APPEAR TO BE ON HOLD

The question of the **possible opening or permanent closure of Beach Drive in Rock Creek Park** was to have been decided by the Park Service at the end of January. That decision has been delayed while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service does an environmental assessment.

State Highway has asked for more time to work with County officials on a solution to the problem of **existing Raymond Street onto Connecticut Avenue**.

## RECYCLING REMINDER

We have so many new residents that we are taking this opportunity to remind everyone and restate the rules for recycling. All recycling must be left curbside on the appropriate day.

### YARD WASTE — MONDAYS

In Section 3, yard waste recycling is on Mondays. Montgomery County will not accept yard waste in plastic bags as all the natural materials are ground into mulch. You can use paper leaf bags, you can put items in plastic trash cans (without plastic liners or bags) or bundle sticks no longer than four feet in length.

### PAPER RECYCLING — WEDNESDAYS

For all other recycling, please separate paper from bottles, cans and glassware. We do not single stream, and intermingling results in waste and defeats your efforts to recycle. Cardboard boxes should be flattened and stacked or wrapped in twine. Unwanted mail (we suggest you shred any credit card offers and any financial or personal information), shredded paper, milk/juice cartons, juice/drink boxes, frozen food boxes, clean, dry paper, magazines, catalogs, paper cereal or other food boxes that are clean and dry. (No pizza boxes please...they have food on them.)

### CO-MINGLED BOTTLES, CANS, ETC— WEDNESDAYS

Glass bottles and jars, remove lids from glass jars but put in the same bin. Plastic bottles, containers, lids, plant pots, clamshell containers, bakery trays and cake domes, cans, aluminum foil products, empty non-hazardous aerosol cans.

No plastic bags (those can be recycled at the supermarket). No Styrofoam or polystyrene (labeled #6).

### COMPOST—WEDNESDAYS (IF YOU ARE REGISTERED)

Section 3 pays an additional fee for composting services so please sign up for this service only if your family is committed to regular composting. A private service, Compost Crew collects from bins you purchase from them. If you are interested in signing up, contact the Village Manager for instructions.

The Town of Chevy Chase's Climate & Environment Committee is hosting a Zoom webinar on February 3 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. to provide Town residents and others with information about the Maryland Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act, a bill for the 2022 Maryland legislative session.

If you or someone you know is interested, please use this link to register: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_8rYrzt4AQ1yazeAOzVGptw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_8rYrzt4AQ1yazeAOzVGptw)

## SPRING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN SECTION 3

Planning for the Raymond Street drainage project is well underway. The initial plan was approved by the Council to move forward. We held a meeting with the County drainage personnel, who have to approve the plan, to get their initial input. A detailed survey of the infrastructure beneath the sidewalk curb and street has been done, and detailed drawings have been prepared. On January 18, Jason Azar of Clark/Azar Associates, our consulting engineer on the project, went over the plans with interested Raymond Street residents via Zoom. That meeting was followed by in-person meetings to discuss with residents who wanted to meet to see where their drainage could tie into the new drainage system.

Right now, Section 3 has a storm drain inlet at Delaware and Raymond Streets which carries water down Delaware Street to Spring Street and down Spring Street to Fulton Street and then on to Taylor Street where it heads towards the outfall in a tributary of Rock Creek Park. The only other storm drain on Raymond Street goes from 3618 to 3608 and ranges in size from 12" to 8" and back to 12" (the County minimum standard is 15"). The design for the system is a result of demands made by the County to create reservoir parallel drainage pipes under the sidewalk where appropriate to be maintained by Section 3. Those pipes will have "stub-outs" at the back of the sidewalk where needed so that individual residents can connect with these reservoir pipes. Any sludge or debris would then flow first into those reservoirs and at distinct points, the reservoirs or manifolds would dump into the real 15-18" concrete drainage pipe that the County will maintain.

Following discussions with homeowners, the drawings will be refined and submitted to the County for approval, assuming that the Section 3 Council makes a final decision to fund the project. That approval takes a minimum of 45 days. Once approved, some changes may have to be made, and once the County gives it a final stamp of approval, the drawings will go out for bid and we hope to start construction this Spring. It should take about eight weeks but we will probably give the contractor more time for weather and supply chain delays which are beginning to become an increasingly big problem in construction.

Anyone with any questions should feel free to contact the Village Manager.

## WSSC WATERLINE TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

WSSC is finally beginning their year-long ambitious waterline replacement project in Section 3 (see story and map in January 2022 *News & Views*). The program involves Sections 3 and 5 extensively, a bit in the Town of Chevy Chase, Martin's Additions, and the unincorporated part of Chevy Chase off Brookville Road.

The project will begin this spring, although the precise start date is not clear because WSSC has to approve all the materials to be used and, as is the case with all construction, supply chain issues are involved, and substitute materials may have to be vetted.

We now know that the work has been divided into four phases:

- I: Brookville Road from Cummings Lane to Woodbine Street; Georgia Street from Taylor Street to the end of the dead end.
- II: None in Section 3.
- III: Connecticut Avenue from Raymond Street to Shepherd Street; Shepherd Street from Connecticut Avenue to Brookville Road; Brookville Road from Cummings Lane to Turner Street; Taylor Street from Connecticut Avenue to Fulton Street; Delaware Street from Shepherd Street to the end of the dead end; Florida Street from Taylor Street to the end of the dead end.
- IV: Georgia Street from Bradley Street to Raymond Street.

We will be involved in the pre-construction meeting and will be giving affected homeowners plenty of notice so that they can make adjustments as to where they park cars, etc. It's not going to be easy, but we have waterlines that date back to the 1920s ... so it's time! They are not replacing any water lines from your home to the property line, only replacing WSSC maintained equipment.

## MARYLAND EXTENDS ITS TAX RETURN DEADLINE

Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot has extended the Maryland state tax filing deadline to Friday, July 15, 2022. This essentially waives penalties and interest on any outstanding liabilities from April 18 to July 15 due to the pandemic. However, the federal government still expects your return to be filed by April 18, 2022, unless you have filed for an extension.

## TAX CODE FOR SECTION 3

**WHEN YOU FILE TAXES, DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE THE CODE 1614 FOR SECTION 3! IF YOU USE A TAX PREPARER, REMIND THEM TO DO THE SAME.**



## ELECTION PROCEDURES

Section 3 Village Council members are traditionally elected through an in person vote held the day of the May annual meeting. Last year, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council implemented special drop-off voting procedures for our municipal election, and allowed voting over a two week period. The result was the best the best voter turnout Section 3 has ever had, with 228 voters taking part.

The Governor has once again declared a State of Emergency in light of the spike in COVID-19 cases due to the omicron variant. Because we cannot confidently predict the state of the pandemic by the time of our next municipal election in May, the Council has introduced an ordinance that will allow us to hold another “contactless” election. The Election Plan, which is identical to last year’s emergency plan, will be voted on at the March Council meeting. The Election Plan will be in effect only if the 2022 election is a contested one; in the event of an uncontested election and a continued state of emergency, the Council will appoint the unopposed candidates. Two Council seats (currently held by Ellie Nader and Tom Carroll) are up for election in May.

### 2022 ELECTION PLAN

At least 14 days prior to the election, to be held on May 10, 2022, the Village Manager will have ballots plus return envelopes delivered to the home address in Section 3 of each qualified voter in the precinct register provided by the Montgomery County Board of Elections, and to each non-U.S. citizen who has registered with the Village. Residents of Section 3 not currently on the precinct register but whose residence has been verified by the Village Manager will also be provided a ballot and return envelope.

Polling stations will not be used.

Voters can deliver completed ballots no earlier than 9:00 a.m. and no later than 6:00 p.m. from April 26 to May 10 to the drop box to be located at 3709 Shepherd Street. Ballot envelopes must be delivered by 6:00 p.m. on May 10 in order to be counted.

Ballot envelopes will contain an affidavit which must be signed requiring the voter to attest to their own eligibility.

### UNIVERSAL VOTING PROCEDURES

Ballots shall be returned in the Section 3-issued return envelope.

Voters shall write their full legal name and address on the Section 3-issued return envelope and sign the affidavit. Another envelope may be used to enclose the Section 3-issued return envelope, if the voter wishes, in order to hide the voter’s signature. Ballots enclosed in an incomplete, illegible, or unsigned return envelope will not be counted. Section 3 will not accept copies of ballots or ballot envelopes.

If a voter desires their ballot to be mailed to an address that is different from the address in the precinct register, the voter should inform the Village Manager of the address to which the ballot should be mailed. In order to allow for sufficient time for a ballot to be issued and voted, any such request shall be made no later than 5:00 p.m. on April 20.

### ELECTION REGISTRAR

Judge William Rowan has been appointed Election Registrar, and will count the ballots and report the outcome of the election at the Council meeting on Tuesday, May 10 at 7:45 p.m.

### OTHER SAFETY MEASURES

The Election Registrar and the Village Manager may implement such other measures as are consistent with the Emergency Plan and necessary to assure a safe election and protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

## COUNCIL TO VOTE ON FIX TO TYPO IN FEES SCHEDULE

Section 3 has for years charged \$100 for a permit to construct a structure of 144 square feet or less. In the massive review and re-casting of our ordinances in 2020, we inadvertently listed the fee as only \$50.

The agenda for the February Council meeting will include an amendment to correct Section 6-311 (“Fees for Building and Demolition Permits and Various Applications”) to read “An applicant shall pay to the Village the following fees upon submission of an application for a permit or variance: ... (h) Construction of a structure of 144 square feet or less (Section 6-301(a)(i) and Section 6-302(e)(i, ii, iii, v)) ~~\$50~~ \$100.”

## TWO NEW BILLS IN STATE LEGISLATURE TO DIRECTLY BENEFIT SECTION 3

Delegate Jared Solomon has introduced a bill that will make it possible for us to avoid advertising charter amendments for four weeks in a "local newspaper of general circulation" that is for sale. Instead, it would give us the option to mail the proposed change to all our residents via our newsletter or other mailing.

Delegate Al Carr is to introduce a bill that might make it easier to work with Pepco on our purchase of street lighting.

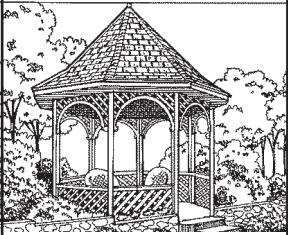


## SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

P.O. Box 15070

Chevy Chase, MD 20815

### SECTION 3



Village of  
CHEVY CHASE

# News & Views

FEBRUARY 2022



## **SNOW REMOVAL**

Many thanks to all the residents who were kind enough to move their cars more than once into driveways to keep our streets clear for the plows. We had great shoveling crews to help our seniors. In the recent storms, our roads were nicely passable because of your cooperation.

**If the forecast calls for snow, we ask all residents to put their cars in their driveways, off the street.**

**Last time it snowed, cars blocked several blocks from being plowed because the plow could not get into the street.**

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