**Calendar**

**Wednesday, December 1**  
LAST BULK TRASH PICK-UP until March 2022  
Recycling, Compost Crew: All curbside

**Monday, December 6**  
Fall Street Cleaning—No onstreet parking please.  
Deadline for signing up for a free tree (see story page 7)

**Wednesday, December 8**  
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 password.

**Sunday, December 19**  
Santa to travel to good little boys and girls with cookies! 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Route will be sent to parents of children 10 and under.

**Tuesday, December 21**  
Tip Day for our Trash Collection Workers  
Instructions for where to leave tips will be emailed

**Wednesday, December 22**  
Tip Day for our Recycling Workers  
Instructions for where to leave tips will be emailed

**Wednesday, January 12**  
Council Meeting via Zoom @ 7:45 p.m.  
See information above from December Meeting

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**Village Council**  
[www.chevychasesection3.org](http://www.chevychasesection3.org)

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**Warm Clothing Drive Breaks Records**

Section 3 residents again demonstrated their generosity in the quantity of donations of warm clothing and blankets to those less needy through Martha’s Table. The porch at the Dorsey/Williams home was overflowing with clothing. We are so thankful we can do this each year. It took three SUV loads to transport all the donations to the Southeast Washington offices of Martha’s Table and Martha’s Outfitters. This is the largest amount of warm clothing and blankets that we have ever collected. Our former resident, Bill Prigg, in whose memory this drive is held each year would be thrilled.

At the same time, the Capital Area Food Bank has greatly benefit from the generosity of customers at the weekly Farmers Market. Since August 2020 when we first began collecting “$5 for Food,” our residents (along with customers at the market’s Sheridan School location) have collected and donated $8,423.80. The box is there every week and the need, particularly with inflation hitting grocery bags, is greater than ever.

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**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 and she will pair you up!**
The Council met on Wednesday, November 10 via Zoom and in person at the CCUMC Wesley Room. The meeting began at around 7:55 p.m. due to some sound difficulties with Zoom. Council members Larry Lanpher, Ellie Nader, Tom Carroll, and Carolyn Gries were present, with Susan Manning joining the meeting at approximately 8:05 p.m.

The minutes of the October meeting as published in the November newsletter were approved.

Buildings & Roads

Council Representative for Buildings and Roads, Carolyn Greis, noted that four buildings permits were issued since the last Council meeting. The Wilson-Jose family of 3612 Raymond Street received a permit to build a fence in their front yard, and the Hyland family of 6806 Delaware Street received one to build a fence in their rear yard. The builder renovating the house at 6817 Delaware Street was issued a permit to construct a two-story addition with stairs to grade in the rear yard and an entry portico with steps to grade in the front yard, and also to use a dumpster on the site. The Friedland family of 6805 Florida Street was issued a permit to construct a new driveway with an apron and a curb cut.

Jason Azar of the engineering firm Clark | Azar discussed the status of the firm’s design work to help Section 3 improve stormwater management. Azar presented preliminary plans to construct storm drains on Raymond Street, a project preliminarily projected to cost $600-675K. The Council authorized Clark | Azar to proceed with preparing more detailed plans. Once the next stage of plans are completed, the Village Manager and Mr. Azar will reach out to affected property owners on Raymond Street to go over the proposed plans in a smaller Zoom meeting. Among other things, the purpose of meeting with Raymond Street property owners will be to explain how property owners can tie drainage systems into the upgraded Raymond Street storm drain.

The Council also discussed the status of the proposed storm drain on Brookville Road between Shepherd Street and Bradley Lane, including recent meetings with the State Highway Administration and the Village of Martin’s Additions (VMA). VMA has agreed to help fill out the data needed by State Highway by hiring Mr. Azar to do studies on the water flow from Taylor and Brookville down Taylor Street in their jurisdiction, and Section 3’s Council voted to agree to have Mr. Azar continue his data collection for the span of the storm drain between Shepherd and Taylor Streets and from within Section 3 down Taylor Street into the same area. The remaining piece of the puzzle will be to get Montgomery County to do studies for areas of outfall that lie not in Section 3 or VMA but in County property.

The Village Manager reported that we have ordered two demonstration LED street lights to be installed in Section 3, one on Delaware Street between Spring and Shepherd Streets and the other at the intersection of Shepherd and Georgia Streets. We anticipate delivery in approximately three months. In the meantime, we are getting bids for the installation of the lights.

The Village Manager announced that our landscape crew will be doing their one-time fall cleanup of our streets in early December, and she will notify residents of the exact date so that cars can be parked in driveways to assist in the process of cleaning up the streets.

A good deal of time was spent discussing the Thrive 2050 and Attainable Housing initiatives (see story this issue), with Chairwoman Manning presenting Powerpoint slides on the subject. It was agreed that the Village Manager would send out a letter to interested residents that they could adapt and send in their views to members of the County Council before a vote is taken.

Financial & Administration

The Council discussed creating two part-time positions to assist with the administration of Section 3 business. The current fiscal year budget includes funds for contracting with someone to handle building permits on a part-time basis, something all our neighboring jurisdictions already do. The permit assistant job description is being drafted and the Council anticipates advertising it soon. The Council also discussed the possibility of hiring a part-time employee or hourly contractor to assist the Village Manager with certain tasks. Several Council members expressed general support for this idea, and the Council agreed to explore this option further, including by sketching out a draft job description.

Following up on the recently completed audit, the Village...
Thanksgiving weekend took on a special meaning for two families who moved into Section 3 right after Thanksgiving. A special welcome to David Borowik and Anne McNamara and their three-year-old daughter Grace Porter Borowik. The family has moved into 3616 Taylor Street and will be expecting another new resident in late December or early January. Dave is a former hotel manager and is now a senior project manager with Capitol One. Anne is a federal prosecutor with the Department of Justice and in Miami had been involved with prosecuting major crimes. Anne is very familiar with the neighborhood because she grew up on Thornapple Street in Section 5.

Another family moving to the area is Abigail Barnes and Scott Kaczmarek, who moved into 3717 Bradley Lane with their son Silas Kaczmarek Barnes, born in March 2021. (Another COVID baby to add to our mix, yeah!) Scott is market operations manager with Robinhood Markets, a financial services firm. Abigail is no stranger to this area, having grown up in Silver Spring. She specializes in litigation at Covington & Burling, having transferred here from their San Francisco office.

Santa Coming to Section 3 with Cookies!

Santa has let us know that he’s going to pay a visit to all of Section 3’s good little boys and girls on December 19. Santa in his vintage red BMW sleigh with his helper driving will be taking a tour through the community from around 1:00 to 3 p.m. The route will be sent to parents of children along the way so they can guess when Santa will arrive.

Seniors and Snow

Every year Section 3 works to make it a little easier for our seniors to continue to live in our community by offering to do the heavy lifting on shoveling of the public sidewalk. For heavy snowfalls (2” and over), after the roads are cleared, we will have the sidewalks of those on the list shoveled. If you want your front walk or driveway shoveled, contact the Village Manager and she will suggest the names of teenagers who may want to earn some extra money shoveling for you. Parents of these teens should let the Village Manager know they have a “shovel-ready” teen. If there is ice or a light snow, residents are expected to take care of their own public walkway with salt or a light shovel. Neighbors often come to the rescue so if you are the neighbor of a senior, consider helping them out in a light snow. If you were on the list last year, you continue to be on the list. If you are new to the neighborhood, let the Village Manager know and she’ll add your name.

If you are going away for the holidays, please park your car(s) in the driveway and make arrangements in advance to have your public walkways shoveled.

We will send out emails but if you know in advance there is going to be a large storm, please get your car off the street. If you share a driveway, as many do, work it out with your neighbors and remember the more cars in the driveway, the less snow that has to be shoveled in that driveway!

Because our streets are so narrow, we can only use a pick-up truck with a plow to clear out streets. On some streets, conditions are so difficult that even one car parked on the street will block the plow from coming onto that block. So please make certain to park off street at the hint of a big storm. If you do not have enough driveway and you need some help finding a place to park a car, contact the Village Manager and she will help you find a spot.

Pepco, Power Outages & Text Messages

If a severe storm hits, Pepco monitors local weather reports regularly and follows the advice of local emergency management officials. They follow a strategic response plan to restore service to the greatest number of customers first and will work to restore your service as quickly and safely as possible.

Pepco customers are asked to immediately report a downed wire or service issue by calling (877) PEPCO-62 ((877) 737-2662), visiting pepco.com, or through the mobile app. Last year, Pepco also added a feature that now allows customers to report a live outage by texting “Out” to report an outage on their mobile device. Pepco customers can text “Out” to “48710”. Customers must first text “ADD OUTAGE” to “48710” to sign up for this service. Also, in the event Pepco needs to contact customers, customers will need to confirm that Pepco has their current phone number. They can visit the “My Alerts and Notifications” section of the website pepco.com/MyAccount.
Manager has been researching prior expenditures to develop a more accurate depreciation schedule going back to 2004 when it was made a legal requirement.

**Community Comments**

The Council had an extensive discussion regarding a resident’s suggestion that Section 3 move the Farmers’ Market to any of the Church parking lot, Gazebo Park, or Chevy Chase Elementary School. The resident expressed concern that the Farmers’ Market has hurt Brookville Market’s business and that Brookville Market customers were not able to find parking on Saturday mornings because Farmers Market customers were using spaces by the building. Several Council members and residents expressed support for Brookville Market, noting that it is a valued and long-time neighbor, and also that the Farmer’s Market has been very well received since September 2018 when it began operations in Section 3. The Council did not agree to move the Farmers’ Market, but instead decided to put up better signage and spread the word that Farmers’ Market patrons should park at La Ferme. It should be noted that prior to the meeting, the Council received seven letters objecting to the possibility of moving the Farmers’ Market close to the Church, and two letters in favor of moving it.

There was a discussion of the popularity of the new playground at CCUMC, including a resident’s concern regarding associated noise (which may have been exacerbated by the recent trimming of trees). The Village Manager has been in close touch with the preschool and new signage will be going up. We have also sent out community reminders that the park is closed after dusk, and that older children should be reminded to always be considerate guests of CCUMC. It also was noted that dogs are not permitted at the CCUMC playground.

The Village Manager reported that we have made complaints to both the County and to the State Highway about the difficulty of turning south onto Connecticut Avenue at Raymond Street. The County traffic employees who control the lights say there is nothing they can do because of the short distance between Connecticut Avenue and Bradley Lane. We have asked the State Highway Administration to consider painting the entire intersection with cross-hatching as they have done elsewhere to reinforce the idea that drivers should not “block the box.” We are awaiting their response.

**Community & Social**

The feedback from the Halloween party was excellent. The parade was fun. The food trucks helped everyone out and will now be a regular feature of Halloween.

The Village Manager reminded everyone of the Warm Clothing and Blanket Drive as the deadline is November 21. We briefly discussed a possible detergent drive for the needy in either December or January.

Movie Night in the Gazebo Park was a big hit. Lots of families with little ones came and braved the cold to see Trolls World Tour. We briefly discussed with parents the idea of having a spring camp out in the park with individual families bringing tents and Section 3 providing the much needed port-a-potty.

Everyone was reminded that the B-CC book drive is collecting again on Saturday, November 13.

It was decided that Santa and his sleigh will be visiting all Section 3 children with holiday cookies on December 19.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:15 p.m.

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**Toys Bring Joys: 2021 Toy Collection**

The Bethesda Fire Department will host its annual toy collection to continue bringing joy to children at Christmas. They will be collecting new unwrapped toys for children of all ages from November 27 through December 22.

The toys collected from the Bethesda community are given to children/parents to assure that all children will receive gifts at Christmas.

Please drop off your donated new unwrapped toys at one of three Bethesda fire stations. Look for a covered toy drop box outside each fire station entrance. Fire Station 6 at Wisconsin Avenue and Bradley Boulevard is closest to Section 3.

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**The Pandemic Has Brought Us Many More Furry Friends**

In this community of 282 households, at rough count, we now have over 110 dogs. Please be considerate in walking your dog. Every winter we have lots of nasty "leavings" by dogs whose owners don't pick up after them. We ask that you be considerate—not on the greenways, not on neighbors lawns...in a bag, in the trash, please.
Section 3 Council sends letter to County Council Re: Thrive 2050

Prior to the November 30 "listening" session by the County Council regarding Thrive 2050, the Section 3 Council submitted the following letter to every member of the County Council.

Re: Thrive 2050
Dear Councilmember _____,

The Council of Section 3 of the Village of Chevy Chase wishes to express concern about the Thrive 2050 plan that is before the Montgomery County Council. We urge the Council to take additional time to examine the plan as it is outlined in the Thrive 2050 document. Thrive 2050 should not be rushed toward approval or adopted in its current form.

Thrive 2050’s goals of economic health, equity, and environmental resilience are admirable. In its current form, however, it is not clear that Thrive 2050 creates a workable path toward achieving those important goals.

1. Thrive 2050’s radical changes to residential zoning do not work for Montgomery County. To implement Thrive 2050’s housing goals and policies, current residential zoning will be changed to allow market-rate multi-family housing units (duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes) in single-family neighborhoods as a matter of right without any public input, resulting in potential gentrification of neighborhoods and displacement of residents countywide. This one size fits all approach is unacceptable.

Thrive 2050 envisions much more density in down-county areas, particularly those that include railway stations. What Thrive 2050 does not acknowledge is that many of these areas—including single-family residential neighborhoods—are already densely populated. In fact, Section 3 (the area between Bradley and Taylor north/south and Connecticut Ave. and Brookville west/east) is the fifth most dense municipality in Maryland, and increased density would only exacerbate existing traffic, stormwater management, greenspace, and parking issues.

Thrive 2050 should specifically mandate the traditional Master Plan process and avoid imposing sweeping changes on communities without their input. The plan should also require the establishment of Neighborhood Advisory Groups whose voices will be taken into account as part of the Master Plan process to ensure public participation by residents and stakeholders regarding planning and land use issues in their communities.

2. Thrive 2050 does not address the need for affordable housing. Thrive 2050’s main strategy is to increase housing density by allowing “attainable” housing (which has not been defined) in neighborhoods of single family detached homes. Attainable housing consists of such buildings as duplexes, triplexes, quadplexes, and apartment buildings with fewer than 20 units and condominiums. Although proposed as a means to provide more affordable housing, county planning officials have now conceded such housing instead will rent or sell at market rates. The Planning Board’s own study in Silver Spring showed that townhouses in areas that are now zoned single family would sell for approximately $800,000. This will do nothing to answer the demand for affordable housing.

3. Thrive 2050 fails to appreciate the value of multi-generational communities, or the practical considerations that make such communities feasible. In Section 3, we particularly value the mix of old and new residents. In the past year, we have seen many families with young children join the community, and no fewer than 25 babies have been born to our residents during the pandemic. We also have many more senior residents who have lived here for decades. Thrive 2050 estimates that 1/3 of owner households are “over-housed” (i.e., have at least two more bedrooms than people), a category that undoubtedly includes large numbers of persons who continue to live in their family home after their children are grown. These long-time residents are valued members of our community. There will always be a natural level of turnover in communities, but Thrive 2050’s suggest that “attainable” housing helps “empty nesters who want to downsize” is, at best, unsupported by evidence. The plan does not acknowledge the economic realities for many long-time residents who have sunk their life savings into their current home where their cost of living is far less than it would be if they were to purchase newly created “attainable” housing at a cost many times what they paid for their current home.

4. Thrive 2050 needs additional study and public input. Although Thrive 2050 is a precursor to major changes in our communities, many Montgomery County residents are either unaware of Thrive 2050’s existence or have only recently learned of it—and have not been impressed.

The plan’s authors claim it is based on community feedback over a two-year period. The current uproar makes it clear that, at the very least, the Planning Board’s outreach fell short. Moreover, by their own admission, “the outreach effort was designed to emphasize engagement with residents who will live longest with the recommendations made by this plan—Millennials and Gen Xers and high school and college students” as well as historically marginalized groups. No workable plan can simply ignore the current and future interests of residents who are 50 or older, and the dismissive approach to large numbers of voters is indicative of Thrive 2050’s top-down approach. The plan is not unifying, and is unnecessarily divisive because the work was not done to achieve

Thrive 2050, continued on page 6
community buy-in. All residents have a stake in the future of the County and in the future of our neighborhoods.

In addition, the long-term changes in our economy and in our way of living because of the pandemic have yet to be fully understood. Much of the “outreach” was done during the pandemic. Whatever plan is ultimately adopted, there should be a mandatory 5-year review to check the plan against performance and see if adjustments need to be made because of the impact of the pandemic or changes in the County’s economic situation.

5. Key stakeholders have been left out of the Thrive 2050 process. Thrive 2050 envisions dramatic changes to how residents live and work in the County, but without the input of experts on many of the areas affected.

• Thrive 2050 would dramatically alter transportation priorities within the County. Because so much of it is dependent on a dramatic uptick in public transit, the Transportation & Environment Committee should fully vet the plan to determine if its approach to transportation meets the needs of County residents, whether it is cost-prohibitive, and if the County can meet the demands of the plan.

• Similarly, the plan needs to better address the stormwater management impact of greater densities. This should be addressed in additional public hearings at which the Council can hear from experts and stakeholders.

• The Government Operations Committee and Fiscal Policy needs to review the plan to determine the viability of “15-minute communities” on government operations. The Office of Management and Budget estimated that it will cost Montgomery County at least $8.2 billion in capital costs through 2050—an average of $292 million per year—to follow through on Thrive 2050, plus $426.5 million in additional annual operating costs. Even assuming the “lowest cost scenario,” OMB estimated that Thrive 2050 would cost $623 million per year—a 12% increase in the County’s annual budget. Thrive 2050 does not address where these billions might come from, and although the Planning Board objects to OMB’s analysis, it offers no evidence. The Planning Board’s answer is that more people will mean more revenues. The Council cannot responsibly vote for a plan that will either require massive tax increases or sit on the shelf as unbuildable. The financial impact of Thrive 2050 should be clearly understood before the Council takes action on the plan.

• The Education & Culture committee needs to look closely at the concept of 15-minute communities as it impacts the school system which seems to be going in the direction of larger schools that can offer students more resources, not smaller schools within walking distance of 32 “15-minute communities.”

• Health and Human Services needs to look at how health and social services will be delivered if clients have to commute to facilities by public transit, the extent to which new facilities will be needed to be created, and at what cost.

• Public Safety needs to examine how police, fire, and ambulances would be deployed in these newly densely populated areas, and whether new or larger facilities will need to be built to accommodate the greater densities.

6. Thrive 2050 is not merely “a guiding vision.” In response to criticism, proponents of the plan have attempted to portray Thrive 2050 as merely conceptual. But Thrive 2050 is a predicate for sweeping changes such as the Planning Board’s current work on a proposal that would alter most down county communities from single family zoning to multi-family zones by right. To downplay Thrive 2050’s real world effects is disingenuous, and the Council should not sidestep residents’ concerns.

We urge the County Council to take a step back. Thrive 2050 does not have public buy-in. The Council has an opportunity to take another look, get the benefit of committee analysis. The Council should hold more hearings—not just the single “listening session” that is currently planned—to understand residents’ concerns. The Council must be willing to alter the document to create a reasonable plan that supports communities, emphasizes local input, and goes beyond feel-good catchphrases and soundbites to a workable plan that actually addresses the County’s needs, now and going forward.

Sincerely yours,
Susan Baker Manning, Chair
Lawrence C. Lanpher, Vice Chair
Carolyn Greis, Buildings and Roads Representative
Ellie Nader, Secretary
Thomas K. Carroll, Treasurer

The County Council held a “listening” session on November 30 and because of the demand to be heard, a second session is slated for December 15. We urge you to read this letter carefully, select the issues most important to you and write to the County Council at CountyCouncil@montgomerycountymd.gov. You can also contact the County Council and sign up to speak at the Nov. 15th listening session—they allow speakers two minutes and it will be virtual. We need to speak up. We need the Council to understand the legally binding impact this document has on their future actions, particularly as it pertains to the Planning Board’s “Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative.”
Chevy Chase At Home
December Talks

The month of December is rich in programs offered by Chevy Chase at Home, a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization helping seniors age in place. To register in advance for the free programs, go to chevychaseathome.org.

Friday, December 3, 1-2:30 p.m. Navigating Life’s Journey: Financial and Legal Planning for Future Healthcare Needs. Free but requiring pre-registration, the program is being offered in conjunction with the Charles E Smith Life Communities and Ingleside. A panel of experts will discuss how to ensure your future plans for aging in place (or anywhere else) are on firm financial and legal footing by discussing topics like long-term care insurance, financial planning, advanced directives and elder law issues like medical and financial power of attorney. For participants’ convenience, the session will be recorded and sent out to all registrants after the program.

Monday, December 6, 1-2 p.m. Travels with Jan: Patagonia and Rapa Nui. Section 3’s own Jan Augustine and an intrepid traveler relives some of her most memorable trips to Patagonia and Easter Island. Hosted by Chevy Chase at Home.

Friday, December 10 1-2 p.m. A Closer Look at the Arabian Gulf with guest speaker Ambassador Elizabeth Davenport McKune. Our former Ambassador to the State of Qatar (1998-2001) and an expert on the Persian Gulf will speak about the challenges in that region. She was the first female ambassador from any country accredited to Qatar in this capacity and served in the foreign service for 33 years, 17 of which were spent posted abroad in the Gulf region.

Free Trees for Section 3 Residents

Section 3 is once again offering our residents a tree to plant anywhere in their yard this fall. Preserving and promoting Section 3’s tree canopy is an important shared goal. Healthy trees are not only beautiful, they benefit our community in myriad ways including reducing stormwater runoff, cooling the neighborhood, encouraging energy savings, and increasing property values for both owners and neighbors. This information has already been sent to everyone via email but in case you missed it, we are giving you one more opportunity to sign up but the deadline is fast approaching: December 6!

Over the years we have periodically offered trees to be planted on private property, and many beautiful maple trees in front yards around the community were all planted by Section 3, as were the Princeton Elms. In addition to trees that can be planted in areas with good sun and drainage. This year we have asked Stadler Nursery to also provide us with selections for wet or soggy yards. As the trees mature, they will help with stormwater runoff.

If you are interested the village manager will send you a spreadsheet listing the trees being offered and the conditions required before you make a decision to determine if you have the conditions and space for one of the trees on your property. Then let the Village Manager know via email no later than December 6th. You can plant one tree anywhere in your yard, and once planted you will be responsible for its care. We ask that you be a good steward of this contribution to our environment. Two varieties we wanted to include can only be planted in the Spring so we will offer those in March: several types of crape myrtle and a Nellie Stevens Hollies. For now there are 11 choices; we are taking orders for those.

All of the trees we offer can be Googled so you can see what they look like as mature trees. They have been vetted by our arborist. We have tried to offer trees for a range of conditions. Once you place your request, we will give you a stake to mark where you want the tree planted in your yard. We’ll give you notice when the nursery will come to plant your tree (it is going to be dormant so don’t expect a pretty leafy tree) and we’ll provide the nursery with a perforated pvc pipe buried with the root ball so that you can water it twice a week through the pipe so as not over- or under-water it.

Take a look at your property with an eye towards the following conditions:

1. Full sun, good drainage
2. Full sun to partial shade, good drainage
3. Partial shade wet, soggy soil
4. Partial sun, will tolerate occasionally wet soil.

Partial shade means 3-6 hours of sun daily but implies that the plant should be protected from the sun during the afternoon. Partial sun means the plant needs more sun and is more heat tolerant.

If you think you might be interested, contact the Village Manager right away to get the spreadsheet outlining the 11 offerings. Remember the deadline is December 6.
Going Away? Please leave your car in the driveway, lock things up. Notify neighbors where to find you, make arrangements to have your sidewalk shoveled.