Calendar

**Wednesday, November 3**
Bulk Trash Pick-up, Recycling, Curbside

**Saturday, November 6**
Leaf bags to be delivered to those who ordered

**Saturday, November 6**
Movie night in Gazebo Park
5:30 p.m. for “Trolls World Tour”

**Sunday, November 7**
Daylight Savings Time begins

**Wednesday, November 10**
Hybrid Council Meeting in person & via Zoom
CCUMC Wesley Room Second Floor, 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, November 21**
5:00 p.m. deadline for Warm Clothing & Blanket Drive. Drop off in plastic bags at 3619 Shepherd Street

**Wednesday, December 1**
LAST BULK TRASH PICK-UP until March 2022

**Wednesday, December 8**
Council Hybrid Zoom Meeting
7:45 p.m. see November 10 listing above

Village Council
www.chevychasesection3.org

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November Warm Clothing and Blanket Drive

Every year Section 3 residents donate generously for our Bill Prigg Annual Warm Clothing and Blanket Drive. The event, named after a long-time resident of Section 3 who spent years collecting warm clothing and blankets for the homeless and needy, is now in its 24th year. The Dorsey/Williams family lives in the former Prigg home at 3619 Shepherd Street and has continued the tradition of serving as the collection point for community donations. All our donations are sorted as to type and size before we bring them to Martha’s Table at its new headquarters in Southeast Washington where they are distributed only to the needy.

What are we looking for? Warm clothing—for both children and adults—and blankets or quilts, all gently used. A particular need is for socks and gloves along with all the other useful items. We have many families in the Maryland/DC/Virginia area who are in need of these necessities. They don’t have the luxury of buying new jackets for their children each year or a new sweater. Unlike Goodwill and other charities with shops open to the public, Martha’s Table is not offering its clothing to suburban kids looking for a cool shirt. When you donate, you can rest assured that it will go to those in real need.

Put your donations in large plastic bags and leave them on the Dorsey/Williams porch no later than Sunday, November 21. We try and deliver our donations before Thanksgiving so that when you are busy responding to your favorite charities for the holidays, we don’t interfere with other charities’ pleas for help. Take a moment to go through closets and drawers…sort through all the warm clothing and quilts and blankets you have and see what items you might like to donate. We look forward to your contributions to this annual event.

Ghosts, goblins, food trucks... our Halloween

Georgia Street resident Mark Klug led a band of ghosts and goblins from the Gazebo Park up Shepherd Street on to Delaware Street then down Spring Street back to the Park on Halloween night. Many thanks to Mark and his band of trick-or-treaters. The Corned Beef King served up mac and cheese and deli delights and Rocklands BBQ provided its favorite menu items to many Section 3 residents, not just trick-or-treaters.

Some folks ate in the Park before trick or treating, while others brought their dinners back home. It was a fun night, enjoyed by all!
BUILDING & ROADS

Council Representative for Buildings and Roads, Carolyn Greis, reported that five permits were issued since the last Council meeting. The builder of the new house at 3602 Taylor Street was issued a permit to construct a fence in all four yards and a walkway with steps to grade in the front yard on Georgia Street. The Hoppin-Armstrong family of 3715 Bradley Lane received a permit to build an addition and a deck with stairs to grade in their rear yard and an entry stoop with stairs to grade in their east side yard, and also to use a dumpster. The Hyland family of 6806 Delaware Street received a permit to build a patio in their rear yard. The DeLauquil family of 7104 Fulton Street received a permit to construct a portico over a reconfigured stoop and steps to grade with a walkway in their front yard on Fulton Street, and a one-story with loft addition in their front yard on Florida Street. Two variances for the DeLaquils’ building project were granted at the April Council meeting. And lastly, the Lane-Williams family of 6815 Fulton Street was issued a permit to construct a sump pump drainage connection to the county-maintained storm drain facility. A drainage connection of this type requires a county-issued right-of-way construction permit and an executed Declaration of Covenants for maintenance of the system and indemnification of the County, a rather lengthy process.

Ben Weinstein, a resident, pointed out that the yellow curb in front of the stop sign on Delaware Street at Raymond Street did not extend 30’. Maryland law requires that drivers refrain from parking any closer than 30’ from the stop sign. While municipalities are not required to (and typically do not) mark all curbs, Section 3 has done so throughout the community in many instances to make sure drivers can turn corners on our narrow streets. The Council deferred making a commitment to mark that intersection noting that it did not appear to be a chronic issue, but urged Mr. Weinstein to keep them informed if it continued to be a problem. (Note: subsequent to the meeting it was decided to extend the yellow line at that intersection and to examine other areas where a longer yellow line might benefit drivers of our streets).

The Village Manager announced that the surveyors had completed their work on Raymond Street and that our civil engineers Clark/Azar Inc. would be developing a detailed concept plan based on their findings and on our conversations with County officials about what they wanted to see in terms of the overall design for an improved stormwater drainage system. Those findings are expected to be presented to the Council along with an updated financial estimate at the November Council meeting. If the Council approves the plan, then the civil engineer plans to hold Zoom meetings with the stakeholders on Raymond Street to explain the plan in more detail and follow up with in person meetings for those who want to discuss their particular properties and the opportunity to tie residential drainage systems into the planned upgraded storm drain. If all goes well, we could then draft the bid package with the goal of putting it out around Thanksgiving or early December for work to begin in the spring.

The Village of Martins Additions was slated to take up the issue of expanding the analysis of the drainage system that is part of the potential Brookville Road storm drain project in their October meeting.

The Village Manager reported that she recently heard from PEPCO about its position regarding the installation of two demonstration lights (one on the block of Delaware between Sheppard and Spring and one at the Georgia/Sheppard intersection). The Village Manager expressed cautious optimism that Section 3 soon will be able to make progress in this regard and move forward to order the demonstration lights and then to arrange for installation. The plan is to install such demonstration lights consistent with the lighting plan previously developed for Section 3, and then to obtain community comments on the demonstration lighting before any final decision is made as to whether and how the lighting plan should proceed.

The Village Manager discussed the Thrive 2050 project and the Attainable Housing Initiative at the Planning Board and before the County Council PHED committee (see story this issue). It was decided that the manager should send a special mailing to those most affected by the proposed “attainable housing” initiative.

FINANCIAL

Treasurer Tom Carroll reported that Section 3 had a clean audit and that he was impressed with the thoroughness and professionalism of our new auditors. The Village Manager agreed. As always, copies of the final audit (required by both the State and the Federal government) will be available to any resident who wishes to review the audit. Just make a request to the Village Manager.

The audit determined that our depreciation schedule needed...
Katie and Graham Van Hook of Connecticut Avenue are pleased to announce that new baby Bailey was born October 9 at 7:57 a.m. He was 8 lbs. 4 oz. and 21 inches long. Big brother Jackson and big sister Charley have been so wonderful to their new baby brother! They are all adjusting to their new family of five!!

Tree cutting took on a whole new dimension on Delaware Street on October 19. The Hylands of 6806 Delaware Street hired a firm to take down some trees in their yard and asked their next door neighbors the Fuhers if the tree guys could use their yard to access a tree. The truck had “outriggers” to stabilize it and a giant crane—but somewhere along the way the driver lost sight of the laws of physics and the truck tipped on its side. Miraculously, no house was hit and no one, not even the driver, was hurt. However, several fences were destroyed in the process of righting the truck, the Fitzgeralds at 3803 Raymond Street had their garage roof damaged, and the Fuher’s lawn was pretty torn up. Happily, the Hylands’ tree guys had an insurance adjuster out the same day and eventually things will get back to normal—but talk about the unexpected!

Directory Corrections

An updated Neighborhood Directory was delivered to residents in mid-October. We hope this will help connect you to old friends as well as our many new neighbors.

Just a few corrections to the directory:
Ruth Balis’ email is a G-mail account not Verizon
Francis Carroll’s birthday is 7/15 (not 10/7)
Mike Thiede’s email address is mgftthiede@gmail and cell is (301) 440-8301
Ric Narvaiz’ email is ricardonarvaiz7@gmail.com.
Patrick and Jen Dillon’s last name was spelled incorrectly.

Movie Night November 6 in Gazebo Park

Last year rains forced us to cancel Movie Night for little ones at the very last minute. We’re trying it again on Saturday, November 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Gazebo Park, weather permitting. Trolls World Tour is slated for the evening. We hope families will come with blankets and picnic dinners and some light jackets to sit in the Park and watch the movie.

Chevy Chase Library Renovation Options being considered

The Chevy Chase Library that so many Section 3 residents use is in need of a renovation. The County Planning Board proposes two options, neither of which the County has funding to execute, but they are eager to know what you think of the two options:

1. Renovate the existing library
2. Tear down the existing library and put up a new library along with housing above so that a private developer would subsidize the library space in a public/private partnership.

For more information on the planning and thinking behind this effort go to:
https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dgs/opd/ChevyChaseLibrary.html

More details of the plan can be seen at and there is a survey they want you to fill out to gauge public support for either option which can be found at https://mcpl.link/chevy-chase-survey
to be updated to verify and correct as necessary the acquisition dates on some of our fixed assets. To clarify these issues, the Village Manager is going to review prior year records and with the help of the auditors, prepare a revised schedule going forward that will be used in next year’s audit. As this work is not part of the scope of the audit, the Council agreed to devote additional funds for the auditors to help us achieve our goal of a fully updated depreciation schedule.

In connection with the financial discussion, Tom Carroll introduced a revised fixed asset capitalization policy under which items costing more than $2,500 will be capitalized and be part of the depreciation schedule, and purchases under that amount will be expensed. The Council unanimously approved the proposal.

**Community & Social**

The Village Manager reported that the Party-in-the-Park cost the community $12,178.25. We had budgeted $18,000 last year when we thought we would not still be under COVID restrictions and cautions.

The Council agreed not to hold the traditional indoor pizza party as part of this year’s Halloween event. The Village Manager has invited two food trucks to come: Corned Beef King and Rocklands (both of whom offer on-line ordering). The parade will begin at 5:00 p.m. and go up Shepherd Street across Delaware and back down Spring to the Park. Children in second grade and under, and their siblings of any age, are invited to parade, and parents and grandparents are invited to take photos. The food trucks will be there from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m.

As for trick-or-treating this year, if families do not want trick-or-treaters, they are advised to leave all their front lights off. For those who wish to facilitate the process, tables at the end of front walks or driveways will prevent crowding of unvaccinated children on front porches, but it is up to homeowners to decide if they want to greet kids at their door or leave out treats. Similarly, some parents may prefer that children pick up individual goodie bags rather than dipping their hands into a communal bowl. Again, it is up to residents to decide what feels most comfortable.

The Village Manager brought up the Warm Clothing and Blanket drive (see story this issue). She was exploring Movie Night in the Gazebo Park for younger children (see story this issue).

The Village Manager reminded everyone of the B-CC High School Book drive with its first day for dropping off book donations slated for October 16.

The new directory should be in everyone’s mail soon. It was at the printers.

The Council again discussed the Gas Leaf Blower issue and decided to give the letter sent out to residents, requesting residents voluntarily to curtail use of gas leaf blowers for cosmetic purposes (such as blowing grass clippings from walkways), a chance to work in hopes that we will not have to regulate the use of gas leaf blowers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

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**Thinking of Building an Addition? A Fence, a Patio?**

You probably need a permit…before you get too far into your planning, consider talking to the Council’s representative for Buildings and Roads so that you’re on the right path. Boundary surveys are required for most efforts, drainage plans are often required, and finally, if you’re building something, check first to find out if you have to get a permit and/or need a variance to do what you want to do!

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**You can go any time to the Chevy Chase Village Hall where they have a secure box for the disposal of outdated or unneeded prescription drugs.**
Thrive 2050 and Attainable Housing

The Montgomery County Council will soon be considering major land use and zoning changes. If passed, these proposals will eliminate most single-family residential zones within Montgomery County. In Section 3, they would allow duplexes and triplexes to be built “as of right” throughout the neighborhood and small apartment buildings on Connecticut Avenue.

These changes would be made through a multi-step process, starting with Thrive Montgomery 2050—a proposed update to Montgomery County’s leading planning document, the General Plan—followed by zoning changes made pursuant to the so-called Attainable Housing Strategies initiative (AHSI) developed by the County Planning Board. The County Council anticipates voting on Thrive 2050 before the end of the year, so it is essential that residents reach out to their County representatives now to express their views on Thrive 2050 and AHS initiative.

Many of the goals of Thrive 2050 are in keeping with what everyone would hope to see in a future Montgomery County: economic growth, racial and social equity, housing close to transit lines, and other forms of environmentally responsible development. While these goals are laudable, serious questions have been raised about the County Planning Board’s proposals, including high costs, whether they would in fact achieve these goals, and the need for community input rather than top-down planning by County fiat.

Thrivel 2050

Thrive 2050 envisions a new urbanism for Montgomery County with higher density housing near transit lines and greater reliance on multi-family dwellings of all types. One key element of the draft plan is “complete communities” in which “most” county residents would be able to walk to schools, retail, medical, and public facilities in 15 minutes. Parking and roadways would be deprioritized in favor of walking, biking, and public transit. Another priority of Thrive 2050 is the promotion of “missing middle” housing that introduces house-scale multifamily buildings in an effort to create lower-cost (but not low-cost) “attainable” housing.

In furtherance of that goal, the Planning Board did a Silver Spring Marketing Study on Missing Middle Housing (March, 2021) which showed that allowing developers to build a wider range of houses “by right” will NOT achieve these goals because no missing middle housing types were found to be feasible in downtown Silver Spring except for townhouses that would sell for $715,000 to $855,000. Another study by EYA, a respected local builder, showed that triplex units in Chevy Chase would cost at least $875,000. While these studies indicate that multiunit housing in existing down county neighborhoods are not likely to create housing that is “attainable” for the vast majority of County residents, the Planning Board continues to promote plans that would eliminate single-family residential neighborhoods.

Thrive 2050 makes a nod to the importance of making changes via master and sector plans (the traditional manner in which all major zoning changes have been made in the past). Proponents of the plan have emphasized that it does not itself make zoning changes. This is literally true, but that response downplays the central recommendation of Thrive 2050 to make major zoning changes. In short, if Thrive is approved in its current form, then the Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative fulfills a major part of that mandate. And because next year is an election year and a General Plan cannot be voted on in an election year, the push is on to approve Thrive 2050 before the end of 2021.

Right now, only a three person committee of the 9-member County Council has examined the document, the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee. We encourage residents to urge other members of the other County Council sub-committees—including Transportation & Environment, Government Operations, and Public Service committees—to take time to hold public hearings and work sessions on elements of the plan. And the PHED committee needs to hold another public hearing now that more and more communities are learning how dramatically the proposals will impact their communities.

Rezoning proposals to create “attainable” housing

In anticipation of Thrive 2050’s passage, the Planning Board Staff is working on the AHSI, including in particular Zoning Text Amendment 20-07 that Councilmember Will Jawando initially proposed in December 2020.

Under the proposal, developers would be allowed to build duplexes and triplexes anywhere in current single-family residential neighborhoods “by right,” and without local input or control. In addition, the Planning Board has proposed that large multi-family units, with as many as 19 apartment units, should be allowed by right up and down both Connecticut Avenue and River Road. The vast majority of down county communities—including the River Road corridor, all of Bethesda, all the Chevy Chases, Garrett Park, Kensington, Aspen Hill, Wheaton and Rockville—would be deemed “priority housing districts” and lose their identities as single-family communities under this plan.

Consistent with the Thrive 2050 vision, the Planning Board is finishing up its hearings on an “attainable housing strategies initiative” which they plan to submit to the County Council once Thrive 2050 is adopted. Thrive 2050 is a predicate to the global zoning change that is part of the Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative so
they both must be examined and understood.

To better understand the impact, the Planning Board has provided an interactive tool:

**Community Reactions**

While the Planning Board staff has held many meetings on Thrive 2050, the plan over the past two years has evolved and become increasingly pro-urban. Many people in the County have not heard of the plan and more importantly, the “attainable housing strategies initiative” has not been given the visibility that would wake folks up, our community included. Section 3 and other municipalities have gone on record expressing their concerns about Thrive 2050 and the process by which it is being fast-tracked. The Coalition for Smarter Growth has criticized Thrive 2050 and the AHSI because they do not adequately address the critical need for affordable housing. Similarly, residents in the Silver Spring, White Oak, and Wheaton areas have expressed concern that many less expensive homes closer to the DC line will be bought up by developers and converted to multi-family units, gentrifying the area and pricing them out. This has happened in Minneapolis and Chicago where similar plans have been tried.

The Citizens Coordinating Committee of Friendship Heights, an organization founded in 1971 to be a zoning watchdog, has come out against Thrive 2050 and the AHSI proposals. The Montgomery County Civic Federation, a county-wide organization of about 150,000 members, also has passed resolutions critical of Thrive 2050 and AHSI. County Executive Marc Elrich has objected to both Thrive and the subsequent AHSI plans. The County’s own Office of Management and Budget recently published a fiscal impact statement (which required by law) in which it estimated that Thrive will cost at least $8.16 billion, with ongoing annual costs of $333.8 million. OMB recognized, however, that a true analysis is not possible because the details are lacking in the current plan. The County Taxpayers Union is sending a letter objecting to all the members of the County Council.

**What can you do?**

Take a look at the Thrive 2050 document at https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/master-plan-list/general-plans/thrive-montgomery-2050/ to see for yourself. Then look at the Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative (https://montgomeryplanning.org/planning/housing/attainable-housing-strategies-initiative/) and see if that is what you envision for our community.

We need more public airing of the Thrive document. We need the additional committees on the Council to hold hearings and evaluate it from their perspectives. It’s not just about housing—it’s about transportation and the environment, public services, government operations. Those three committees should have an opportunity to dig deep. And we need them to independently evaluate the changes that are emerging as the result of the current document.

We strongly encourage you to contact the members of the County Council individually as this affects our entire community:

- Gabe Albornoz, At Large (240-777-7959, Councilmember.Albornoz@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Andrew Friedson, Dist. 1 (240-777-7828, Councilmember.Friedson@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Evan Glass, At Large (240-777-7966, Councilmember.Glass@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Tom Hucker, Dist. 5 (240-777-7960, Councilmember.Hucker@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Will Jawando, At Large (240-777-7811, Councilmember.Jawando@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Sidney Katz, Dist. 3 (240-777-7906, Councilmember.Katz@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Nancy Navarro, Dist. 4 (240-777-7968, Councilmember.Navarro@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Craig Rice, Dist. 2 (240-777-7955, Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov)
- Hans Reimer, At Large (240-777-7964, Councilmember.Reimer@montgomerycountymd.gov)

**Timing**

The current plan is for the County Council to vote on Thrive 2050 by the end of this year. The AHSI will then be sent over to the Council following that by late December or early January. There is not much time.

Section 3 has advocated on behalf of the entire community but nothing is as powerful as calls and emails from individual voters. We hope you will take the time to let the County Council know how you feel about both Thrive 2050 and the upcoming AHSI. If you wish, please feel free to share a copy of your emails with the Section 3 Council by cc’ing the Village Manager.
November Program from Chevy Chase At Home

Navigating Life’s Journey: Building a Life Plan to Age in Place

Friday, November 5, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. via Zoom

Chevy Chase at Home will be sponsoring the first of its new interactive “Navigating Life’s Journey” series, in which attendees will learn how to navigate options for each stage of aging. This session will discuss how to plan for aging in place. Panelists: Rebecca Bianco, Business Development Manager at Family & Nursing Care; Allyson Butler, Director of Business Development at Smithlife Home Care; Alison Carelli, LCSW-C, Care Manager and Psychotherapist at Aging Network Services; Susy Elder Murphy, BA, CMC, Owner of Debra Levy Eldercare Associates; Debbie Hedges, LCSW-C, Director of Senior Services at the Jewish Social Service Agency; Kathleen McGuinness, CDP, EOL, Director of Community Relations at Smithlife Home Care; and Jihan Starr, Owner of Davenport Senior Connections, LLC Eldercare Consulting and Care. Co-hosted with Charles E. Smith Life Communities and Ingleside. This is a Zoom event. Please register for this free event at https://www.chevychaseathome.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=559717&item_id=1530246.

Leaf Bags

For those who ordered leaf bags, please remember, the bag weight limit is 45 lbs.

Please do not place & rocks and soil in bags—they do not get recycled.

Leaves and grass can be mixed. Branches and twigs should be bundled in four foot lengths before being put curbside (not in bags.) The bag and its contents are all recycled—thus the county recycling facility will not accept yard waste in plastic bags.

If you don’t have paper leaf bags, you can leave yard waste in trash cans (without plastic bag liners) curbside on only on Mondays.

Redistricting Commission for County Council

The Redistricting Commission for the County Council listened to the jurisdictions signing a letter asking that all the Chevy Chases be grouped with Bethesda for the new District. In the final map that they plan to present to the County Council for a vote, the county has been divided into seven districts. If adopted by the County Council, our voting district will embrace Chevy Chase, Bethesda, Potomac and Travillah. Our current representative for District 1 is Andrew Friedson. He has already announced that he is running for office again.

CCUMC's Holiday Homecoming Bazaar on November 20

Their big annual event is on the calendar once again! Start your holiday shopping with some delightful finds at CCUMC’s Holiday Homecoming Bazaar on Saturday, November 20 from 10:00am to 3:00 pm. You can find lots of lovely things for the season ahead: Holiday Boutique and Attic Treasures, Christmas Recycled Decorations, Jewelry, Baked Goods and Goodies, and local craft vendors. Plus a lunch-eon cafe, photos with Santa, and the ever-popular children's Secret Santa Shop. Proceeds go to local missions and outreach.

Going away?

Make sure your car isn’t left on the street and that you’ve made arrangements for someone to bring in your papers.
Be a good neighbor and refrain—if you use one or your landscape contractor does—from routinely using gas-powered leaf blowers. If you feel you need a big fall cleanup, please wait for all the leaves to fall and then use a gas-powered leaf blower just once this season instead of every week. Your neighbors will be happy, the environment cleaner, and our neighborhood a little less noisy. We appreciate your cooperation!