

Forecast

FEBRUARY 2011

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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FY12 BUDGET PROCESS UNDERWAY

Resident Input Needed

The Town is preparing its FY12 budget and has scheduled a series of planning meetings, outlined below, to determine priorities and allocate resources for the coming year. As in this fiscal year, the Town expects to receive substantially less revenue from State income taxes in FY12, which runs from July 1, 2011 to June 31, 2012. The Town's portion of State income tax represents the largest revenue source that the Town receives, comprising almost 90 percent of total annual revenue, historically.

In light of this fiscal situation, the Town will need to examine its current programs and services and determine how to decrease expenditures and/or increase revenue in the coming year. In doing so, the Town Council encourages residents to become involved in the Town's budget process and provide suggestions on how to achieve a balanced budget without impacting the high-quality services we have come to expect or drawing down Town reserves.

Residents are invited to attend all of the budget meetings, but are particularly encouraged to attend those that allow public participation and comment, including the March 2 public meeting and the May 3 public hearing during the Town's Annual Meeting. All meetings will be held in the Town Hall, except for the Annual Meeting, which will be held in the Lawton Center Social Hall.

In addition to, or in lieu of, attending these meetings, residents may submit comments and suggestions on the FY12 budget by mail to 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815 or by e-mail to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. Please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 for more information.

March 2 Public Meeting on Budget

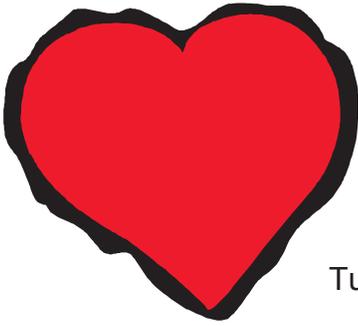
March 23 Council Budget Work Session

April 13 Approval of Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 3 Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 11 Adoption of Budget and Tax Rates

The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org; 301-654-7144; Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to each address in the Town and posted on the Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org.



February

Thursday, February 3 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 8 – Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 9 – Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 10 – Public Services Committee, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 13 – Sunday Afternoon for Families: Let's Create, 2 p.m.

Monday, February 14 – Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 15 – Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Monday, February 21 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 22 – Climate Protection Committee, 7 p.m.

Sunday, February 27 – Chili Dinner, 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

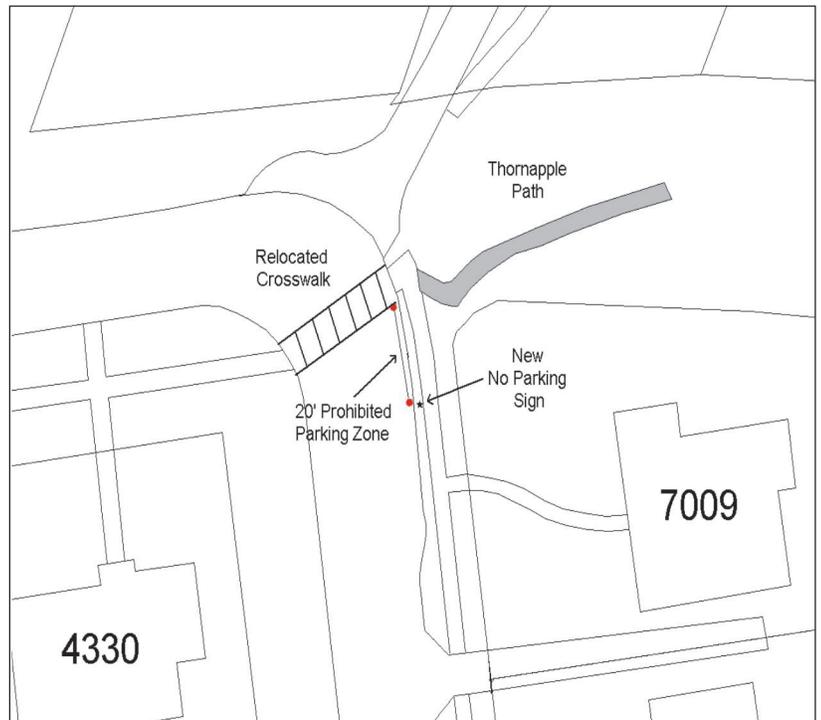
Please check the Town website for up-to-date information about the Town.

www.townofchevy Chase.org

Public Hearing Scheduled on Plan To Reconfigure East Avenue - Thornapple Path Intersection

At its **February 9** meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed plan to reconfigure the intersection of East Avenue and the Thornapple Path.

At its January meeting, the Town Council discussed a plan to improve pedestrian and vehicular safety at this intersection. As illustrated, the plan includes relocating the entrance to the Thornapple Path approximately 10 feet to the north and installing a new crosswalk to allow for better motorist and pedestrian visibility at the intersection. The plan also includes removing the bump out at the entrance to the Thornapple Path and restricting parking approximately 20 feet to the south of the new crosswalk to provide for better vehicular movement through the intersection.



If you are unable to attend the **February 9** public hearing, which will begin at approximately 8 p.m., you may submit comments by email to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or mail to 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815.

CRIMEWATCH

In January, the Town Office received a report from the 3900 block of Underwood Street of an attempt to steal newly-installed copper piping. The piping was removed but left on the property. There was a second report from the 6900 block of Ridgewood Avenue that copper downspouts were stolen from a house on that block.

Please report all crimes to the Montgomery County police at the non-emergency number 301-279-8000. For emergencies, call 911. Any information you can give to the police about criminal or suspicious activity in Town will help to make us safer. In addition, please report incidents to the Town Office at 301-654-7144 so that we can notify our off-duty Montgomery County police officers. Also, when you report crimes to the Town Office, you help us provide accurate crime information. Crimes reported to the police are included in Montgomery County, Bethesda Station, Second District crime reports. We provide a link to those reports on our website.

* * *

To make our neighborhood safer, volunteer for the Town's **Neighborhood Watch Program**. Please contact Warren Rizzi at the Town Office at 301-654-7144 to get more information and/or to become a block captain.

Public Hearing on 7206 Meadow Lane Resubdivision

The Montgomery County Planning Board has scheduled the public hearing on the resubdivision application for 7206 Meadow Lane for **February 17**. The time of the public hearing will be announced on February 7.

Since last May, the Town Council has held two public hearings on the proposed resubdivision of this property into 3 single-family lots and, following each hearing, voted unanimously to oppose the plan. The Town submitted its comments on the proposed resubdivision to the Planning Board after each public hearing.

In its reports to the Planning Board, the Town opposed the proposed resubdivision for a variety of reasons, chief among them being the plan's incompatibility with the character of the surrounding neighborhood. The report also cites concerns with the protection of existing trees and wetlands on the property.

Formal written notification of the Planning Board's public hearing on the proposed subdivision will be sent to the Town Office no later than ten days before the hearing, and the Town will post this information on the listserv and website. If unable to attend the public hearing, residents may send written comments on the proposed resubdivision to the Development Review Division, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Residents also may submit comments to the Planning Board via e-mail (MCP-Chairman@mncppc-mc.org) or fax (301-495-1320) at least 24 hours before the hearing.

Please contact the County Development Review Division at 301-495-4595 or visit the website http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/info/resident_guides/subdivison_process/intro.shtm for more information.

Town Election 2011

Mayor David Lublin has appointed Brenda Lizzio to serve as the chair of the Election Board for the coming year. She will serve with Ed Finn, who was appointed to fill the seat of retiring board member Costis Toregas, and Hope Pinkerton. Eight weeks before the **May 3** Town election, a notice will be mailed to all residents. For more information about election procedures, visit the Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org, or call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

Utility Work Creates Perfect Storm

So far this winter, the Town has been spared the wrath of Mother Nature. Unfortunately, we seem to have been caught in the perfect storm of utility work. The storm sewer replacement project in the western part of Town, the sewer line replacement on Hillcrest, PEPCO tree pruning and other ongoing utility-related work, have affected many areas of the Town. This work is necessary and will improve services to Town residents, but it is not without its inconveniences.

Fortunately, some of the projects have been completed or are winding up. Following is information on each of the projects, including an explanation of why they were needed and a status update.

Storm Sewer Replacement

The Town requested that Montgomery County repair the County-owned storm drain system to address the significant property damage and losses incurred by Town residents as a result of localized flooding. This work began in December and involves the installation of new storm drain lines and inlets as part of a multi-phase improvement project. This second phase of repairs is focused on the west side of Town and is expected to be completed by early February, depending upon the weather. The County may be able to expedite some of the improvements included in the third, and final, phase of repairs, which was not expected to occur until FY 2013. The Town will provide more information as it becomes available.

Sewer Line Replacement

This work was necessary to address a failing sanitary sewer line in the 7000 block of Hillcrest Place. The replacement began in December and was completed in late January. A permanent asphalt patch was installed over the excavated area. WSSC will return in the spring to reconstruct the roadway.

Gas Line Installation

This work was needed to provide increased natural gas volume and pressure to houses on the east side of Town. The work began in mid-December and involves the installation of an additional gas line in the 3900 and 4000 blocks of Thornapple Street. The work is expected to be completed in late February.

Water Main Breaks

Water main breaks occur due to weather extremes and aging infrastructure. To date, the Town has experienced at least 6 water main breaks around Town. All breaks have been repaired, and WSSC has 60 days to install permanent asphalt patches where the roadways were compromised.

Tree Pruning

This work is necessary to provide sufficient clearance around PEPCO power lines. A PEPCO contractor began pruning trees on the east side of Town in mid-January and has now completed this work. This work was supervised by the Town arborist.

Access Ramp Improvements

The State Highway Administration is working to upgrade existing sidewalk ramps along Connecticut Avenue by making them ADA compliant. This work began in early December and is expected to be completed by the end of February.

In addition to all of this work, numerous contractors have disturbed Town right-of-way to provide private water connections and cable drops. The Town requires each utility company to restore the right-of-way where work has been performed, and Town staff will monitor this restoration process.

The Town greatly appreciates your patience with this ongoing work and asks that you alert the Town Office to issues or problems with the utility contractors or their work. For more information, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan Development and Creation of the Connecticut Avenue Corridor Committee

The Montgomery County Planning Department is currently examining both commercial and residential zoning density for the area near Chevy Chase Lake, located at Connecticut Avenue and Manor Road, and could propose major zoning changes as part of the development of the new Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan. The planning process is moving quickly, and the staff is scheduled to make initial recommendations to the Planning Board this spring.

Because additional growth in this area could impact the entire Connecticut Avenue corridor, representatives from twenty-three surrounding communities, including the Town, have formed the **Connecticut Avenue Corridor Committee (CACC)** in order to better advocate on behalf of the communities along this major artery. Councilmember Pat Burda and Mayor David Lublin represent the Town on this committee. Some of the issues addressed by the CACC include traffic impacts on already-congested roadways and intersections; maintenance and expansion of neighborhood-oriented retail; adequate community amenities; and the amount, nature and placement of any proposed density increases. The Town's Long Range Planning Committee also will be following this development and will seek input from Town residents on additional concerns and opportunities for the area.

The Planning Board staff hosted a standing-room-only public meeting on January 10 during which representatives of major landowners in the Chevy Chase Lake area, including the Chevy Chase Land Company, the Howard Hughes Institute and the Housing Opportunities Commission, gave presentations. The Chevy Chase Land Company said it plans to focus on "transit-oriented development" around the proposed Purple Line station and to develop primarily a residential center providing housing and community-based commerce. Unfortunately, the company offered few specific details at the meeting, but it is clear the developer will be asking for increased density. A second community meeting will be scheduled in February to provide another opportunity for interested citizens to express their thoughts and concerns.

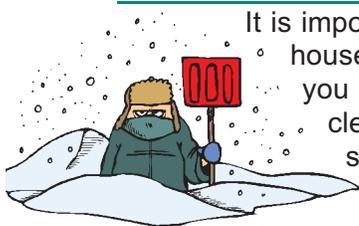
Please visit both the Town's website, <http://www.townofchevychase.org/n/213>, and the Planning Board website, <http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/chevychaselake> to find out more about the sector plan.

Neighbor-To-Neighbor

Do Not Pass A Stopped School Bus

Concerned parents have contacted the Town office to report that drivers are passing stopped school buses at the bus stop at the corner of Leland Street and Oak Lane. The Town police have increased their presence at this intersection to curb this violation.

Please Remember to Shovel Your Sidewalk



It is important after inclement weather to make sure that the sidewalk adjacent to your house is cleared of snow and ice. If the accumulated snowfall is under 3 inches, you will be responsible for clearing the sidewalk. The Town will assist with the clearing of public sidewalks when snow accumulates to 3 inches or more. This snow removal plan will assist residents with clearing sidewalks following significant snowstorms, when help is needed most.

Overgrown Vegetation on Sidewalks

Please take a few minutes to walk your property and ensure that vegetation from your yard is not extending into the sidewalks. We want to make sure the sidewalks are clear of all obstructions so that pedestrians will enjoy the benefit of our sidewalk system.



Doggie Do – Doggie Don't

We have received calls from residents asking us to remind dog owners to be sure that their pets do not defecate on a neighbor's property or on the public rights-of-way, CCES grounds or parks. Please take advantage of the "Dogipots" that are placed throughout the Town.

Neighborhood Watch Works

Bob Baskin, Woodside Place

When an elderly Town neighbor was reported missing recently, a full court press helped to locate him. The Montgomery County Police turned out in full force with teams of officers, including a K-9 unit. They walked the streets and searched back yards. I was informed of the situation by a police Sergeant, and as a Neighborhood Watch Block Captain, I sent a blast e-mail to residents on my street alerting them of the missing neighbor and the backyard searches being undertaken so they wouldn't be alarmed. As a result, several neighbors joined the search. In the end, the gentleman was found, and an example of the usefulness of the Neighborhood Watch's was clearly demonstrated.

Several weeks later another Neighborhood Watch opportunity arose on our street. A neighbor who was having construction work done at her house notified some of us that she had to leave the country quickly to attend to a pressing family matter. She asked that an eye be kept on her house and that no workmen should be there during the holidays. When it was clear that someone was apparently doing some kind of work on her house, I was able to utilize our Neighborhood Watch contact list to get in touch with her to ensure that everything was OK. Communication among neighbors once again proved to be a win-win situation.

In closing, the time it took to help my neighbors was minutes, not days or even hours. The Town is a wonderful place to live and being a Block Captain is a rewarding experience. Some blocks in our neighborhood still need Block Captains. If you'd like to help, please contact Scott Egloff, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, at scottgloff@sportautomotive.com or Warren Rizzi, Management Assistant, at wrizzi@townofchevy Chase.org.

Popular and Diverse Continue to Define CC@H Programs

Joan Hoover

Devoted readers of this column will remember that in January, we mentioned our **February 1** program, just so you wouldn't miss it. It will be another session of the Book Club's "Recent Reads," with brief reviews of current books, followed by group discussion, lead by our erudite charmer, Lois Fern.

Our **February 15** offering marks another departure. Internationally known, Sharon Chaiklin is a pioneer in dance movement therapy. Sharon will tell us about her work, and teach us some gentle exercises that may not make us into dancers, but will certainly assure that, in future, we are less likely to trip over the light fantastic.

An early preview of the **March 1** meeting brings us another session devoted to the recent acceleration of the practice of "Scamming", a crime often committed against the elderly. Roy A. Gordon, Chief of Police of the Village of Chevy Chase, will tell us how to protect ourselves against this Scamming, and will answer your questions.

As usual, all of these gatherings will take place at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, and will be held between 2 and 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and a congenial group of your neighbors will welcome you.

The best news of all is that Chevy Chase at Home is now open for business. The doors swung wide and our wonderful volunteers stepped forward on January 15. The gentle breeze you felt was the collective sighs of all our Members who had wanted to stay in their own homes, but just needed a little extra help to do so. If you'd like to join this happy and contented throng, just call the new CC@H office at 301-657-3115 and learn how you also can become a Member.

Green Up Your Clean Up* from the Environment Committee

Many conventional cleaning products release toxins when manufactured and when used in our homes. These toxins have proven links to respiratory, reproductive, neurological & immune system problems and cancer. In our environment they damage the fish populations, aquatic habitats, and critical soil microbes. Many are petrochemical based and we're familiar with the inherent risks/costs of oil drilling and transport and of disposal of all those empty plastic containers.

The US National Center for Health Statistics reports that 1 in 3 Americans suffer from allergies, asthma, sinusitis or bronchitis, conditions that are oftentimes linked to synthetic chemicals in the home environment. Some of the worst offenders are phosphates, chlorine bleach, petroleum-based synthetic chemicals, ammonia, formaldehyde, and those chemical dyes and fragrances added to make products more appealing.

Are "greener" cleaners as effective as "regular" cleaners? Absolutely! There are now plenty of effective choices on the market and many come concentrated, so diluting with water yields better value per ounce. Refill sizes save \$ while reducing landfills.

What about disinfecting? We know continued use of commercial antibacterial products boost resistant bacteria. Choosing white vinegar, hot soap and water and herbal products meets most household needs, including preventing food borne illness.

Useful tips:

- Be wary of labels claiming "green", "environmentally friendly", "natural", or "Eco Safe". There are not yet labeling standards for these products.
- Check the label for: biodegradable, phosphate and chlorine free, dye and fragrance free. Avoid ingredients you can't pronounce, and "offenders" listed above.
- Choose plant-based ingredients such as grain alcohol, plant oils (soy, citrus, palm and coconut, tea tree); and herbs (sage, rosemary, lavender). New "oxygen" bleach is safer for whitening fabrics.
- Granny's old standbys, borax, baking soda, castile soap, lemon juice, & vinegar are effective, safe, and save money
- Make your own. Re-fill the same bottle with recipes you can find on the Town's Shades of Green pages for pennies!
- Use reusable cloths and sponges for cleaning. unbleached, recycled paper products. Spraying the cloth, not the surface uses less.

* Green Up your Clean Up is the title of a great book by J. P. Schoff, a source we used for this article. Find more info and links on the Shades of Green web pages on the TOCC website.

Participate in the CCES Mentoring Program

Chevy Chase Elementary School is seeking help with a mentoring program. The goal of the program is to pair young students (grades 3 – 6) with an adult once a week after school to receive extra help with their studies. The school will provide support and information for the mentor about what should be covered during the sessions. The sessions will take place at the school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays from 3:10 to 4:10 p.m. as part of the Homework Club. This will be a great way to reach out to the community. Please contact Jean Carlson, jean Carlson55@gmail.com, 301-718-1093, if you are interested in volunteering.

The Landon School Symphonette will be featuring Beethoven's Emperor Concerto and Brahms's Third Symphony at 5 p.m. on **February 19** at the School's Performing Arts Center, 6101 Wilson Lane. Free tickets are available in the Town Office.

MARYLAND RESIDENT TAX RETURN 2010 - FORM 502

FORM 502 MARYLAND
RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2010, ENDING

Social Security number		Spouse's Social Security number	
Your First Name	Initial	Last Name	
Spouse's First Name	Initial	Last Name	
Present Address (No. and street)			
City or Town		State	Zip Code
Name of county and incorporated city, town or special taxing area in which you resided on the last day of the taxable period. (See Instruction 6)		Maryland County	City, Town, or Taxing Area TOWN OF CH CH

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only

A major source of revenue that the Town receives each year is the Town's share of income taxes, which each resident pays to the State of Maryland. Remember to write *Town of Chevy Chase* in the box marked city, town or taxing area. If you use a tax form online, please type TOWN OF CH CH in the box (there are not enough spaces for the complete spelling). This will insure that a portion of your tax dollars will return to the Town so that the Town is able to provide you with municipal services. Do not assume that people at the state level understand the different municipalities that share the 20815 zip code.

www.townofchevychase.org

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

PRSRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Bethesda, MD
Permit No. 418

TOWN COUNCIL

David Lublin, Mayor
Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor
Al Lang, Secretary
Linna Barnes, Treasurer
Pat Burda, Community Liaison

Upcoming Events

Let's Create: Making Art from Recyclable Objects

Sunday, February 13, 2 p.m., Lawton Center Art Room

The Town is hosting another event to fire-up your creative juices. Ketch Ryan is going to supervise a fun afternoon of creating art from recyclable objects. The Town will have: glue guns, leftover fabric, stuffing, glitter, paints and brushes, scissors, some sewing notions and a couple of sewing machines. We hope you can bring: shirt cardboard, leftover buttons and trims, wood, coffee cans, boxes or other items that you think someone may take an artistic fancy to!



Ketch will have some ideas, but she expects the participants and their "stuff" will generate amazing inspirations of their own. We have NO PATTERNS or agenda. This will be an open, interactive fun event the day before Valentine's Day. We are hoping that you arrive with imagination and "recyclable stuff" to share! This event is designed for residents of all ages. We want to make sure we have enough supplies so please RSVP by emailing townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org or calling 301-654-7144.

Chili Dinner

Sunday, February 27, 5:30 - 7 p.m., CCES

We encourage residents of all ages to attend the [Town's 17thth Annual Chili Dinner](#) at Chevy Chase Elementary School. Once again, we will have a special table for our senior residents, basketball for teens in the gym beginning at 6:15 p.m., and entertainment for our youngest Town residents beginning at 5:45 p.m. Chili will be provided by Hard Times. You will have your choice of meat or vegetarian chili, chili dogs, potato salad, coleslaw and cornbread. The event is free, but we encourage you to bring a food donation for Manna Food Center. *You must RSVP to attend this event so that we can make sure that the caterer is prepared to serve all of you. Please e-mail townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org or call the staff at 301-654-7144 by Wednesday, February 23, to RSVP.*

An event for all ages!

Town Bake-Off

Town of Chevy Chase Bake Off and Newcomers Event

Sunday, March 13, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Town Hall

Join us to meet your neighbors at the Second Annual Town of Chevy Chase Bake-Off. This year the bake-off will be for cookies and brownies and will be judged by Spring Mill Bread Company. Bakers should bring at least a dozen cookies or brownies. Eaters should be ready to sample the delicious entries. Whether you will be a baker or an eater, you will need to RSVP to the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org.

Garden Tour

THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE

Got the winter blues? Think SPRING! On a weekend in late May or early June, the Community Relations and Environment Committees are teaming up to bring you a tour of some of the Town's loveliest and most interesting gardens. In addition to seeing what your neighbors are growing, you'll also have a chance learn about environmentally sustainable gardening along the way. Is there a Town garden you'd really like to see? Let Sally Kelly, salkelly@earthlink.net, 301-656-6634, or Bridget Hartman, bridget@hartmanjr.net, 301-654-4938, know. Look for more details in April and May.

