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Greetings from the Mayor

Kathy Strom

The fall season is off to a good start! The Town's five standing committees in the areas of Community Relations, Environment, Land Use, Long Range Planning and Public Services have begun to meet. Many thanks to the volunteers who signed up to assist the Town on these issues. We appreciate your time and commitment and have included a list of the committee members and the mission statements for the committees in this edition of the Forecast.

Our children are back in school, and the new Chevy Chase Elementary School traffic safety plan is in place. We have new sidewalks on Oakridge Avenue and Thornapple Street. We thank the residents of these areas for their cooperation and patience as we have implemented these improvements.

Over the next few months, we will engage in a community-wide discussion of a Climate Protection Plan for the Town. Our Town's dedicated Climate Protection Committee, set up to help the Town fulfill its goals under the U.S. Mayors' Climate Agreement the Town signed in 2006, has drafted the proposed plan to help the Town find ways to reduce carbon emissions and conserve energy. What better time of year to talk about the plan! As the nights turn cooler, and we enter the fall, we are ready to think about ways to keep our homes warmer, perhaps by installing insulation in older homes, or weather-stripping, or by adding storm windows. We hope you will read the article on the proposed Climate Protection Plan in this edition of the Forecast. The complete, more detailed plan will be posted on the Town's website in mid October. Please share your views on the proposed Protection Plan with us over the next few months.

The Town also encourages you to join in some of the activities we have planned for the fall. Whether you would like to get gardening tips from a Master Gardener on October 16, sample beer at the Town's Oktoberfest on October 18 or celebrate Halloween with your family at the party at the Leland Center on October 26, please come out and join your neighbors for some fun fall events. We look forward to seeing you there!

www.townofchevyCHASE.org

TOWN OFFICIALS MEET WITH COUNTY POLICE

David Lublin, Councilmember, and Todd Hoffman, Town Manager

Councilmember David Lublin and Town Manager Todd Hoffman met recently with Captain Wayne Hammil, Commander of the Bethesda Station of the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD), and Officer Denise Gill, Community Policing Coordinator for the Bethesda District, to discuss issues related to public safety and communication.

Public Safety

The Town and MCPD discussed ways to enhance public safety in and around the Town. The Town asked the County to ensure ongoing car and bike patrols in Elm Street Park and on the Capital Crescent Trail, both of which have seen recent criminal activity. Due to the size of the County in relation to the number of sworn officers, County officers do not perform foot patrols. At its September meeting, the Town Council asked the Town Manager to initiate foot patrols by off-duty MCPD police officers employed by the Town.

The Town raised the issue of using bait cars to address the problem of increased thefts from automobiles in the Town. The MCPD has only two bait cars, which are scheduled through the Department's Traffic Division. The bait cars are used in high profile locations, but have not been very successful in preventing criminal activity, according to the MCPD representatives.

The Bethesda Police Commander strongly urged residents to report all crime, suspicious activity, and even potential problem situations to **301-279-8000**. Residents should report even small thefts so that the police are aware of problems and can allocate resources accordingly. Commander Hammil and Officer Gill both strongly encouraged residents to call and to resist impulses not to "bother" the police, as they wish to hear from us. Comments from us help them do their job. Both emphasized that police officers are trained to deal with a variety of situations and can often help people get assistance, even in non-criminal situations.

Communication

Each station of the MCPD, including the Bethesda Station, uses several methods to report local crimes, including uploading information to a third party website, posting information to the MCPD website and providing information to the local media. As we learned, there are limitations to each of these methods.

MCPD policy requires each police station to upload information to www.crimereports.org, a web-based clearinghouse for nationwide crime-related information. This information is uploaded each morning and includes crime reports from the previous day. However, the information is not reviewed or verified, so it is solely based on what is reported by the public and from where it is reported. Oftentimes, crimes are reported inaccurately and from locations distant from the actual crime scene, resulting in a significant limitation to the usefulness of this reporting mechanism.

Each MCPD station also posts weekly crime reports to the MCPD website. As this information is reviewed and verified before being posted, it is more accurate than [crimereports.org](http://www.crimereports.org). For information on crimes reported by the Bethesda Station, visit the following website: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/Apps/Police/crimupdates.asp?dist=2.

Information on the resolution of major crimes also is reported through the MCPD website, albeit in a different location, but stations often do not report information on the resolution of relatively minor crimes. The Town noted this limitation and impressed upon MCPD representatives the desirability of providing follow-up information on the resolution of all crimes.

Finally, MCPD provides crime information to local media, such as *The Washington Post* and *The Gazette*. The limitation with this reporting method is that media outlets choose what information to publish, so the information often is not comprehensive.

The Community Relations Committee, chaired by Ann Wild, is exploring how the Town should communicate about crime issues to residents through the Town Crier and other mechanisms. The Public Services Committee, chaired by Bill Pritchard, and its Security Subcommittee, chaired by Arthur Schatzkin, also plan to continue examining methods of improving public safety in the Town.

Bethesda Police Commander at Mid-Year Meeting – November 13

Bethesda Police Commander Wayne Hammil has agreed to speak and to take questions at the Town's Mid-Year Meeting, which will be held on November 13 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

UPDATES FROM THE LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Steve Seidel, Committee Member, and Pat Burda, Chair

Changes to Proposed Woodmont East Development

Many town residents have followed plans for developing the area in front of the Landmark Cinema and Gifford's. Strong opposition from our Town and many others resulted in the developer scaling back initial plans and increasing the amount of open space contained in revised plans that were approved by the County Planning Board last winter. Recently, the developer has announced further changes. Instead of building a hotel where Thyme Square restaurant had been located, the developer now intends to construct office space, and has eliminated the bridge that was to connect the two proposed buildings on the site, increased the width of the pedestrian walkway/bikepath leading to the tunnel entrance, expanded the size of the green space, and proposes to phase-in the construction starting with the south building. We will continue to work with the developer concerning the development of the green space area as well as the proposed off-site improvements to Elm Street Park, which the developer has proposed.

Purple Line

As many of you may know, the Town been very active on the Purple Line project. Since the successful event celebrating the Capital Crescent Trail in May, the Town has been working with consultants, Sam Schwartz Engineering (SSE), in preparing analyses and responses to the State's Purple Line alternatives analysis. Thanks in part to our hard work, and letters sent on behalf of the Town by many of our elected officials, the State has prepared two white papers in response to some of the issues raised regarding the State's analysis of the Jones Bridge Road Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) alternative. By reexamining that alternative, the State has found 10,000 additional riders for that alignment and our consultants' analysis indicates that number could be even higher. If you wish to read the State and SSE reports, go to the Town's website, www.townofchevy Chase.org and click on Purple Line.

The Town's report states that the Jones Bridge Road BRT alignment *may* provide a win-win solution to the region by offering good public transportation and saving the Trail. However, unless the State gives it a fair analysis, the public will never know. Consider these findings:

- The Jones Bridge Road BRT is the only alternative that directly services the BRAC relocation of Walter Reed and will in effect serve a greater work and resident population than direct service into Bethesda;
- BRT costs a fraction of the cost of Light Rail and thus has a greater chance of getting built (the County could have two BRT transit lines – the Purple Line and Corridor Cities Transitway for the cost of one LRT); and
- Transit and the Trail cannot co-exist in a safe and environmentally friendly manner on the narrow 66 foot right of way on the Georgetown Branch of the Capital Crescent Trail adjacent to the Town.

Town representatives and SSE have also had several meetings with public officials; most recently with the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the County's senior transportation staff and Maryland Secretary of Transportation John Porcari. These meetings have been informative and, we believe, effective. At the end of August, we also held a public meeting with the Jones Bridge Road residents that over 60 people attended.

The County recently announced that the release of the State's Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Purple Line is scheduled for early October 2008. We will keep you apprised by email and the Forecast of the schedule for public hearings and comments. SSE will be carefully reviewing that document and working with the Town Council in preparing the Town's official response.

PUBLIC HEARING ON SIGN ORDINANCE -- NOVEMBER 12

At its November 12 meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to modify Town regulations concerning the display of certain signs on private and public property within Town. The purpose of this ordinance is to ensure that the Town's regulations are consistent with current federal and state law relating to the exercise of free expression.

The Town conducted a comprehensive review of its existing sign ordinance following several recent court decisions ruling that certain limitations may not be placed on the display of political signs. The proposed ordinance would modify the Town Code to remove these limitations, including, the limit on the length of time a political sign may be displayed prior to and after an election and the limit on the types of messages political signs may contain. The ordinance also would remove the current requirement that a permit first be obtained prior to displaying a political sign and would remove provisions allowing commercial signs, in some instances, to be displayed in more visible places than political signs.

In addition to these changes, the proposed ordinance would make a number of other modifications to the Town Code to ensure legal compliance and the continued protection of public health, safety, and welfare. These modifications include:

- Eliminate the Town's requirement that residents obtain a permit before posting certain signs.
- Prohibit the erection of signs in the public right-of-way unless exempted (e.g., traffic signs, residential house/number signs) or permitted as an advertisement for an "open house" event or as a temporary directional sign used in connection with temporary events.
- Allow up to a specific number of temporary directional signs to be erected in the public right-of-way to guide or direct vehicular or pedestrian traffic to certain events.
- Limit the number of temporary event and real estate signs that may be displayed per property, and require the removal of such signs immediately following the temporary event or the sale, rental, or lease of the property.
- Limit the cumulative size of all non-commercial, real estate and temporary event signs displayed on any property to a total of 90 square feet.
- Prohibit any sign from interfering with pedestrian or vehicular sight lines.
- Provide for the authorized removal of signs violating the Town Code and assigning costs of the removal of non-conforming signs incurred by the Town to a sign's owner.
- Clarify that each sign and each day on which a sign is found to violate the ordinance constitutes a separate offense punishable by a \$100 fine.

The Council introduced the proposed ordinance at its September 10 meeting. In addition to speaking at the public hearing, residents may submit comments on the proposed ordinance in writing to Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, or by e-mail to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. For more information, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

For up-to-date information, please visit the Town's website,

www.townofchevy Chase.org

WORKING TO PRESERVE OUR TREE CANOPY

The Environment Committee

Vicky Taplin, Chair

Trees have always been an important part of the Town, providing beauty and shade for residents, as well as a habitat for the animals that live in our community with us.

Trees, especially the canopy trees, are one of the Town's biggest assets. They reduce energy bills by screening sun from homes, driveways, sidewalks and roads, cooling the entire area. They absorb runoff, carbon dioxide and pesticides. If you have walked from Bethesda in the summer, you probably have noticed the pleasant temperature drop when you enter the Town. The owls, hawks and other birds in our trees feed on bugs and rodents, making an important contribution to controlling these pest populations. Most realtors will tell you that one of the strongest selling points for houses in the Town is our leafy, urban forest setting.

The Town is mindful of the importance of our tree canopy and has been working hard to preserve those trees that are healthy, and to remove and replace those that are sick. Through both necessity and choice, many large trees have come down over the years, threatening the vitality of the tree canopy and the quality of life it affords to all of us.

The Town has planted hundreds of trees on public property throughout the Town with the long-term goal of preserving the tree canopy, a goal articulated in the Town's Strategic Plan, adopted in March 2007. Those trees have been large and small, from oaks and beeches to maples and dogwoods. Many are slow-growth trees and take years and even decades to reach maturity. Others are faster-growing.

As a result of public hearings three years ago that focused on neighborhood growth and redevelopment, the Town approved a tree ordinance to protect healthy canopy trees on private property and near construction projects, and to facilitate the orderly removal of unhealthy trees. The Town appointed a Tree Board to evaluate appeals from homeowners and neighbors on a case-by-case basis.

The Town last year affirmed its intent to continue planting trees on public property,

allowing input from neighbors, again with the long-term goal of preserving the tree canopy. While the Town will continue to consider adjacent property owners' preferences when planting in the Town right of ways, residents may no longer refuse trees outright. Where residents request more sunlight, we may be able to plant slow-growing trees that take decades to reach canopy height. The Town will try to accommodate people who request specific species, keeping in mind the goal of preserving a canopy. Some streets have a theme, such as all maple trees or all beeches, and the Town takes that into account as well.

Here are the projects that the Town Environment Committee and its Tree Subcommittee are working on:

- We are looking into an assessment of the state of the Chevy Chase tree canopy to determine its health and plan for its future.
- We are looking at ways to help homeowners plant trees on private property. Arborists suggest that private planting is an important way to preserve the tree canopy, but the Town is prohibited from spending public funds on private plantings.
- We are looking for ways to celebrate the Town's trees and residents who save a tree, plant a tree and otherwise contribute to the town canopy.

Our goals are long-term, and we ask you to be part of the legacy that we will leave to our children and their children. The urban forest surrounding Chevy Chase is decades and centuries in the making. Some of the oaks, beeches and maple trees in our neighborhood were here when Thomas Jefferson was president. When we plant now, we are thinking 50+ years down the road. We know that many in Town have a lot to say about trees, and we encourage resident involvement. The Town is a special place, and we look forward to working together to preserve its special quality for the generations that follow us.

Committee Volunteers 2008-2009

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Ann Wild, Chair	Cathy Wolf
Rose Edwards	Putnam Ebinger
Monica Medina	Tom Brault
Ketch Ryan	Rose Miller
Kathy Simonetti	Martin Gold
Julie Stanish	

Mission Statement

The mission of the Community Relations Committee is to give town residents the tools they need to be active participants in the town's governance, to create a deep sense of community and neighborliness among the town's residents by organizing activities and events aimed at residents of all ages and interests, and to reach out to residents and institutions within the town to ensure that its government and services are responsive to their needs and concerns

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Vicky Taplin, Chair	Joan Rood
Sam Black	Jean Shorett
Ruth Fort	Linda Wright
Miriam Goldberg	Tamara Harris
Coralee Hoffman	Tom Heath
Sally Kelly	

Mission Statement

The Environment Committee was established to help the Town promote a healthier environment for all Town residents. Toward this end, the Committee develops and sponsors voluntary programs to encourage conservation and enhancement of the Town's natural resources and to promote environmentally-friendly policies and practices. It also helps the Town achieve these objectives by proposing new ordinances and suggesting regulations for implementing new and existing ordinances. Lastly, the Committee keeps Town residents informed about both mandatory and voluntary initiatives relating to the environment.

LAND USE COMMITTEE

Bruce Russell, Co-Chair	Jon Hiatt
Donna Kirk, Co- Chair	Dedun Ingram
Susan Blacklow	Jim Roy
Kathy Flaxman	Joe Rubin
Lees Hartman	

Mission Statement

The mission of the Land Use Committee is to consider and recommend solutions to issues and concerns relating to land use and new construction in the Town of Chevy Chase that may be identified by the Town Council, Town residents, or the Committee itself. Recommendations must be made in view of the Town's Strategic Plan and the public health, safety and general welfare of Town residents.

The Committee's goals for 2008-2009 are outlined on the Town website.

(continued on page 7)

Committee Volunteers 2008-2009

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Pat Burda, Chair	Brenda Lizzio
Tina Coplan	John Midlen
Karen Depew	John Navratil
Bruce Douglas	Marty Saggese
Charles Duffy	Steve Seidel
Mary Ann Hoffman	

Mission Statement

The Long-Range Planning Committee will assist the Town of Chevy Chase and the Town Council in meeting the needs of its residents and in protecting the high quality of life in the Town. It will do this by diligently monitoring local, county, and state initiatives to identify potential challenges and opportunities that may affect the Town; by providing analyses of emerging issues; by assuring timely implementation of the Town's Strategic Plan; and by evaluating the plan's effectiveness and recommending revisions. The work of the Committee will be in support of the Town's goals as articulated in the Strategic Plan.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

Bill Pritchard, Chair	Larry Lannom
John Barnes	Michael Lebowitz
Catherine Cecere	Susan Milner Reynolds
Scott Decain	Arthur Schatzkin
Andy Freimuth	Monique Shimm
Sue Hill	Don Sherk

Mission Statement

The Public Services Committee of the Town of Chevy Chase is charged with helping the Town deliver high quality services and promote a safe environment for our residents. Public services of interest include those provided solely by the Town as well as those services that are partially or fully provided by other governmental and/or private entities. These services include public safety, water run-off, utilities and Town maintenance.

PLAYFUL CITY USA – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Councilmember Linna Barnes attended a workshop on playgrounds at the MML Convention in June. One of the presenters was Kaboom!, a group dedicated to increasing parks and playgrounds in towns across the country. At the September Council meeting, Linna briefed the Council on the possibility of the Town joining this effort and becoming a Playful City, USA.

Communities become Playful City USA communities by meeting five commitments.

- Create a local play commission task force
- Design an annual action plan for play
- Conduct a playspace audit of all publicly accessible play areas
- Identify current spending on capital projects and maintenance of playspaces
- Proclaim and celebrate an annual "Play Day"

The Council agreed to create a play task force, which will be a sub-committee of the Land Use Committee. If you would like to join the task force, please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or e-mail townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

TOWN TOPICS

PLAYGROUND UPDATE

In August, the Town Council approved a \$30,000 donation to fund upgraded equipment for a new playground at the Leland Community Center. The Town and County recently executed an agreement detailing the use of the donated money, and the County expects to order and install the equipment this fall. Town residents Susan Reynolds and Anjali Prakash volunteered on behalf of the Town to lead the playground upgrade project and worked with staff from the Montgomery County Parks Department to develop a design for the playground. The final design is available for review on the Town website and in the Town office. The Town looks forward to having a new and safe area for our youngest residents to enjoy.

DOGGIE DO – DOGGIE DON'T

We have received more calls from residents asking us to remind dog owners to be sure to keep their pet on a leash when not on private property. Although a pet owner might feel that their pet is under their control, a surprise encounter with an unleashed dog can be frightening. We encourage you to visit the website, www.montgomeryparks.org, for information about dog exercise parks in Montgomery County.

WSSC WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

By the time you receive the October FORECAST, WSSC should have completed the work on Walsh Street. The work on Oak Lane should be completed by the end of October. This will complete the entire WSSC water main replacement project. WSSC will make the necessary repairs to the impacted streets. The Town plans to repave the streets in the spring of 2009.

CRIMEWATCH

In September, the following crimes were reported to the Town Office:

9/22/08

- Resident in the 7000 block of Valley Place reported that her car was egged after 9:30 p.m. on 9/18/08.

9/13/08

- Resident in the 7000 block of Meadow Lane reported that the rearview mirror on the driver's side of their car was broken off. Does not know the date that this occurred.

These incidents occurred over the weekend of August 29.

- Resident in the 4100 block of Leland Street called to report that her car was broken into on August 29. A GPS system that was in her console was stolen
- Resident in the 7100 block of 44th Street reported that her unlocked car was entered, the glove compartment was ransacked, change taken.
- Resident in the 6900 block of Oakridge Avenue reported unlocked car ransacked nothing taken.
- Resident in the 7700 block of Chatham Road reported car was broken into this past weekend -- \$10 in loose change was taken.
- Resident in the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue reported that a window was broken – nothing taken.
- Resident in the 3900 block of Rosemary Street reported that his car parked in the driveway was broken into and a small wrist radio and some change were stolen.
- Resident in the 7700 block of Chatham Road reported that unlocked car was entered – glove compartment opened – nothing taken.
- Police reported that a car on Meadow Lane was entered over the weekend and various items stolen
- Resident in the 7200 block of Oakridge Avenue reported that the car of a guest was broken into sometime last week - nothing was taken.
- Resident in the 3900 block of Rosemary Street called to report that unlocked car was entered and items stolen.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of reporting all crimes to the police at 301-279-8000. These reports result in increased police coverage. In addition, please report incidents to the Town office so that we can notify our off-duty Montgomery County police officers and our overnight security service. Any information you can give to the police about criminal or suspicious activity in Town will help to make us safer. Also, when you contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 to report crimes, you help us provide accurate crime information in the FORECAST and on the Town website. Thank you for your assistance.

TOWN EVENTS

GARDENING GROUP

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 6:30 P.M., TOWN HALL

Have you wondered...When should I cut perennials back? Should I rake leaves into the flower borders for the winter? How do I choose from all the bulbs available? Would you like to be able to ask an expert your gardening questions? Then join us at our first Gardening Event.

Many of you have already expressed an interest in joining the Gardening Group. It is not too late to sign-up. Please e-mail townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or call the Town office at 301-654-7144 to RSVP to attend our first event. We will host the first event on Thursday, October 16. We will start the event with a light supper followed by a speaker from the Montgomery County Master Gardening Program. We guarantee that you are going to learn everything you need to know to prepare your garden for the winter.

THE TOWN'S SECOND OKTOBERFEST

Presented by the Town Council and the Community Relations Committee

Saturday, October 18, 6 – 8 p.m. in the Town Hall

Space is limited to 70 residents so be sure to RSVP as soon as possible!

Back by popular demand...William Holby, Calvert Woodley Consultant, will introduce you to a variety of German beers. In keeping with our theme, you will have a chance to sample not only a hearty selection of beers, but also a selection of sausages and cheeses.

Please RSVP to the Town Office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or 301-654-7144.

FIGHT THE FLU PROGRAM

OCTOBER 22, 4 – 7 P.M.

MEDSTAR VISITING NURSES HEALTHCARE
YOU MUST SIGN UP TO RECEIVE A FLU SHOT!

The Town is pleased to sponsor a flu clinic in the Town Hall for the thirteenth year. The Medstar Visiting Nurses Healthcare will administer flu shots on Wednesday, October 22 from 4 – 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. The cost is \$35 per shot for adults and children 9 years old and up. There is no charge if you have Medicare Part B. Personal checks are accepted and preferred. Beginning on Monday, October 1, you will be able to sign up to receive a shot by contacting the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

This year Medstar will administer the pneumonia vaccine to resident who are 65 year of age or older. The cost of the vaccine is \$55. You must sign up to receive the vaccine.

SPOOKTACULAR HALLOWEEN

WHO: GHOSTS AND GHOULS OF ALL AGES
WHAT: HALLOWEEN PARTY AND HAUNTED HOUSE
WHEN: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2 P.M. – 5 P.M.
WHERE: LELAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Sponsored by Montgomery County Recreation Department and the Town of Chevy Chase

MONTHLY REMINDERS

TOWNNEIGHBORS IS DIFFERENT—GIVE IT A TRY

Need a recommendation for someone to fix or install something in your home? Do you have items or tickets to sell or give away? Looking for a new doctor or want an opinion about one you've heard about? Need a babysitter or nanny? Need travel or restaurant suggestions? Lost or found a pet? These subjects and many, many more can be posted and responded to on the Townneighbors listserv. Although at times we discuss issues involving the Town, we offer a much more personal approach of neighbor-to-neighbor exchange than the Town's entirely separate, more formal Towncrier listserv that sends out official Town-related announcements. Why not join Townneighbors today? The more members we have, the more we can share. For instructions on how to join the Townneighbors listserv, go to www.townofchevy Chase.org and click on "Townneighbors" under "Quick Links" found at the bottom of the page.

TOWN CRIER KEEPS RESIDENTS INFORMED

We strongly encourage residents to join the "Town Crier," the Town's e-mail alert system. The Town uses the listserv to keep residents informed of timely Town news and information. To subscribe, please visit the Town's website www.townofchevy Chase.org.

NEW RESIDENT INFORMATION PACKETS

The Town staff will be happy to provide new residents with a packet of information about the Town. Please give us a call at 301-654-7144 or e-mail townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org to request that we drop the packet to your house. We also invite new residents to stop by the office to pick up the packets. The Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org, is another great source of Town information.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT – HOST A BLOCK PARTY

The list of block parties continues to grow as more and more neighbors realize that this is a great way to get to know each other and create a stronger sense of community. If your block has not hosted a block party and would like to give it a try, call the Town staff (301-654-7144) to find out how to get started.

COMPLAINT/COMPLIMENT FORM ONLINE

If you have a complaint or compliment about a Town service or program, please complete the electronic form on the Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org. The form provides a way for us to track issues and to make improvements to Town services and programs.

THE MVA IS ON A ROLL!

Reminder: MVA On Wheels will be in Friendship Heights, Monday, October 27, 10am to 2pm

The MVA on Wheels will be set up at the intersection of North Park Avenue and Friendship Heights Boulevard near the Friendship Heights Village Center. The mobile unit is usually in front of the Village Office on the fourth Monday of each month. For details of the services offered at the MVA on Wheels, call the MVA at 1-800-950-1682.

RECYCLE COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFL) IN THE TOWN OFFICE

Have you wondered where to recycle CFL bulbs? We have a collection box for the bulbs in the Town office. Just drop them by, and we will make sure the bulbs are recycled properly.

RECYCLE CELL PHONES

Drop used cell phones at the Town office. The Town staff will deliver the phones to the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department. The phones are programmed for use by domestic violence victims.

TOWN DISCLAIMER

The Town's newsletter and listserv sometimes refer to companies and organizations that may be of interest to Town residents. In providing this information, the Town does not formally endorse these groups or their products or services. The Town encourages all residents to perform the screening they feel necessary to determine if these groups are suitable.

THE TOWN'S CLIMATE PROTECTION PLAN: THE CHEVY CHASE CHALLENGE

Judy McGuire, Chair, Climate Protection Committee

Climate change is now widely accepted as the single greatest environmental challenge facing our generation. It will affect all of us, including residents of the Town of Chevy Chase. High energy use, resulting in release of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, is pushing the climate beyond the point of no return. We in the Town of Chevy Chase can be part of the solution. The Town signed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Agreement in 2006, and joined 80 million other Americans in pledging to reduce our CO₂ emissions by at least 7% below 1990 levels by 2012. Achieving that goal will require considerable effort, but will have many positive results, such as more comfortable homes, long-run financial savings and an enhanced local environment. If we can reach our goal we will become a model for other communities.

In 2007 The Town's Climate Protection Committee conducted a Greenhouse Gas Assessment (available on the Town website) and found that the Town emits 25,261 tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) each year. These emissions derive largely (64%) from our homes and our cars (24%), but also from local institutions (10%), Town operations (1%) and land use changes (1%). To meet the Mayors' Agreement pledge, the Town should work to reduce CO₂ emissions 11% below 2007 levels by the year 2012: to achieve this goal we need to eliminate at least 3385 tons per year of CO₂.

The Climate Protection Committee has developed a proposed climate protection plan, called the Chevy Chase Challenge, to achieve that goal. The plan is based on many sources including input from residents, lessons learned from other communities, and expert advice. The Chevy Chase Challenge is designed to motivate and educate residents to make voluntary changes in their homes, transportation choices, and yards. It also recommends ways to make Town services more energy efficient and increase renewable energy generation in the Town.

The major focus of the Chevy Chase Challenge, as currently drafted, is improving home energy efficiency. Because more than 90% of our homes were built before 1960, they are drafty, inadequately insulated, and often have outdated or mid-sized heating, cooling, and hot water systems. By educating residents, doing some of the legwork, deploying a "Climate Corps" to help homeowners identify opportunities for energy saving, and providing incentives, the Town hopes to encourage the majority of homeowners to take steps to reduce

their carbon footprint. The added advantages of energy efficiency improvements are that they increase comfort in the home, reduce utilities bills, and enhance resale value. The estimated payback period for sealing and insulation upgrades are in the five to seven year range. In the near future, Montgomery County may require energy audits and disclosure of energy costs at the time of sale, so houses that have made energy upgrades will look more attractive to buyers, particularly with skyrocketing energy prices.

The second major area of proposals in the Plan relate to ways to encourage residents to replace car trips with walking, biking, carpooling, and public transportation. The Town will sponsor a series of events, provide technical support and incentives to residents, and create opportunities for neighbors and families to get around town and into Bethesda in climate friendly ways. Walking and biking in particular not only provide opportunities for physical exercise, but also have other benefits such as enhancing personal security by increasing the number of eyes out and about in neighborhoods. The Plan also proposes that the Town explore the economic feasibility and resident demand for shuttle bus services to common destinations.

The third major area of focus for the Chevy Chase Challenge involves suggesting renewable energy in town (solar and geothermal). We are fortunate to be the beneficiaries of a private initiative, Common Cents Solar, to increase solar energy generation in town. All of the CO₂ reductions resulting from this initiative will count toward our goal.

Other activities, which are part of the proposed Plan, will include working to get more energy efficient streetlights in the Town, planting more trees, and exploring ways to reduce energy used in solid waste collection.

The complete version of the proposed Chevy Chase Challenge Plan will be available on the Town website by mid-October. We encourage you to review it and provide your comments to the Town Office at townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

The Chevy Chase Challenge will be discussed at a Work Session of the Town Council on November 6. We encourage residents to attend, comment and ask questions at that meeting. We look forward to hearing from you on how to best meet the Challenge!

MORE CLIMATE NEWS

Hands-On Workshop, Sunday, November 9: 3-5 p.m.

Hands-On workshop on installing weather-stripping at some lucky resident's house. If you would like your home to be the demo model, please contact the Town Office. Please see the November Forecast for more details.

Results of Home Energy Audits in Chevy Chase, Tuesday, November 18: 7:30 p.m., Town Hall

The Climate Protection Committee has negotiated with some certified Home Performance with Energy Star energy auditors to provide reduced cost audits to Town residents. On November 18 we will hear from the auditors, from the Maryland State Program, and from homeowners to learn what are the most common problems in homes, how are they solved, and what does it cost. All residents who have drafty homes, cold or hot spots in their homes, poor air quality, or high utility bills will benefit from this meeting. Coffee and dessert will be served.

Home Energy Audits.

The Climate Protection Committee has pre-screened several firms that are certified by the Maryland Department of Energy as energy auditors and contractors. We called references, checked with the Better Business Bureau, Angie's List and Washington Checkbook and negotiated reduced prices with two of them. Please contact them directly if you would like to have an energy audit and make sure to tell them you are from the Town of Chevy Chase to get the special price.

- For \$250 Live Green LLC will provide an audit and recommend contractors for follow up work. Call Michael Whelan (Town Resident) at 301-300-0639.
- For \$300 Ardently Green will provide an audit and they can also do the follow-up work. If you choose to do the follow-up work with them they will deduct the cost of the audit from the bill. Call Jim McKenna at 301-758-0410. <http://www.ardentlygreen.com/>
- We checked out references for the following companies but their audit prices were higher. They all have glowing references.
 - Elysian Homes (does audits and can facilitate follow-up work), Jim Conlon (877-456-9928) elysianenergy.com
 - Efficient Homes (does audits and follow-up work, Tony Crane (301) 476-7680, efficienthomellc.com
 - Aspen Enterprises (does audits and follow-up work), Casey Murphy 240-375-2311 consultaspen.com

TRASH AND TREASURES

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

Our fall Trash and Treasures is scheduled for the weekend of **October 11 and 12**. The Town provides this special service to residents, who may assemble at curbside unwanted discards from garages, basements, attics and yards, including: appliances (doors must be removed for safety), furniture, rolled rugs, mattresses, games and bikes.

GUIDELINES

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BAG, BOX OR CONTAIN ALL OF YOUR DISCARDS.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT ITEMS ON THE CURB BEFORE FRIDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 10.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL NOT BE PICKED UP:

NO construction debris

NO parts of junked automobiles (engines, transmissions), boats or trailers

NO loose glass of any kind

NO firewood or fencing of any kind

NO paint cans

NO flammable or hazardous liquids or solids

NO newspapers, mixed paper or cardboard – please recycle!

NO shrubbery cuttings, yard clippings, leaves or grass – recycle with yard trash!

If you have questions about how to discard any of these items, please give the Town staff a call at 301-654-7144. We will be happy to help you arrange a special pick-up for items, which are not included in Trash and Treasures. There will be a charge for a special pickup.

PICK UP SCHEDULE: At 7 a.m., October 13, a crew will begin clearing feeder streets to Chevy Chase Elementary School. During non-rush hours, the peripheral streets will be cleared. After these priority streets are cleared, the truck will proceed according to a schedule arranged with the Town Manager. An account of daily progress will be kept in the Town Office. Once a street has been cleared, the contractor will *not* return to that street. Residents who discard items after the street has been cleared will have to arrange for a special pick-up – for a fee.

ALTERNATIVES TO TRASH AND TREASURES

DONATE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT AND TVS

If you would like to donate or recycle computer equipment and/or TVS, please bring the equipment to the Leland Center parking lot on Saturday, October 11. As part of Trash and Treasures, the Town will park a truck in the Leland Center parking lot from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. to collect your donations. We will deliver the equipment to organizations that will refurbish the donated items.

DONATE YOUR TREASURES

As you're doing fall cleanup and getting ready for Trash and Treasures, keep in mind that local charities can benefit from many of the items you're ready to part with. There are two non-profit charity thrift shops right in our neighborhood:

Montgomery County Thrift Shop
7125 Wisconsin Ave.
301-654-0063
Website: www.mocothrif.org

The Opportunity Shop (St. John's Episcopal Church, Norwood Parish)
4504 Walsh Street
301-654-4999
Website: www.stjohnsnorwood.org/opshop/index.html

Both shops accept donations (which are tax-deductible) and take items on consignment. The proceeds from sales support local charities. Please see their websites above or call the shops for details. Please only donate items that are "ready to sell." The volunteer staffs of the shops cannot, for example, repair broken household items, fix non-working electronic gear, mend or clean torn or stained clothing, etc. Also, neither shop is set up to take large furniture items. If you're unsure whether an item is appropriate for donation, please call the shops to inquire.

A WIDER CIRCLE

Leland Center Parking Lot, Saturday, October 11, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

We are happy to continue our three year partnership with A Wider Circle to collect usable items for families in need. The mission of A Wider Circle is to work to reverse the cycles of poverty and poor health by providing programs and services free of charge to families in need in the Washington, DC area. A Wider Circle will have a truck in the Leland parking lot on Saturday, October 11 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. If you have household items in good condition that you would like to donate, please bring them to the drop-off. The items may include: any furniture, lamps, mattresses, bedding, household goods, dressers, tables and chairs. Computers are not accepted.

If you have larger items of furniture in good condition like mattresses, box springs, chests and tables that you would like to donate, you can call A Wider Circle at 301-657-1010 to ask if the items are needed. (Mattresses and box springs are desperately needed!) In some cases, A Wider Circle will arrange to pick up the items.

SHRED-IT – SHRED YOUR DOCUMENTS

Leland Center Parking Lot, Saturday, October 11, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Back by popular demand! The Town has contracted with SHRED-IT to have a truck in the Leland Center parking lot on October 11 from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. to shred papers for residents. Shred-It is bonded and insured.

THIRD ANNUAL ELLEN'S RUN

- Event:** Third Annual *Ellen's Run*
Date: Sunday, October 19, 2008, 9 am
Description: 5K race/3K walk at Candy Cane City Pavilion (7901 Meadowbrook Lane, Chevy Chase) Sign-up by October 11: \$25 (adults -- includes a t-shirt), \$10 (3-12 years old-- includes t-shirt). After October 11: \$35 (adults).
Contact: Nancy Wolfson (301-657-2314 or cnwolfson@comcast.net)
Proceeds benefit the B-CC HS Community Scholarship Fund and the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County. Prizes for the top runners.

Save the date! Ellen's Run is going green this year, so please print your registration form from the website or pay online. To donate or register, go to: <http://www.ellensrunonline.org/>. The third annual Ellen's Run is being held to remember our dear friend and neighbor Ellen Vala Schneider, whose involvement in our community touched and inspired so many. Proceeds from the race will benefit the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School Community Scholarship Fund and the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County. Over 700 individuals participated in Ellen's Run last fall. We hope that you will be able to join us again this year and bring family, friends, and neighbors. In support of this event, the Town donated \$1,000 this year.

SAFETY FOR SENIORS

When: Monday, October 6, 2008
Where: Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd, Bethesda
Time: 3:00pm – 6:00pm

Topics for residential security included at the workshop include:

- Locks
- Windows
- Doors
- Alarms
- Landscaping
- Reporting suspicious activity
- When to call the Police

Table displays by Oasis, Windows Plus, Bethesda Chevy Chase Chamber of Commerce and more!!
Presented by Montgomery County Police – 2nd District
Officer Dana Matthis – Community Services Officer, 301-657-0119.

CHEVY CHASE FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE

8001 Connecticut Avenue -- Saturday, October 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Open House features:

- Supervised fire engine rides
- Demonstrations by firefighters
- Clown
- Fire Truck Slide
- Safety House
- Helium-Filled Balloons
- Refreshments for all!

The Landon Symphonette

Saturday, November 1, 2008, 5:00 p.m.

LANDON SCHOOL MONDZAC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 6101 WILSON LANE

Music the Young and Old!

Richard Weilenmann, Conductor and Artistic Director - Dr. Paul K. Scimonelli, Assistant Director
The Honorable William Hudnut will narrate Peter and the Wolf.
For information & reservations, please visit www.landon.net or call 240-777-7735.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE OF OCTOBER COUNCIL MEETING

The Council will meet on Tuesday, October 14 at 7 p.m. due to the Jewish holiday on the second Wednesday of October.

REMINDER: TIME TO RENEW PARKING PERMITS

Town staff is in the process of issuing the parking permits for 2008-2010. If you have not returned the renewal postcard to us (only residents who qualify for parking permits received the mailing), please do so as soon as possible. Parking permits are issued to all residents who live on streets included in the permit parking program and are ***intended for vehicles parked within the vicinity of that address only***. We remind you that the Town's parking permit program is designed to make sure that residents can find convenient parking in front of or close to their homes, especially those living adjacent to the Bethesda Urban District. Thanks for your cooperation to ensure that these residents enjoy the same benefits of the permit parking program as residents on other streets.

The **FORECAST** is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; e-mail: townoffice@townofchevychase.org; phone: 301-654-7144; fax: 301/718-9631. Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to all Town residents. The Town Council meets in open session the second Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall unless otherwise announced. In October the Council will meet on Tuesday, October 14. All residents are invited to attend.

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Kathy Strom, Mayor
Robert Enelow, Vice Mayor
David Lublin, Secretary
Linna Barnes, Treasurer
Al Lang, Community Liaison