



Forecast

FEBRUARY 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Thursday, February 4

Community Relations
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, February 5

Magic Show,
Town Hall, 6 p.m.

Monday, February 8

Climate and Environment
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 9

Purple Line Mitigation
Ad Hoc Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 10

Council Meeting,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, February 11

Public Services Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, February 12

Movie Night for Families,
6 p.m., Town Hall

Monday, February 15

Long Range Planning
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Presidents' Day

Town Office Closed

Thursday, February 18

Discussion and Desserts,
Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 21

Annual Chili Dinner,
Chevy Chase Elementary
School, 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 25

Land Use Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Message from Mayor Al Lang

In May 2015, we established three priorities for the Town – revenue/budgeting, the Bethesda Sector Plan and Purple Line mitigation. Here is where we stand on each of these issues.

Recently, Fred Cecere, Treasurer, and I met with other municipalities and State Comptroller officials in a meeting hosted by Montgomery County budget officials. The state is working to complete an audit that will clarify our revenue position, both non-recurring and recurring. The audit is to be completed by the end of February. This will significantly affect our budgeting, so I encourage you to attend the Council's February meeting (see page 2) and share your thoughts on the Town's services and expenses you would reduce.

More information is included in this Forecast on our Bethesda Sector Plan efforts. The current position paper is posted on the Town website. This is a critically important effort, which has had and continues to have our full attention, as it will affect our western border from Bradley to Elm Street Park and our northern border along Montgomery Avenue for years to come. We must work with all stakeholders to ensure that safety during and after construction is assured; that traffic congestion, which is already very bad, is reduced, not exacerbated; and, because our children must come first, that school overcrowding is eliminated, not increased.

The Town's ad hoc Purple Line Mitigation Committee, chaired by Councilmember John Bickerman, has issued two Requests for Proposals, one seeking legal assistance and one seeking engineering assistance. This will help us to mitigate the effects of the Purple Line on all residents, while working to assure adherence to state and federal regulations.

In addition to working these three priorities, we continue to support the events organized by the Community Relations Committee -- four February events are described in this Forecast. These are always well done and very popular. And, on a final note, we will continue to work to reduce the burden on our residents; for example, both by allowing more variances to be approved administratively and with changes to our tree regulations.

Mark Peyton, 1944-2015

Mark Peyton, a longtime Town contractor and personal friend to many Town residents, passed away on December 22, 2015.

Mark worked for the Town for many decades, and he was a man of all seasons. He cared for the Town's trees in the spring and summer, collected leaves in the fall, and plowed snow in the winter.

We will miss Mark very much and are grateful for his service to the Town. We send condolences to his family and friends.

Public Hearing on Possible FY16 Budget Cuts

On February 10, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on possible expenditure reductions in the current fiscal year, which continues through June 30, 2016.

The Town expects to receive approximately \$1.08 million less in revenue than budgeted for this year, due primarily to a reduction in income taxes paid by Town residents as well as a mistake made by the State in assigning certain non-resident income tax revenue to the Town. Offsetting this amount, however, is approximately \$650,000 in savings anticipated in a number of Town programs and services during this fiscal year. As a result, the Town expects to realize a deficit of approximately \$350,000 in FY16.

In an effort to reduce this deficit, Council discussed possible budget cuts in certain Town programs and services, including sidewalk snow removal, special events, tree maintenance, police coverage, and legal counsel. The Town Council would like to receive feedback from residents about possible cuts in these and other areas. A complete copy of the Town's operating and capital budget is available for review on the Town website and in the Town Office.

If you are unable to attend the February 10 Council meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, you may submit comments to the Town Office prior to the meeting at 4301 Willow Lane or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Public Hearing on Proposed Property Resubdivision

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on February 10 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall to hear from residents on the proposed re-subdivision of the property at 3905 Blackthorn Street. The owner of 3905 Blackthorn Street intends to re-subdivide the property into two lots (each measuring 75 feet wide by 120 feet deep) and construct a house on each lot. The proposed resubdivision plan is available for review on the Town website and in the Town office.

The Town intends to submit its comments on the proposed re-subdivision to the Planning Board before the Board considers the request. In order to formulate the Town's response, the Town encourages residents to attend the public hearing and provide comments on the proposed re-subdivision. The Council will then formulate a recommendation and submit comments to the Board.

If you are unable to attend the Town hearing, you may submit written comments by February 10 to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane or to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Bethesda Sector Plan Update

Over the past month, the Town has been actively engaged in responding to the proposed Bethesda Sector Plan, including the preliminary decisions that have been made by the Planning Board during its ongoing work sessions on the plan.

The Town Council recently approved a position paper on the Bethesda Downtown Plan, and this document has been provided to the Planning Board for review and consideration. The position paper, which is posted on the Town website, states the Town's opposition to increased building heights and densities on properties adjacent to the Town and advocates for a greenway buffer between the Town and the adjacent commercial corridor. It also expresses the Town's serious concerns about the plan's impacts to local infrastructure and urges the Planning Board to update infrastructure studies given the increased densities that have been approved during the course of the Board's work sessions.

Mayor Al Lang will attend the Planning Board's February 4 work session to present the Town's position related to the sector plan, and he has met with Board Chairman Casey Andersen and Planning Board staff to discuss the Town's interests and concerns. Mayor Lang also has met with St. John's Church officials, and intends to meet with County Council members, to discuss and advocate for Town interests.

The Town will provide additional updates on its efforts related to the sector plan as they develop.

TOWN UPDATES

Native Canopy & Street Tree Plantings

The Town is in the process of preparing the spring tree planting list. If you have a spot in your yard suitable for a canopy tree, you may want to take advantage of the Town's Native Canopy Tree Planting Program. Under this program, the Town will purchase and install a canopy tree on your property at no cost to you. Residents are responsible for the long-term care of the tree once installed. You also may request a tree to be planted along the street in front of your home. If you would like to request a tree, please email townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org, call 301-654-7144, or visit the Town website.

Preparations for Winter Weather

The Town's Winter Weather Preparedness flyer is available on the Town website. We encourage you to review this information. If you would like a hard copy, please contact the Town office.

Connect with the Town

Residents may sign up on the Town's website to receive Town Crier emails, Alert TOCC voice messages and an electronic copy of the FORECAST newsletter. Information on how to connect with the Town using Facebook and Twitter also is posted on the Town website.

Household Organic Waste Collection

The Town continues to offer curbside household organic waste collection in partnership with the Compost Crew. Residents must opt to receive this service. Participants receive a 5-gallon bin with gamma seal lid and compostable liner. Every Tuesday, Compost Crew collects the bins at the curb. A compostable materials list is posted on the Town website. Residents wishing to opt-in may submit the request to the Town office at 301-654-7144 or www.townofchevy Chase.org.



CC@HOME

By Caroline Michaelis

Tuesday, February 9, 2-4 p.m. -- Manoli Cannoli's delectable pizzas come to the Chevy Chase Village Hall for a special Dutch Treat treat! The restaurant will bring pizza and all the trimmings for a contribution of \$5 to \$10 per person, payable on arrival. Please register by February 5 at www.chevy Chaseathome.org.

Thursday, February 11, 10-11:30 a.m. -- The regular monthly Brunch Bunch gets together at the Olympia Coffee Shoppe on Brookville Road, and everyone is invited.

Sunday, February 21, 1-4 p.m. -- At the Chevy Chase Village Hall, classical guitarist XueFei Yang will conduct a Master Class of advanced students who have been pre-selected by the International Conservatory of Music, a co-sponsor of the event along with CC@Home and Chevy Chase Village. Registration is not required, but a donation of \$10 would be appreciated.

A new 5-week session of Gentle Seated Pilates begins on **February 17 (Wednesday class from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.)** and **February 19 (Friday class from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.)**. The classes meet at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Ave. Fees for CC@ H Members, CC@ H Friends & CC United Methodist Church Members are \$60 for the 5 weeks; \$70 for the general public.

Zumba Gold also will begin a new 7-week session on **Wednesday, February 17** at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. CC@ H Members and Friends of CC@ H and CC Village residents pay \$70 for the session. The cost for the general public is \$84. To register and pay for exercise classes go to www.chevy Chaseathome.org.

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Al Lang, Mayor
John Bickerman, Vice Mayor
Vicky Taplin, Secretary
Fred Cecere, Treasurer
Kathy Strom, Community Liaison



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Maryland Resident Tax Return 2015 - Form 502

MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME FORM 502 TAX RETURN			
OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING		2015, 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 Instructions 6.)		Maryland County	City, Town or Taxing Area Town of Ch Ch

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 ensure that a portion of your tax dollars will return to the Town so that the Town can continue to provide exceptional municipal services. Do not assume that people at the state level understand the different municipalities that share the 20815 zip code.

Thank You from the Montgomery County Family Justice Center Foundation

The Montgomery County Family Justice Center Foundation would like to send a huge THANK YOU to those in the town who donated to the Safe Start Holiday Gift Drive. We are so appreciative of your generosity and the efforts of organizer Cathy Wolf. Children enrolled in the Safe Start program have been exposed to the tragedy of domestic violence. They are in great need over the holidays and your gifts put smiles on their faces during such a difficult time. This year's donations allowed for every child in the group counseling program to receive a gift. We are incredibly grateful for your assistance!

TOWN EVENTS

Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee



The Magic Show

Friday, February 5,
6 p.m., Town Hall

Join us for a special family event featuring magician Michael Chamberlin. Michael has planned a show full of surprises and laughter -- one that proves magic can be created by everyone. Using music and comedy, this master magician performs dazzling contemporary magic along with hilarious audience participation routines. The show provides fast-paced, original and spellbinding sorcery for the entire family! Please arrive right at 6 p.m. to enjoy pizza and snacks before the magic show starts. Parents must accompany their children. Space is limited, so please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.



Discussion and Desserts

Thursday, February 18,
7:30 p.m., Town Hall

Back by popular demand! Town resident and terrorism analyst Aki Peritz will be speaking on February 18th at 7:30 p.m. about the Islamic State. Aki will discuss the current status of the organization, whether it is indeed a threat to the West & the U.S., and what we're doing to fight it. Space is limited, so please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org

Movie Night for Families

Friday, February 12,
6 p.m., Town Hall



Movie Night for Families will feature Pixar's *Finding Nemo*. This Academy Award-winning animated film is sure to please everyone. In 2008, the American Film Institute named it the 10th greatest animated film ever made. Showtime is 6 p.m. Please arrive by 5:45 for free pizza, drinks and snacks. Space is limited, so please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. Parents must accompany their children. The film is 107 minutes long.

22nd Annual Chili Dinner

Sunday, February 21, 5:30 – 7 p.m.,
Chevy Chase Elementary School

We are pleased to continue the tradition of hosting the Town's 22nd Annual Chili Dinner. There will be a special table for our senior residents, basketball for teens, and a puppets show for our youngest residents. Chili (meat and vegetarian) will be provided by Hard Times Cafe. The ice cream sundaes were such a good addition to the menu that we will be scooping them again this year. Continuing the Town's support of Manna Food Center, residents are encouraged to donate cash or write a check payable to Manna Food Center. Manna feeds many individuals and families in Montgomery County. Please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org by Wednesday, February 17.

A new organizer for July 4th reading of the Declaration of Independence is needed: Beth Kevles, who has been organizing the annual Independence Day reading of the Declaration of Independence, is moving out of town. A new organizer will be needed for this tradition to continue. The job is intrinsically rewarding. The organizer gets to meet not only Town residents, but many of our elected officials. For more information, and if you are interested, please contact the Town Office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.