

# Forecast

NOVEMBER 2010

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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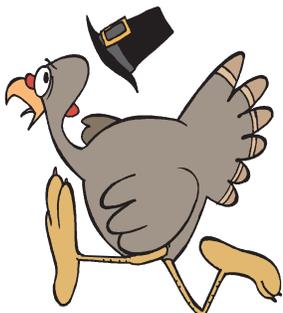
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## Public Hearing on Revised Building Code

At its **November 10** meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing and may act on an ordinance to amend and clarify certain provisions of the Town's building code. The Council introduced this ordinance at its October 13 meeting. Many of the changes in the proposed ordinance are technical corrections to the existing code and are intended only to clarify existing administrative practices, correct errors in definitions or incorrect code references, reorganize and consolidate existing regulations, or add and clarify definitions to support existing regulations. Other changes are more substantive and will result in changes to the Town's building regulations. These changes are described below:

**Permits:** The list of projects requiring a building permit is expanded to include all projects regulated by the Town's building code (including driveways, front yard hedges, improvements in the right-of-way, etc.)

**Portable Storage Units:** The proposed ordinance clarifies that portable storage units are to be regulated as dumpsters.

**Bonds:** The proposed ordinance codifies the existing practice of requiring a performance bond to cover the cost of restoring the right-of-way to its pre-construction condition.

**Construction Meetings:** The requirement for holding a Pre-PAC meeting and Site Management meeting *for projects involving demolition* is changed to apply *only to houses* (main buildings) where more than 50% of the exterior walls are demolished. The current code requires these meetings for the demolition of *any structure*, including a detached garage.

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## Town Wins Green Accolades

Over the past month, the Town has been officially recognized for our commitment to climate change and green initiatives. Bethesda Magazine, partnering with Bethesda Green, and ICLEI, the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, separately recognized the Town as an environmental leader and model for others.

In October, Bethesda Magazine and Bethesda Green held the 2010 Green Awards Gala to recognize and applaud businesses, non-profits, communities, and individuals leading the effort to protect our environment. Selected out of 130 nominees for over 5 categories, the Town won the award in the Community category for its promotion and implementation of climate protection and green practices. Mayor David Lublin accepted the award on behalf of the Town and the many resident volunteers and Town staff that have worked tirelessly to protect our local surroundings and tree canopy and lessen our carbon foot print. The placard, made from recycled bamboo and lyptus wood, will be hung in the Town office. This award recognizes the environmental commitment of

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## **Town Wins Green Accolades, continued from page 1**

the Town Council, the hard work of our volunteers, especially the Climate Protection and Environment Committees, and the support of Town staff. With their leadership and your participation, we can continue to be a leader in environmental stewardship.

At the ICLEI Local Action Summit in Washington, DC this September, hundreds of communities and local governments from across the U.S. shared their successes and challenges from their climate protection efforts. Each of these local governments, like the Town, has signed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement. Out of hundreds of nominees, the Town was the runner-up for the Outreach Innovation Award for a Small Community for engaging citizens in climate protection and tree planting efforts. ICLEI also recognized the Town for achieving its 3<sup>rd</sup> Climate Mitigation Milestone, developing and implementing a local Climate Action Plan. Warren Rizzi of the Town staff and Judy McGuire, chair of the Climate Protection Committee accepted the awards on behalf of the Town

We also would like to offer congratulations to Town residents Ketch Ryan and Kirk Renaud, whose company Common Cents Solar was runner up for the Bethesda Magazine Green Award in the business category. They are recognized on Bethesda Green's website as an organization that has significantly incorporated green practices into its culture and operations.

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## **The Town's Progressive Dinner Receives Rave Reviews**

Thanks to the residents who encouraged the Community Relations Committee to sponsor the second annual progressive dinner. You were right...it was an evening worth repeating. Also, a special thanks to all of our resident dinner and dessert hosts and chefs who made the Progressive Dinner a huge success. With two successful dinners under our belts, there is sure to be a third.

Once again, the biggest thanks go to Bridget Hartman and Cathy Wolf, who are the heart and soul of the dinner. They worked for weeks to ensure that the evening went off without a hitch. We appreciate their organizational skills and non-stop energy to pull the evening together.



# November

- Thursday, November 4 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.
- Saturday, November 6 – East Avenue Ensemble, 8 p.m.
- Monday, November 8 – Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 9 – Climate Protection Committee, 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, November 10 - Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
- Thursday, November 11 - Public Services Committee, 7 p.m.
- Monday, November 15 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 16 – Environment Committee, 7 p.m.
- November 1 – November 21 - Turkey Trot Outreach Projects
- Sunday, November 21 – Turkey Trot, 2 to 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, November 25 – Happy Thanksgiving!
- October 18 – December 15 – Leaf Vacuuming

Visit [www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org) for a complete schedule of committee meetings and events.

## CRIMEWATCH

**The crimes listed below were reported to the Town Office during October.**

10/16/10 A resident in the 7000 block of Beechwood Drive reported that an unlocked car was entered, but nothing was stolen.

Please report all crimes to the police at the non-emergency number **301-279-8000**. For emergencies, call **911**. Please report incidents to the Town Office at **301-654-7144** so that we can notify our off-duty Montgomery County police officers. 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 become a block captain.

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## TOWN HISTORY: 622 years ago . . .

...A battle was fought in the "chace," or hunting grounds, in the Cheviot Hills on the borderland between England and Scotland. The 1388 battle became part of English and Scottish folklore, first in the form of the Scottish ballad, "Battle of Otterbourne," then in the English version, "The Hunting of the Cheviot" or "Chevy Chace." Three centuries later in 1725, Lord Baltimore gave a 560-acre tract of land in the New World to Joseph E. Belt, a colonel in the King's Maryland militia. Colonel Belt named his land grant "Cheivy Chace." In the 1890s developers borrowed the land grant's romantic name, and The Chevy Chase Land Company and its streetcar suburb, Chevy Chase, were born. Local historians Elizabeth Jo Lampl and Kimberly Prothro Williams speculate that the name "Cheivy Chace" probably appealed to Chevy Chase Land Company Founder Francis Newlands' own Scottish ancestry.

Come learn about the battle and the ballads of Chevy Chase at the Chevy Chase Historical Society's fall lecture on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue.

**Twelfth in a series of historical vignettes published during 2009-2010.**

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## "The Ballad of Chevy Chase" Is the Topic CCHS's Fall Program

M.I.T literature professor Dr. Ruth Perry will speak on "The Ballad of Chevy Chase," the ancient sung story about a bloody battle on the England-Scotland border that gave peaceful Chevy Chase its name, when she delivers the Chevy Chase Historical Society's 2010 Fall Lecture on Sunday, Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue. A folksinger herself, Dr. Perry also will sing an abridged version of the 65-verse "Ballad of Chevy Chase" during her talk. The lecture is free and open to the public. Questions about the program may be directed to Mary Sheehan at 301-652-5726.

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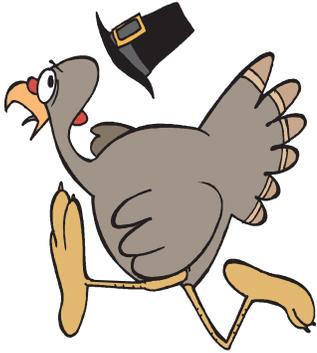
## CC@H Slips Through the Looking Glass

Dear friends and neighbors, this month Chevy Chase at Home has taken your usual program and turned it upside down and sent it through the looking glass. This month, it's all or nothing. For the first Tuesday in November, for our Meet & Mingle program we have.....nothing! You will remember that November 2nd is Election Day, and the Chevy Chase Village Hall is a designated polling place. So sorry, we'll have no party, but please don't forget to VOTE !

However, on **Sunday, November 14 from 4 to 6 p.m.**, you will want to be at the Village Hall because there is going to be a great Celebration in honor of the Grand Opening of the wonderful new Chevy Chase at Home project. There will be excellent speakers, including Mark Shields, our neighbor and television's political pundit. There will be a film starring your neighbors, a drawing for prizes like Champagne, and a free one year membership in Chevy Chase at Home. All your questions will be answered. You can join the program right then or donate to it, and, of course, there will be lots of refreshments. Don't miss this very special day!

On **November 16 from 2 to 4 p.m.**, our regular third Tuesday, we will be back at our same old stand at the Village Hall, recounting tales of the Gala Event, and just having a quiet afternoon at home sharing our friendly games, computers, book discussions, puzzles, and all of this served up with the usual tempting refreshments. We'll save a seat for you.

# Upcoming Events



## 3rd Annual Turkey Trot

Trot over to the Town Office this month to support our Thanksgiving Holiday Food Basket Program and Winter Coat Drive. Please join the Town, B-CC High School, Linkages for Learning, and Interfaith Works to help Montgomery children and families in need this holiday season.

### ***Thanksgiving Holiday Food Basket Program***

Last year, we assembled holiday meals for 55 Montgomery County families. This year, the Town's Community Relations Committee and B-CC High School's Interact Club (thanks to Town Resident Georgia Guhin and Rollingwood Resident Julie Pounds) hope to double the number of baskets.

Here's how you can help between Nov 1 and Nov 21:

- Drop off a \$25 check payable to the B-CC PTA or a \$25 gift card from Giant or Safeway to the Town Office to purchase a turkey for the holiday meal.
- Drop off a \$50 check payable to B-CC PTA or a \$50 gift card from Giant or Safeway, and we'll go out and purchase a meal (\$75 includes a turkey).
- Donate a meal (5 lbs of potatoes, 5 large sweet potatoes, 1 lb of carrots, 3 lbs of onions, 1 bag of celery, 3 lbs of oranges or apples, 2 16-oz cans of gravy, 2 16-oz cans of cranberry sauce, 3 16-oz cans of green beans, peas or corn, 2 10-oz bag/box of stuffing, 1 loaf of bread or dinner rolls, 2 large bags of rice, 1 lb box of butter or margarine, 1 64-oz container of non-refrigerated juice, 1 large pumpkin or apple pie). To arrange for pick-up, contact the Town (301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org)).
- Drop by the Town Hall on Sunday, Nov 21 from 2 to 3:30 pm to decorate the holiday food boxes. The Town will provide the boxes and art supplies.

### ***Winter Coat Drive***

The Town's Community Relations Committee and Interfaith Works (thanks to Town Resident Barbara Garlock) are asking residents for gently used adult and children winter coats, scarves, hats, and gloves that you and your family have outgrown or no longer wear.

Drop off your winter items at the Town Office Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm, starting Nov 1 through Nov 21. To arrange for pick-up, contact the Town (301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org)).

Interfaith Works is a non-sectarian, nonprofit organization that helps more than 30,000 Montgomery County neighbors in need with housing and emergency assistance.

# Upcoming Events

## A Choral Sampler Saturday, November 6, 8 p.m., Town Hall

The East Avenue Ensemble will present "A Choral Sampler" for Town residents and their guests. The program will include favorites such as *Danny Boy*, *Amazing Grace*, and *America the Beautiful* as well as lesser-known gems. There is no admission charge. In addition to Bob Johnson, the Music Director, Town residents in the Ensemble are Miriam Goldberg and Tom Kirby. Please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 to RSVP. See you at the concert!

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## Holiday Gift Drive for Domestic Violence Victims

The Town's Community Relations Committee is again sponsoring a gift drive for victims and/or child witnesses of domestic violence. The Montgomery County Abused Persons Program will partner with the Town in this effort and furnish names, sizes and "wishes" of the children and their mothers. Residents can select a family or individual to assist from a list. If preferred, gift cards to a store such as Target, Marshall, Kohl's, Ross or Sears would be an option in lieu of specific articles.

To sign up to participate in the gift drive, call the Town office at 301-654-7144 or e-mail to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) with "Holiday Gift Drive" as the subject. The deadline for gift collection is Wednesday, December 15.

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## Holiday Buffet for Seniors and Retirees

The Council will host the sixteenth annual Holiday Buffet for Town Seniors and Retirees on **Thursday, December 16** at 12 p.m. in the Town Hall. This event gives residents a great opportunity to enjoy a delicious lunch with friends and neighbors. If transportation is a problem for you, we will be happy to pick you up and deliver you back home. Just let us know when you RSVP. Please give us a call at 301-654-7144 by Friday, December 10 to RSVP. We look forward to seeing you!

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## Neighborhood Coffee – Neighbors Hosting Neighbors

Please join your neighbors for a Town coffee at the home of Kathy Flaxman at 4113 Stanford Street, on **Tuesday, November 9 from 9:30 to 11 a.m.** Please reach out to invite new neighbors or come by to connect with long-time residents. All are welcome (including children), but please RSVP to Kathy at 301-654-7414. If you have any questions or would like to host a future morning or evening Town gathering, please call Maria Olsen at 301-652-4370. Hope to see you there!

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## Manna Food Collection

Thanks to all of you who continue to donate food to Manna Food Center. Town residents have donated over **1819 pounds** of food. We hope you will continue dropping your donations by the Town Office.

# Shades of Green

## From the Environment Committee

Question: What covers 70% of residential floors and brings a host of environmental and health hazards with it?

Answer: CARPET

The Bad News:

- Most carpets and backings are made from unsustainable synthetic fibers from oil/plastic.
- Carpet has a short life span and, when tossed out, ends up in the Montgomery County incinerator.
- Synthetic carpet, carpet adhesives, and chemical treatments are a chief source of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) that linger in your home for months, even years. VOCs cause itchy eyes, breathing problems, skin reactions, headaches, and other reactions.
- Traditional carpet cleaning products often produce VOCs.

The GOOD News:

- You can make your carpet choice as soft on your conscience as it is on your feet!
- Choose natural, sustainable fibers and dyes.
- REDUCE the amount of wall to wall carpeting in your home. Area rugs are soft where you need it, but omit the toxic adhesives.
- RECYCLE! – Recycling 1000 sq. ft. of carpet saves 45 gallons of oil, 1,000,000 Btu's of energy, and 500 lbs. of landfill waste. Recycled content performs just as well as "virgin polyester."

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## Leaf Blowers: Quiet(er) Please

Just a few reminders from the Town and the Environment Committee as we wade through falling leaves:

- Landscape companies must adhere to County Noise regulations and Town quiet hours. A Noise Complaint Form is available on the website, <http://www.townofchevy Chase.org/c/151>.
- Please be sensitive to neighbors here during the day, working or retired, caring for children, or simply trying to enjoy brisk fall days outside.
- You can help! Ask your landscape contractor to use rakes instead of blowers whenever possible, to use no more than two leaf blowers at a time, and set them to the lowest effective throttle. Also ask them to try to "spread out" rather than having many machines/companies working in one block at the same time.

Consult the homepage of the Town's website, under Quicklinks "Noise Control," for the names of companies that pledge to be "noise responsible."

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## Big \$aving\$ on Home Energy Upgrades

It's that time again. When we realize some parts of our houses are cold and drafty and dread those high winter heating bills. Don't despair! Help is on the way at a discount price. The Town's popular Energy Audit and Improvements Program has been renewed for a second year, and you can still apply. You will be reimbursed up to \$600 for an eligible home energy audit and the resulting improvements to your home's energy efficiency. If you applied last year but didn't get around to taking action, you can apply again. Contact the Town office at 301-654-7144 for details.

Pepco, through its Home Energy Savings program, is offering home energy audits for just \$100 (they normally cost at least \$400 and, yes, they qualify for the Town's rebate) and up to \$1200 for home improvements based on the audit. This is in addition to Pepco's \$100 rebate for a tune-up for your central air conditioner, up to \$300 for an efficiency upgrade for your central A/C or heat pump, and rebates from \$50 to \$300 for replacing old major appliances with energy efficient new ones.

For the Town rebate call Warren Rizzi in the Town office: 301-654-7144. For the Pepco rebates call 202-872-2000 or visit [www.pepco.com/energy/conservation/meiin/](http://www.pepco.com/energy/conservation/meiin/).

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## Public Hearing on Revised Building Code, continued from page 1

**Non-Vegetative Surface Coverage:** The area of the front yard included in the maximum non-vegetative surface coverage calculations has been defined differently, and for corner lots this regulation now applies cumulatively to both front yards. The proposed ordinance also includes a provision that allows for the replacement, but not expansion, of existing non-conforming, non-vegetative surfaces.

**Rear Setbacks:** The rear setback for interior lots with a depth between 120 feet and 136 feet has been changed to gradually apply a 5-foot increase in the rear setback measurement that currently exists between lots that are 120 feet or less in depth and lots that are more than 120 feet in depth.

**Front-Loading Garages:** The regulation requiring a front-loading garage to be offset from the front building line has been modified to require a front-loading garage to be offset by 3 feet from the nearest front wall planes measuring at least 3 feet in width.

**Replacements:** The proposed ordinance allows replacement of nonconforming porches, decks, stoops, steps, stairways, chimneys, bay and bow windows, and similar projections. These projections cannot be expanded, however, unless the expanded portions conform to the current Town building code.

**Public Right-of-Way:** The proposed ordinance adds a requirement that the installation of overhead or underground wires, cables, hoses, pipes, etc. within the public right-of-way shall require a building permit. Examples of these would include irrigation systems and electronic pet fences. In addition, a written revocable license will be required by the Town.

**Driveways:** The proposed ordinance clarifies that a driveway apron must conform to County standards. As currently written, the code requires an entire driveway to conform to County standards.

**Retaining Walls & Front Yard Fences:** The proposed ordinance permits the replacement, but not expansion, of retaining walls located in a front yard or within the right-of-way. A variance would no longer be required for such replacement walls. The proposed ordinance requires a variance for *all* front yard fences, while the current code allows for administrative variances for replacement fences.

**Plantings:** The proposed ordinance clarifies that plantings on private property over 12 inches high shall be set back at least two feet from public improvements, such as sidewalks. In addition, no new vegetation on public property may be planted or maintained at a height higher than 12 inches.

**Appeals:** The proposed ordinance creates a process by which any person aggrieved by a decision or action of the Town Manager may appeal the decision to the Town Council, which will hold a public hearing on the appeal.

A complete version of the proposed ordinance, which outlines and explains the changes, is available on the Town web site and in the Town Office. Please contact the Town Office by email at [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or call 301-654-7144 if you have any questions about the proposed ordinance. If you are unable to attend the November 10 public hearing, you may send written comments on the proposed ordinance to the Town Office at 4301 Willow Lane or by email to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) prior to the hearing. These comments will be provided to the Council and included in the public record.

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## Around Town

### Storm Drain Repair Work

Montgomery County will begin the second phase of storm sewer repairs in the Town in early to mid-December. The County will give us two weeks notice before starting the project. The Town will mail more information to you before the project begins.

### Leaf Collection

Vacuum trucks will continue to pickup leaves until mid-December. A map detailing the schedule of the pickup is provided on the Town's website. All leaves should be raked to the curb, not into the street. Please make sure that your leaves are not contaminated by cans, sticks, bottles or rocks.

### Trash Collection

Trash will not be picked up on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 25. Trash will be picked up on your next regularly scheduled trash day.

# MCPS Superintendent Releases Plan for B-CC Cluster

On October 15, MCPS Superintendent Jerry Weast released a report containing his plan on how to address existing and anticipated space deficit issues within Montgomery County schools, including those in the B-CC Cluster. His report did not propose an addition to Chevy Chase Elementary School (CCES), consistent with the recommendations of the CCES Capacity Study that was commissioned by MCPS to identify options to expand the school. The report also recommends building an addition to Rosemary Hills Primary School, which is the school that Town children attend from kindergarten through second grade. Part of the Superintendent's plan is to open a new middle school in the B-CC Cluster and then move the sixth grades at Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase Elementary Schools to that new school, which would be built within the next ten years. In the meantime, the report recommends providing a comparable middle school education to the sixth graders at the elementary schools. The Superintendent's plan for the B-CC Cluster schools can be found on the homepage of the Town's website, [www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org).

On November 4, the School Board will hold a work session to discuss the Superintendent's recommendations, followed by public hearings on November 10 and 11. The B-CC cluster hearing will be held on November 10 starting at 7 p.m. in the Board of Education auditorium at 850 Hungerford Drive in Rockville. If you would like to provide oral testimony, you may sign up at any time by calling 301-279-3617; however, the Board has limited to 25 the number of those who may provide oral testimony, so you are encouraged to sign up soon. You may submit written testimony by November 9 to Board of Education, 850 Hungerford Drive, Rockville, MD 20850 or to [boe@mcpsmd.org](mailto:boe@mcpsmd.org). On November 18, the Board will make a final decision on how to address existing and planned space deficit issues within MCPS schools, including those in the B-CC Cluster.

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

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## Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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### TOWN COUNCIL

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