



Forecast

JANUARY 2014

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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Public Hearings Scheduled for January 8

Purple Line Legal Assistance

At its **Wednesday, January 8** meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on a proposal to engage a law firm to assist the Town in continuing to respond to the proposed Purple Line project and its local impacts.

The Town recently submitted comments regarding the Purple Line's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), which assesses the environmental effects of the proposed project. These comments note significant concerns with the project's skyrocketing costs and funding prospects and call for a new environmental impact study to identify lower cost alternatives, such as bus rapid transit. The comments also raise technical concerns about the proposed alignment, including visual, noise and safety impacts.

As plans for the Purple Line progress, the Town Council wants to ensure that the Town's concerns are given serious consideration by state and federal decision makers, and the Council has proposed to engage a law firm to assist in that effort. The length of the engagement will be approximately 18 months, with a cost of approximately \$360,000.

At the public hearing, residents may comment on this proposal. If you are unable to attend the public hearing, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, you may submit comments to the Town Office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or at 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 prior to the hearing.

Revised Town Contribution Policy

At its **Wednesday, January 8** meeting, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on a revised Town Contribution Policy and proposed implementation procedures.

At the Council's request, the Community Relations Committee reviewed the Town's Contribution Policy to identify areas that might warrant modification, clarification or expansion. The committee also was asked to develop standard operating procedures for administration of the policy. Following is a summary of the Committee's recommendations, which were discussed and accepted by the Council and incorporated into the proposed policy and procedures.

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A Message from Mayor Pat Burda

I hope all of you had a wonderful holiday season. As winter settles in, we have a tendency to hibernate, but I want to encourage all of you to participate in the upcoming Public Forum on Town Reserves. In early January, you will receive a postcard designed to solicit your ideas on ways the Town can use its available reserves for new services, programs or special initiatives. I hope you will take the time to complete this short questionnaire and share your ideas with the Town Council. Once we collect your thoughts, the Town will present and discuss with you different proposals at two public forums on **Sunday, February 9 from 2 to 5 p.m.** and on **Tuesday, February 11 from 5 to 8 p.m.** At either of these meetings, you can learn more about these proposals and weigh in on your favorites. More information on the forums will be included in the February Forecast newsletter.

On another note, I want to encourage you to review the video of the recent Public Meeting on Undergrounding Utility Lines. It is available on the Town website, as is a link to an article from Bethesda Now that provides a good summary of the meeting. While it is clear that undergrounding utility lines is a significant and costly endeavor, we are looking forward to working with PEPCO to obtain a more detailed cost estimate. We will provide updates in subsequent editions of the newsletter.

I hope all of you have an enjoyable winter.



January 2 through January 31 – Annual Coat Drive

Thursday, January 2 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Friday, January 3 – Town Movie Night for Families, 7 p.m.

Saturday, January 4 - “Power Breakfast” Green Social, 10 a.m.

Tuesday, January 7 – Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 8 – Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 9 – Public Services Committee, 7 p.m.

Friday, January 10 - Grown-Ups Go to the Movies, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, January 13 – Last Pickup for Christmas Trees

Tuesday, January 14 – Climate and Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 21 - Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Monday, January 27 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Sign up on the Town’s website www.townofchevy Chase.org to receive Town Crier emails and Alert TOCC voicemail messages.

Town Events

Community Relations Committee Sponsors Coat Drive



The Community Relations Committee has partnered with the Lawton Center B-CC Youth Advisory Committee to sponsor a coat drive during the months of January and February. We encourage you to bring gently used coats, mittens, gloves and scarves to the Town Office during office hours, Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. The coats will be donated to Interfaith Works.

Climate and Environment Committee

"Power Breakfast" Green Social, Saturday, January 4, Town Hall
Free and Helpful Advice on Your Electricity and Natural Gas Supply Choices

Confused about whether competing power and gas suppliers are reputable? Are their deals too good to be true? Can you save money by switching your supplier(s)? What is the best deal for your wallet and for the environment? The Town Climate and Environment Committee will try to help you find answers to those questions at a "Power Breakfast" Green Social on **Saturday, January 4, 2014** at 10 a.m. in the Town Hall. Paula Carmody from the State of Maryland Office of People's Counsel will explain competitive energy source options and help with your questions about your energy bills, energy choices, and the process of choosing your suppliers. This will be an informal, interactive session that will last about one hour. We will supply coffee, juice, bagels and donuts to give you "energy" for the morning.

Please RSVP to CEC co-chair John Kolakowski at ilk036@yahoo.com to reserve your spot today! If you have specific questions you would like posed to our experts, please forward them to John in advance or raise them at the social.

Movie Night for Families

Friday, January 3, 6 p.m., Town Hall



Happy Feet, the tale of a tap-dancing Emperor Penguin, is the featured family flick on **Friday, January 3** at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall. Join us for popcorn, pizza and this academy award winning animated movie for all ages. Please RSVP to townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org or to 301-654-7144.

Grown-Ups Go to the Movies



Come join us at the movies every second Friday of the month. The Town's Community Relations Committee's new documentary and shorts series event premieres with *Red Obsession* at the Town Hall on **Friday, January 10** at 7:30 p.m. Narrated by Russell Crowe, this 2013 documentary film begins in Bordeaux with a celebration of the art of French wine-making. It ends in Beijing with a critical look at the geo-political and economic impact on the business side of the industry. Enjoy a sampling of Bordeaux wines and French cheeses. Space is limited, so please RSVP to 301-654-7144 or townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org.



Thanksgiving Food Drive Thank You

The 5th Annual Thanksgiving community food drive was a tremendous success. Eighty Montgomery County Public School families served by Linkages to Learning were provided ingredients for a hearty Thanksgiving meal. Other MCPS families will receive much needed food cards for the upcoming holiday school breaks. More than 115 residents and families from the Town of Chevy Chase, the Lawton Community Center, B-CC High School and Chevy Chase Elementary School donated to this year's food drive. Members of the B-CC football team unloaded, sorted and boxed up 3,350 pounds of food. Chevy Chase Elementary School children decorated the 80 boxes.

Once again, this was a truly a collaborative effort, supported by the Town of Chevy Chase, B-CC High School, Chevy Chase Elementary School and the Lawton Community Center.

Town Updates

CRIMEWATCH

Please report all suspicious activity and crimes to the Montgomery County police at the non-emergency number 301-279-8000. For emergencies or crimes in process, call 911. Any information you can give to the police about criminal or suspicious activity in Town will help to make us safer.

Winter Storm Preparedness 2014



A Winter Storm Preparedness reference guide was included in the December issue of the newsletter and is posted on the website. We encourage you to review the information and post the guide in a prominent place in your home. If you would like a hard copy dropped to you, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

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 are responsible for clearing the sidewalk. The Town will assist with the clearing of public sidewalks when snow accumulates to 3 inches or more.



Recycle Your Christmas Tree!



The Town offers curbside pickup of Christmas trees. All wire, ornaments and tinsel must be removed. The deadline for pickup is January 16.

Overgrown Vegetation in Town Rights-of-Way

In order to ensure that our Town is pedestrian friendly, the Town asks residents to trim all vegetation so that there is approximately a seven foot clearance over the sidewalks and so that the vegetation does not extend into the sidewalks.



Revised Town Contribution Policy, *continued from page 1*

- The Town Council, as part of its annual budget process, shall establish an amount in its general operating expenditures for contributions to eligible recipients for eligible purposes. The Town Council shall not be required to spend any or all of the allocation. In addition, if, at any point during the year, there are insufficient revenues to meet the Town's operating expenditures, a likelihood of a projected budget deficit, or the need draw on Town reserves, the Town Council may elect to forego consideration of requests for contributions.
- The Town Council shall establish deadline(s) for submission of contribution requests. Deadline(s) shall be adopted concurrent with the adoption of the Town's annual budget. Emergency requests may be considered on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Town Council.
- All contribution requests shall be scheduled for Council discussion at a public meeting. If the Council determines that a request meets the criteria set forth in the Town's Contribution Policy, then a public hearing would be scheduled. Final action by the Council would follow a public hearing.
- The Town shall require basic financial and governance information from all organizations that request contributions.
- The Town shall require a formal letter of agreement to be signed and dated by any recipient organization.

A complete copy of the revised Contribution Policy and proposed operating procedures are available on the Town website. If you are unable to attend the public hearing, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, you may submit comments to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 or to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org prior to the hearing.



Household Organic Waste Collection Begins on Tuesday, January 7, 2014
(See article on back page.)

Compostable Materials List

YES – Put these things in your compost

- Alfalfa pellets • apple cores • banana peels • biodegradable kitchenware • bones of fish, chicken and meat • bread • brown paper bags • carrot tops • cauliflower stalks • cheese • citrus fruits • cloth paper • coconut husk and shell • coffee grounds and filters • compostable plastics • cooked food • corn on the cob • cotton materials (rags, clothing, etc.) • cup sleeves • dairy waste (e.g. butter, cheese, yogurt) • dryer lint • eggs • egg shells • fabric, thread, ribbon made of natural materials • feathers • fish • fish emulsion fertilizer • flowers • food cooked in oil • freezer-burned foods • fruit and vegetable scraps (peels, cores, seeds, stems, rinds, etc.) • fruits and vegetables • garden litter & sweepings • grains (pasta, bread, rice, cereal, etc.) • hair clippings • hemp materials • houseplant trimmings • indoor sweepings, human and animal hair • leather • leaves - dried or fresh • lime • mango and tamarind seeds • meat/fish • nail clippings • napkins • non-bleached paper towels • nut shells • nuts, seeds • onion or garlic • orange peels • paper napkins and plates • pasta • pencil shavings • pine needles • pineapple head and skin • pizza • powdered milk • rice • rotten eggs • rotten vegetables • sawdust • seaweed or kelp • shells from seafood • silk materials • soap bits - organic only • stalks, roots • string • sugar cane • tamarind pulp • tea bags (remove metal staples from the bag and/or tag) • tea leaves • tissue paper • tomatoes • vacuum bag contents (remove any plastic, metal, or glass) • watermelon rinds • wool •

NO – Keep these things out of your compost

- Aluminum and foil (recycle!) • animal or human waste • aquarium water or sludge • batteries (recycle!) • broken glass • buckets • candles, crayons, wax • CD-DVDs • charcoal ash • chemicals • cigarette butts • coal • cosmetics • dangerous items • dead animals • diapers • diseased plants • electronics (recycle!) • E-waste • foil wrappers and shiny packaging • glass bottles (recycle!) • glossy, slick colored paper (recycle!) • herbicides • inorganic materials, (polyester, acrylic, rubber, etc.) • invasive plants • kitty litter • magazines • medicine (special disposal!), medical waste • metal cans (recycle!) • newspaper (recycle!) • non-biodegradable waste • non-organics (plastic, glass, metal – recycle!) • packaging from toxics • paint • paper (recycle!) • paper-ware with plastic lining • pernicious, invasive weeds • pesticides • plastic bags (recycle!) • plastic bottles and boxes (recycle!) • plastic cups • plastics • poisonous plants • razor blades • recyclables (recycle!) • rubber bands, twist ties, vegetable Velcro, etc. • sanitary napkins • soiled bandages • toxics • treated woods • tube lights • wood ash •

WHEN IN DOUBT, LEAVE IT OUT

For details on this program, see the back page of this newsletter. If you would like to know if an item can be composted, please contact the Compost Crew at info@thecompostcrew.com. Bins should be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on Tuesday for collection (except holidays). *Tear out and keep this list in an easily accessible location for reference.*

Committee Corner

Purple Line Mitigation Group Seeks Additional Member

The Town's Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group (MAG) is looking for a new member to join it in working with the Maryland Transit Administration to minimize the negative impacts on the Town if the Purple Line project is built. The new member will fill the vacancy left when a MAG member recently moved from the Town.

Seven Town residents on MAG representing a cross-section of neighborhoods, trail users, professional backgrounds and positions on the Purple Line have collaborated with MTA since 2009 to mitigate visual, noise and safety impacts of the proposed light rail project. Noise walls along the entire length of the Town's northern border are planned as a result of the collaboration, but important work still remains on such issues as designing a safe pedestrian crossing at Lynn Drive.

Town residents interested in serving on MAG are asked to send a brief message to Mayor Pat Burda at pburda@townofchevy Chase.org describing their interest in the task and any relevant skills or experience they would bring to the effort. Deadline for these expressions of interest is January 15, 2014.

Around and About Chevy Chase

Start Off the New Year with Chevy Chase At Home

CC@ H will start off the New Year with a Meet & Mingle Bingo party on **Tuesday, January 7** from 2 to 4 p.m. at Chevy Chase Village Hall. It's not the mega-million lottery, but it should be fun and relaxing after the holiday madness. And there will be delicious refreshments.

Brunch Bunch will gather on **Thursday, January 9** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road. Everyone is welcome, so come and bring a friend, buy a cup of coffee and join the CC@ H table for some good conversation. It's a great way to meet your neighbors and warm up on a cold winter morning.

On **Tuesday, January 21**, join us for a virtual tour of the Silk Road with CC@ H volunteer and intrepid traveler Jan Augustine. "Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan: Where?? Why???" Jan, who recently returned from a Road Scholar tour through Central Asia, will answer these questions and fill us in on this fascinating, but relatively unvisited, part of the world. Some history, some geography, some current events, and maybe a few photographs!

For more information, please visit our website at www.chevy Chaseathome.org.

JANUARY Events at the Chevy Chase Library

8005 Connecticut Avenue, www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library

Foreign Film Series, Saturday, January 4, 1 p.m.

"English, Vinlish" a 2012 Indian film.

Non-Fiction Book Discussion, Wednesday, January 8, 2 p.m.

The Girls from Ames: A Story of Women and Friendship by Jeffrey Zaslow

Great Books Group, Wednesday January 8, 7:30 p.m.

The Skeptical Environmentalist by B. Lomborg

Jefferson Café, Friday, January 17, 10:30 a.m.

This month's article is "The Killing Machines" by Mark Bowden. The Atlantic, 2013.

Fiction Book Discussion, Wednesday, January 22, 2 p.m.

The Piano Teacher by Janet Y.K. Lee

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Patricia Burda, Mayor

Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor

Al Lang, Secretary

David Lublin, Treasurer

John Bickerman, Community Liaison

Household Organic Waste Collection to Begin January 7

Household organic waste collection will begin **Tuesday, January 7** for those residents who opted into the service. Bins must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. every Tuesday for collection (except holidays). On collection day, the contractor will empty the bin, wipe it down, replace the liner and return it to the curb. A compostable materials list is provided in this newsletter and on the Town website at www.townofchevychase.org. This program allows for one bin per household; however, you may arrange to have additional bins provided for a fee by contacting Compost Crew at (301) 202-4450 or compostcrew.com/chevychase.

Residents wishing to opt-in to this service may do so by contacting the Town Office by the last Tuesday of any month. Bins will be delivered to new participants on the first Tuesday of the following month, with regular pickup beginning the following week.

Compost and garden mix (50% compost, 50% topsoil) are available for purchase through Compost Crew's website at www.compostcrew.com/shop. Special rates apply if purchased in bulk. If your order is \$100 or more, you can use the coupon code "freedelivery."



Happy New Year!