



# Forecast

MARCH 2013

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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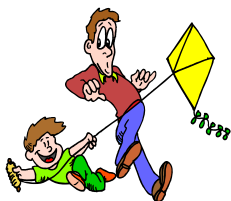
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### Town Teens List

The Town maintains a list of Town Teens who baby-sit, pet-sit and do other jobs. Please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 if you would like to receive the list.

## Participate in the 2013-14 Budget Process

Linna Barnes, Treasurer

March 13 Public Meeting on Budget

March 27 Council Budget Work Session

April 10 Approval of Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 7 Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 8 Adoption of FY14 Budget and Tax Rates

The Town Council will hold a public meeting on **Wednesday, March 13** to hear from residents about next year's budget and which new or ongoing initiatives they would like to see funded. This meeting will allow residents to participate in the budget process from the very beginning. Following this meeting, the Council will hold a work session on **Wednesday, March 27** to review the proposed budget that the staff and Treasurer have prepared. Another discussion of the budget will occur at the **Wednesday, April 10** Council meeting, at which time residents will again be able to speak on the budget during the public comment portion of the meeting. There will be a public hearing on the final proposed budget at the Annual Meeting on **Tuesday, May 7**, before the Council adopts the budget for the next fiscal year at the May Council meeting.

The Town's fiscal situation has improved this year, and we expect to receive more State income tax revenue than originally budgeted. The Town's portion of State income tax, which is set by the State based on a formula that the Town does not control, represents the largest revenue source that the Town receives and recently has comprised almost 90 percent of total annual revenue. It is difficult to predict next year's tax revenues; however, even while maintaining a sizable rainy-day fund, the Town possesses sufficient funds to maintain or enhance current service levels, to fund necessary capital projects, and to consider new initiatives.

We look forward to hearing from you at these meetings. If you are unable to attend in person, please submit written comments to [townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org) or to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane.

## Town Election Board

Mayor Pat Burda has appointed Cory Modlin to Chair the Election Board for the 2013 election. He will serve with fellow Board member Ed Finn and new member Steve Lawton. The Town has contracted with the League of Women Voters to administer and monitor the election. The Election Board will work with the League to ensure that the Town election process follows the provisions outlined in the Town's municipal code. *See page 2 for Election Procedures.*

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# COUNCIL ELECTION 2013

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Residents with questions on any aspect of the Election are encouraged to contact a member of the Election Board: Cory Modlin, Chair, 301-652-6789; Ed Finn, 301-657-4607; and Steve Lawton, 301-654-5904.

## Town Elections

Town Elections are governed by the provisions in Chapter 8 of the Town of Chevy Chase Municipal Code, which state:

“...an election shall be held on the first Tuesday in May of each year to elect members of the Town Council. Three (3) members shall be elected in even numbered years and two (2) members in the odd numbered years.”

Town residents will select two candidates in the 2013 election, each to serve on the Council for a two year term. The terms of Linna Barnes and Pat Burda will expire in May. Both of the incumbents will be candidates in the May 7 election.

## NOMINATIONS ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination, a resident must have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election and be a registered voter in the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase.

## NOMINATING PROCEDURES

Residents are encouraged to present by petition their names or those of Town residents who are willing to serve on the Town Council. Blank petitions are available in the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, 301-654-7144.

Petitions must contain the following information: the candidate's name, address, occupation, length of residency in the Town, a short biographical sketch and a short statement (limit to 400 words or less), confirmation of willingness to serve if elected, and the endorsing signatures, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five persons, other than the candidate, eligible to vote in the above election.

**Petitions must be delivered to the Town Office before 5 p.m. on April 16, 2013, the third Tuesday preceding the election, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the printed ballot.**

Petitions may be inspected at the Town Hall on **Tuesday, April 16** between the hours of 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. Any challenges to the form of the petitions or the persons signing the petitions must be made in writing and delivered to the Election Board at the Town Office no later than 9 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 17**. The Election Board may make additional nominations and must do so if an insufficient number of candidates have been nominated by petition to ensure that at least one candidate is nominated for each opening on the Town Council.

## CANDIDATES MEET AND GREET

If the election is contested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a moderated forum and dialogue with the community on **Thursday, April 25** at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. The Election Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents. If the election is uncontested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a meet and greet event.

## FLOOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations from the floor cannot be considered at the Annual Meeting since voting will begin in advance of the meeting.

## WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

There will be appropriate blanks on the printed ballot for the purpose of adding write-in candidates at the time of the election.

## NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

The names, short biographical sketches and short statements of all candidates will be mailed to all residents two weeks preceding the election.

## FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE - NEW PROVISION

As a result of changes in Maryland law, the State Ethics Commission decided not to extend the Town's full exemption from the State Ethics Law. Accordingly, the Town Council is working on revising the Town ethics laws to address changes in the State Ethics Law. Once revisions are adopted, Council members, and candidates for office, will be required to submit annual financial disclosure statements. The financial disclosure statement recommended by the State Ethics Commission is available for review at the Town Office.

## VOTING ELIGIBILITY

A resident must be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age, have resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days preceding the Town election and be a registered, qualified voter of the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase to be eligible to vote.

## POLL LOCATION AND HOURS

The polls will be located in the Town Hall, 4301 Willow Lane. The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on **Election Day, Tuesday, May 7, 2013**.

## ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Any qualified voter may vote by absentee ballot. Residents desiring an absentee ballot individually must apply in writing (by mail, fax, email or in person) to the Town Office. Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Office on **Tuesday, April 23** at 12 p.m. The absentee ballot must be returned in the printed envelope provided by the Town. To be counted, any absentee ballot must be received in the Town Office by 8 p.m. on **Election Day, Tuesday, May 7, 2013**.

# Public Hearings

## Proposed Generator Purchase for Town Office/Hall

At its **March 13** meeting, the Town Council will host a public hearing on the possible purchase of a generator to provide backup power to the Town Office and Town Hall. A generator would allow Town facilities to remain open during power outages. The cost of a generator would be approximately \$122,000. Some ancillary costs might be incurred to provide additional noise mitigation measures to meet County noise standards.

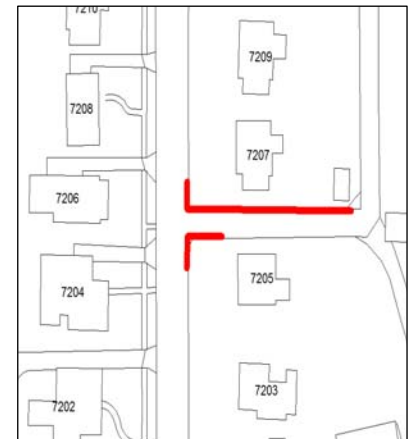
If you are unable to attend the **March 13** meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, you may e-mail your comments to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or submit written comments to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, prior to that date.

## Proposed Parking Restrictions on Ridgewood Avenue/Alley

On **Wednesday, March 13** at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on proposed parking restrictions along Ridgewood Avenue and in Ridgewood Alley.

The Town has received complaints about difficult vehicle turning movements and impaired motorist sight distances at the Ridgewood Avenue/Ridgewood Alley intersection. Both problems are largely caused by vehicles parked along Ridgewood Avenue on both sides of the alley and within the alley itself. This situation also impacts the ability of emergency vehicles to access the alley and will make it difficult for construction vehicles to access the alley when work begins on two new houses there.

The Town recently asked its consulting engineer to review this issue and provide a recommendation on how to improve traffic safety at this location. The engineer has proposed prohibiting parking along the east side of Ridgewood Avenue on both sides of the alley to improve the ability for motorists to turn into and out of the alley. Specifically, parking would be prohibited 12 feet north and 15 feet south of the alley entrance. The Town's consulting engineer also recommends restricting parking within the alley itself to improve maneuverability and access. Specifically, parking would be prohibited on the north side of the alley segment east of Ridgewood Avenue and on the south side of the alley within 25 feet of the Ridgewood Avenue curb line. The diagram at right illustrates the engineer's recommendations. The red lines indicate where parking would be prohibited.



If you are unable to attend the **March 13** meeting, you may e-mail your comments to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or submit written comments to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, prior to that date.

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## Residents Encouraged To Download Pepco's Mobile App

The Town encourages those residents with smart phones and other devices to download Pepco's **free** mobile application. This app allows customers to: report power outages, view interactive outage maps, get power restoration times, pay your bill and call Pepco to report outages.

For more information, please visit <http://www.pepco.com/home/emergency/mobileapp.aspx>.

## A Message from Mayor Pat Burda

I hope everyone is enjoying another relatively mild winter. It's hard to believe spring is right around the corner.

I wanted to take this opportunity to make residents aware of a recent decision by the State Ethics Commission. In late January, the Commission reviewed and denied the Town's request for a continued full exemption from the State's municipal ethics law. Prior to this decision, Councilmembers did not have to submit annual financial disclosure statements that are made available for public review. The Town is now required to adopt conflict of interest and detailed financial disclosure laws for both our Councilmembers and for any candidates wishing to run for Council.

While the Town Council fully appreciates the concerns of impropriety that the law is trying to address, it also believes that the current State ethics laws are too onerous and invasive for a municipality of our nature. Not only do Town Councilmembers serve in an unpaid capacity, but the Town is administered by a professional manager who is bound by strict Town procurement and contracting laws. The Council is particularly concerned that this recent decision will significantly impact the willingness of Town residents to serve on, or remain on, the Town Council. As many of you may know, the Commission recently denied a full exemption for Chevy Chase Village, which lost two of its Board members as a result and which has not been able to fill those positions.

In order to comply with the law, the Town Council is now moving forward with drafting an ordinance requiring financial disclosure by elected officials and candidates for office. While the Town is actively attempting to achieve compliance, the Council intends to look into possible legislative remedies or other means to reduce the impact of these new laws on the Town. We will provide updates as they are available.



## March Calendar

Tuesday, March 5 – Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 7 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 8 – Movie Night for Families, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, March 12 – Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 13 – Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 16 – Drum Circle, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Monday, March 18 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 19 – Garden Talk, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 20 – Climate and Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 26 – Public Services Committee, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 27, Council Budget Work Session, 7 p.m.

### Mark Your Calendar

Spring Trash and Treasures will be the weekend of April 20 and 21.



# Town Events

## Movie Night for Families

Friday, March 8, 6 p.m., Town Hall

The Lion King is the film choice for Movie Night on **Friday, March 8** at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to the Town Office at [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or 301-654-7144. Space is limited. Remember to arrive at 6 p.m. sharp to get a slice of pizza before the start of the movie. Parents must accompany their children.

## Drum Circle

Hope to See You In The Circle!



Join us on **Saturday March 16**, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. for an afternoon of drumming and rhythm. During the event, you will have an opportunity to experience group rhythm in a variety of facilitated activities. Learn how to pull the voices out of your drum/percussion instrument, create rhythms through call and response, and settle your groove into a communal pulse. This event is geared toward those new to drumming and those who have been passionate about rhythm for years. All instruments will be provided, and all participants will walk away with a better sense of how to fit your rhythm into a group situation.

We had a great time at last year's event and plan to outdo ourselves this year, so please come out and join us. Please wear something comfortable and be ready to groove.

## "The Gospel of All Things Green"

Horticulturist Janet Draper, March 19, 7:30 p.m., Town Hall



Janet Draper, horticulturist for the Smithsonian's Mary Livingston Ripley garden since 1997 and a dynamic speaker, will present "The Gospel of All Things Green" on **Tuesday, March 19** at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. The talk will introduce people to fantastic plants for their home gardens and will encourage gardeners to explore entire plant families (to go beyond the few plants in a family that are widely known). The lecture goes through the seasons of the garden and touches on the differences between a home garden and one designed for the public.

The Town's Climate and Environment Committee and Community Relations Committee and the Glenwood Garden Club will co-host this talk. Light refreshments will be served.

## Town Bake Off

Sunday, April 14, 2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m., Town Hall



Join us at the Fourth Annual Town of Chevy Chase Bake-Off! This year the bake-off will be for Sweet Treats (puddings, pastries, candies and chocolates) and will be judged by **Fraiche Cupcakery**. Bakers should bring enough for at least 8 servings. Eaters should be ready to sample the delicious entries. Whether you will be a baker or an eater, you will need to RSVP to the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org). The winner will receive a gift card to **Fraiche Cupcakery**, 10219 Old Georgetown Rd., Bethesda, MD 20814. The judge from **Fraiche Cupcakery** is owner, Nina Deva. <http://fraichecupcakery.com/>

## Join the Habitat Team!

Save the Date for **Friday, May 10**, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. when the Community Relations Committee will host a festive wine and cheese evening to support Habitat for Humanity's newest construction project in Montgomery County. As a Neighborhood Build sponsor, we will be helping with the purchase of construction materials and supplies to build 19 homes in the Maple Hill Townhome Community of Gaithersburg. For more information or to contribute to the project, contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org).

# Committee Corner

## Climate and Environment Committee

### Help the Town Become Maryland's Next SMC Community

In October 2012, the Town Council passed a resolution authorizing the Town to participate in the Sustainable Maryland Certified (SMC) program. The SMC program is a voluntary certification program developed specifically for municipalities in Maryland who want to "go green," control costs and save money, and take steps to sustain their quality of life over the long term.

One of the first steps in the program is a community survey to better understand which sustainability issues matter most to Town residents. The Climate & Environment Committee has endeavored to make this survey manageable in size and length so that it will be an easy and positive experience for the community. To complete the online survey, please visit: <http://TOCCEnvironmentalSurvey.questionpro.com>

Please take the survey soon; the last date to complete it is March 31. While the survey is voluntary, the Committee would like to hear from as many residents as possible so we can take your views into consideration. If you would like a hard copy of the survey, please contact Eric Glidden at 301-654-7144 or [eglidden@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:eglidden@townofchevy Chase.org).

### Composting: A Pilot Project Underway

At its January meeting, members of the Climate & Environment Committee learned about the work of [www.TheCompostCrew.com](http://www.TheCompostCrew.com), an initiative of three recent college grads working to help our county further environmental sustainability by recycling household organic waste. By providing bins, pickup service and an offer of free compost soil, all for a reasonable charge, they enable us to break the stream of organic waste flowing from our kitchens into costly landfills. The pilot project, which attracted 25 participants from the Townneighbors listserv, is currently operating for 3 months at a one-time fee of \$25. If you are interested in participating, please contact Julia Randall, a Climate and Environment Committee member, at [jrandall@rcn.com](mailto:jrandall@rcn.com). It is important to note that this effort also improves the Town's environmental sustainability rating with the State.

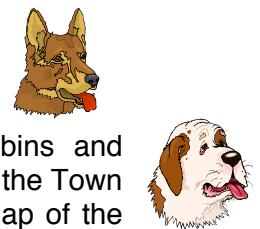
### Beware of an Early Spring!

All indications are that our cockamamie weather is likely to cause trees and flowering shrubs to bud early, which isn't good for the plants or the insects that depend on them. Early bloom is often followed by a killing frost. If you or your children are interested in becoming part of a fun and fascinating citizen science data collection project, join Project Bud Burst. ([budburst.org](http://budburst.org)). You or your children can enter data, communicate with others, and document what is happening to the environment right in our town.



### Doggie Do and Doggie Don't

The Town Office has received calls from residents complaining that dog owners and walkers are allowing their pets to defecate in the public rights-of-way. Also, dog owners have discarded bagged dog feces in residents' recycling bins and contractors' dumpsters. In an effort to aid pet owners in cleaning up after their pets, the Town has installed dogi-pots in key locations throughout Town. The Town has posted a map of the dogi-pot locations on the Town's website, [www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org).



# Around and About Chevy Chase

## “Chesapeake Bay in the War of 1812” Chevy Chase Historical Society March Lecture

American history buffs and lovers of the Chesapeake Bay can learn more about the Bay’s pivotal role in the War of 1812 at a free Chevy Chase Historical Society community lecture on **Sunday, March 10** at 4 p.m. in the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue.

On **Saturday, March 23**, the Chevy Chase Historical Society will host a field trip to Baltimore to visit the Maryland Historical Society’s extensive exhibit on the War of 1812 and to Fort McHenry, where Francis Scott Key was inspired to write the lyrics to “The Star Spangled Banner.” A \$30 fee will cover transportation, box lunch and all admission fees. To reserve for the 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. field trip, call 301-215-9079 or email [snkirby@gmail.com](mailto:snkirby@gmail.com).

## March Events at the Chevy Chase Library 8005 Connecticut Avenue

\*Sponsored by the Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter

**Pre-school Storytime**, March 5, 12, 19\* and 26, 10:30 a.m.

**Foreign Film Series**, March 2, 1 p.m., *Whale Rider*. \*

**Teen Book Discussion**, March 9, 12 p.m., *The Westing Game* by Ellen Raskin. \*

**Non-Fiction Book**, March 13, 2:30 p.m., *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama. \*

**Jefferson Café**, March 15, 10:30 a.m., “The Climate Threat We Can Beat.” \*

**Fiction Book Discussion**, March 27, 2:30 p.m., *The White Tiger* By Aravind Adiga. \*

For complete listing, go to [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries), Chevy Chase Library.

## CC@ H Offers Classical Guitar, Local Lore And More

William Offutt, author of “Bethesda: A Social History”, will share his wealth of knowledge about the Bethesda community at the March 5 Meet & Mingle. A native of Montgomery County whose family has been in Maryland since the 17th century, Mr. Offutt taught history and English in county junior high and high schools for thirty-four years. Join us on **Tuesday March 5** from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall for this fascinating discussion of local history.

Drop by the Olympia Coffee Shoppe, 7021 Brookville Road, on **Thursday, March 14** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. for our informal monthly Brunch Bunch get-together, sponsored by CC@ H and open to all. Buy a cup of coffee or even breakfast, and pull up a chair for lively conversation with friends and neighbors. There’s free parking in back.

On **Sunday, March 17**, internationally known Scottish classical guitarist, David Russell, will conduct a Guitar Master Class at the Chevy Chase Village Hall from 1 to 4 p.m. If you’re a classical guitar lover, you won’t want to miss this very special event!

We’re celebrating St. Patrick’s Day on **Tuesday, March 19** from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, with professional storyteller, cable TV host, and blogger Ellouise Schoettler spinning yarns from the Emerald Isle.

**SAVE THE DATE:** At the **April 2** Meet & Mingle get “Practical Advice on Preventing Medical Errors”, offered by Sue Bogner, PhD, author of “Misadventures in Healthcare.” This informative program could literally be a life-saver!

For more information visit [www.chevyCHASEathome.org](http://www.chevyCHASEathome.org) or call 301-657-3115.

# Maryland Resident Tax Return 2012 - Form 502

**FORM 502 MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN**

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2012, ENDING

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

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only

A major source of revenue that the Town receives each year is the Town's share of income taxes, which each resident pays to the State of Maryland. Remember to write *Town of Chevy Chase* in the box marked city, town or taxing area. If you use a tax form online, please type TOWN OF CH CH in the box (there are not enough spaces for the complete spelling). This will 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.

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

Sign up on the Town's website [www.townofchevychase.org](http://www.townofchevychase.org) to receive Town Crier emails, Alert TOCC voicemail messages and an electronic copy of the FORECAST.

**TOWN COUNCIL**  
*Patricia Burda, Mayor*  
*David Lublin, Vice Mayor*  
*Al Lang, Secretary*  
*Linna Barnes, Treasurer*  
*Kathy Strom, Community Liaison*

**Town of Chevy Chase**  
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