

Forecast

JANUARY 2012

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

In This Issue

Calendar

January Events

-page 2-

Mayor's Message

continued

Crimewatch

-page 3-

Lawton Center
Advisory Board

-page 4-

Committee Corner

Around and About
CC

-insert-

Winter Storm
Preparedness

Town Teens

-insert-



A Message from Mayor David Lublin

First, let me extend my best wishes to each of you for a happy new year. I hope 2012 is good for you and yours.

I want to use this opportunity to update you on actions taken by the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) and the Town in response to recent criminal activity in Town.

As you are aware, our Town and adjacent neighborhoods have experienced an increase in the number of residential burglaries and thefts from autos since last September. The burglaries have occurred on different days of the week as well as different times of the day, and the police believe that these crimes are being committed by more than one group of suspects. As of today, five suspects have been arrested.

In response to the crime trend, the Town has taken the following actions:

- The Town Council has appropriated funds to extend the Town's off-duty police coverage to 24 hours a day for the remainder of this fiscal year, which ends June 30, 2012.
- Town Manager Todd Hoffman and I met with Second District Police Commander David Falcinelli to discuss efforts to combat crime by MCPD and the Town.
- The Town sent a letter to County Police Chief Tom Manger asking that he provide all necessary support to the Second District Police to respond to these crimes.
- The Town sent a letter to State's Attorney John McCarthy asking that he aggressively pursue prosecution of those who are arrested for crimes committed in our Town.

MCPD Second District Commander David Falcinelli explained at the last Town Council meeting that the police are taking a three-pronged approach to address the crime problem: prevention, tactical deployment and investigative follow-up. The Second District Community Policing Officer has provided prevention tips to help us avoid becoming victims of this type of crime, and is also available to conduct security assessments of your homes.

Following are some of the measures adopted by the MCPD in response to the crime trend:

- Regular patrol officers are in Town 24 hours a day in both unmarked and marked capacities.
- The MCPD Second District Communications Center has been directed to ensure that calls reporting suspicious activity are handled promptly.

continued on page 3

JANUARY



- Monday, January 2 – Town Office Closed
 - Tuesday, January 3 – Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.
 - Wednesday, January 4 – Neighborhood Watch Volunteers, 7 p.m.
 - Thursday, January 5 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.
 - Monday, January 9 – Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.
 - Tuesday, January 10 – Public Services Committee, 7:30 p.m.
 - Tuesday, January 10, Discussion and Desserts, 7:30 p.m.
 - Wednesday, January 11 - Council Meeting, 7 p.m.
 - Sunday, January 15 – Sunday Afternoon for Families, 4 p.m.
 - Monday, January 16 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.
 - Monday, January 16 – Christmas Tree Pickup Deadline
 - Tuesday, January 24 – Climate and Environment Committee, 7:30 p.m.
- Please check the Town website for up-to-date information about the Town.

www.townofchevychase.org

Town Residents Brighten the Holidays for Domestic Violence Victims and Their Children

Thanks to the very generous response of Town residents to the holiday gift drive, many County families who are suffering the damaging effects of domestic violence had gifts to open this holiday season. The Community Relations Committee thanks you for opening up your hearts and your wallets to remember those in need.

Discussion and Desserts To Feature Founder of “Aid for Africa”

Tuesday, January 10, 7:30 p.m.

Meet Town neighbor Barbara Rose, Town resident and executive director of Aid for Africa (www.aidforafrica.org) at a Discussion & Desserts gathering. The event, sponsored by the Town's Community Relations Committee, will be held at the home of Pat Burda, 4108 Woodbine Street. Barbara's humanitarian work began when she served in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia in the 1970s. In 2004, she founded Aid for Africa, which has a special focus on African girls' education. This is an excellent opportunity for neighbors to enjoy a convivial and educational evening! Space is limited. Please reserve by calling 301-654-7144 or e-mailing the Town at townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

Sunday Afternoon for Families

Around the World with Beatrice Pickles, Sunday, January 15, 4 p.m., Town Hall

Come join Mistress Pickles on an adventure around the world! Children will "travel" magically with Mistress Pickles, stopping in Africa, China, and Ireland to hear stories such as The Talking Yam, The Magic Bubble, and The Baker and the Fairies. Kids are the stars in Mistress Pickle's shows! They will interact with the stories and help tell them, creating a very unique show experience. Please email townoffice@townofchevychase.org or call 301-654-7144 to RSVP.

Committee Corner

Long Range Planning Committee

Redevelopment Proposed by Chevy Chase Land Company

Lisa Fadden, vice president of public affairs for the Chevy Chase Land Company, will talk about the company's latest plans for Chevy Chase Lake on **Monday, January 16, 7 p.m.**, at the Town Hall. Now anchored by Chevy Chase Supermarket, Chevy Chase Lake includes the area adjacent to Connecticut Avenue between Manor Road and Chevy Chase Lake Drive, most of it owned by the Land Company. The company is revising its redevelopment plans in light of community concerns and in anticipation of the Montgomery County Planning Department's recommendations for a new Sector Plan at Chevy Chase Lake.

Climate and Environment Committee

Energy Tip of the Month

If you have a pull-down attic stairway, all that stands between you and the great outdoors is a relatively thin piece of plywood. You can save money and draftiness by putting an insulated hatch above the stairway in the attic. It will reduce the amount of heat and moisture leaking into your attic, the severity of ice dams and attic mold! This is an easy job for any handyman or do-it-yourselfer. Or you can buy a kit for a little over \$100. For more information, visit the website of the Department of Energy: http://www.energysavers.gov/your_home/insulation_airsealing/index.cfm/mytopic=11410

Community Relations Committee

Winter Coat Drive Continues

The Town's Community Relations Committee is continuing the Town's annual coat drive through January. We will collect gently used adult and children's winter coats, scarves, hats and gloves for the families served by Interfaith Works. Drop off your winter items at the Town Office Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm. To arrange for pick-up, contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or 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.

Neighborhood Watch Needs More Block Captains

The Town's Neighborhood Watch program is still seeking volunteers in hopes of expanding its membership. The program is designed to connect neighbors with one another throughout our town and its success depends on the leadership and commitment of our block captain volunteers. The program helps facilitate interaction and communication between neighbors and instills a sense of community. Aside from these benefits, block captains also raise public safety awareness by keeping their neighbors up-to-date on recent crime trends and crime prevention tips.

There are still areas throughout the Town which currently do not have block captains. If you are unsure if your street has a block captain, contact the Town office to find out more and to volunteer. Dog walkers, runners, and walkers are encouraged to help out as they are very familiar with our neighborhood. The Town's Neighborhood Watch program is a great way to meet your fellow neighbors and increase public safety in the Town.

Around and About Chevy Chase

CC@H CONTINUES HEALTH LECTURE SERIES

Caroline Michaelis

On Wednesday evening, **January 25**, Chevy Chase At Home will continue its ongoing lecture series on health issues with an important presentation by Daniel M. Berinstein, M.D., entitled "*Maintaining Your Sight and Health: Macula and Retina Symptoms That Command Attention*". This free Forum for the Community will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall at 7 p.m.

CC@H's Meet & Mingle will start off the year with a **Poker Party** on **Tuesday, January 3** from 2 to 4 p.m. at Chevy Chase Village Hall. Other card games will be available, too, as well as delicious refreshments.

The **January 17** M & M event will feature a musical program of **Strumming and Singing** by David Almy, a Chevy Chase native who plays a four-string tenor guitar, and singers Cheryl and Hal Gearhardt.

And don't forget the **Brunch Bunch** on **Thursday, January 12** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Olympia Coffee Shoppe, 7021 Brookville Road.

To learn more about CC@H and see a more detailed description of their events, call 301-657-3115 or visit their website at www.chevychaseathome.org.

Events at the Chevy Chase Library, 8005 Connecticut Ave

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library Chevy Chase

Preschool Storytime - Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., **January 10, 17, and 24** (ages 2-6)

Bilingual Storytime with Senora Lupe Marks, Tuesday, **January 31**, at 10:30 a.m. (ages 2-6)

For events below, please get copies of the books from the Library System either directly or through holds. Articles are at the reference desk. There are special arrangements for the non-fiction book.

***Foreign Film** - Saturday, **January 7**, at 1:00 p.m. We invite you to a special showing of the 2007 film The Diving Bell and the Butterfly.

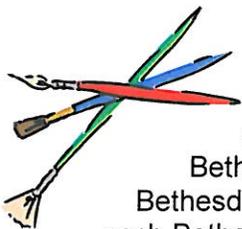
***Non-fiction Book Group** - Wednesday, **January 11**, 2:30 - 3:30 p.m. The group will discuss Scottish Lion on Patrol: 15th Scottish Reconnaissance Regiment by W. Kemsley, M.R. Riesco, and T. Chamberlin.

Jefferson Café - Friday, **January 20**, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. The group will discuss the article "The United States, China and the Kissinger Doctrine" by Warren I. Cohen for the University of Maryland.

Teen Book Club - Saturday, **January 21**, 12 - 2 p.m. Jellicoe Road by Melina Marchetta. Pizza for lunch. Open to all readers grades 7 and up. Registration required: please either call the library (240-773-9590) or stop by the Information Desk to sign up.

Fiction, Memoir, and Biography Book Group - Wednesday, **January 25**, 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. The group will discuss The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Bethesda Art Walk – January 13



Bethesda Art Walk features downtown Bethesda galleries and studios that open their doors from 6 to 9 p.m. on the second Friday of every month. Bethesda galleries showcase artwork created locally, nationally and internationally including painting, photography, sculpture and mixed media. Enjoy several galleries by walking throughout downtown Bethesda, or join the free guided tours in the spring and fall months to learn more about the Bethesda arts scene and featured artists. The free Bethesda Circulator stops within a few blocks of each Bethesda Art Walk gallery, and runs continuously throughout the duration of the Art Walk.



Winter Storm Preparedness 2011-2012

In preparation for this winter and any emergency situations, the Town has prepared this reference guide that lists emergency contact numbers and explains the Town's operations during snow events.

Please remember that in case of any emergency call 911.

Police non-emergency: 301-279-8000.

Power Outages

To report a power outage at your home or to report street lights that are out: **1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662)**.

To report downed wires or life-threatening emergencies to PEPCO: **202-872-3432**.

Downed Trees

Report downed trees in the Town to the Police Department by calling **911** if it is a life-threatening emergency. Use the non-emergency number for non-life threatening situations: **301-279-8000**.

Water Service

To report a water or sewer line break, sewer back-up or stoppage, or fire hydrant leaks, contact the WSSC Emergency Service line: **301-206-4002**.

Town Communications:

Voicemail: Town staff monitors the Town's voicemail system remotely and on a continuous basis. **However, emergencies should be reported to 911 rather than the Town Office.**

E-mail: The Town staff monitors email on a continuous basis.

Website: The Town staff will update the website when new information is available on weather updates, service interruptions and office closures.

Town Crier: Town Crier messages will be sent to provide updates on the weather emergency, service interruptions and office closures. To join the Town Crier, visit the Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org.

Town Street Snow Removal

The Town begins plowing when 2 inches of snow accumulates on the streets. Plow crews operate continuously until the streets are clear. When snow is forecast, residents are asked to park their vehicles in driveways whenever possible. If cars must be parked on the street, they are required to be parked on the even numbered side of the street, unless otherwise posted. This is to ensure safe passage by the plowing crews and allows your street to be cleared as quickly and completely as possible.

For snow removal on State roads (Connecticut Avenue, East-West Highway and Bradley Lane), call 1-800-543-2515.

For snow removal on County roads, call 311.

Town Sidewalk Snow Removal

The Town assists with the clearing of public sidewalks only when snow accumulates to 3 inches or more. Snow removal will begin as soon as practically possible after the end of a snowstorm. Clearing driveways and walkways are the responsibility of the homeowner. In icy conditions, the Town Manager will use his discretion in determining whether to salt and sand public sidewalks.

The Town will update information about the sidewalk snow removal program on its website and on the Town Crier.

Please post this information in a convenient place for future reference.

A Message from Mayor David Lublin...continued

- All burglary scenes are being assigned forensic specialists to ensure all possible evidence is collected, and the MCPD detective bureau has been tasked with making this crime trend its number one priority.
- Once a suspect is arrested, priority has been given to speaking to the State's Attorney's Office so that proper attention is given to the case to ensure a successful prosecution of the offender and an appropriate sentence.

We are hopeful that this aggressive response will lead to a significant reduction in crime. But we need your help. It is critical that you all do your part by taking the necessary steps to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim, most simply by removing valuables from vehicles and locking the doors and windows to cars and home. Your participation is crucial since you are the eyes and ears of the community. Please report suspicious activity immediately, including the license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles, and report all crimes no matter how minor.

Preventing and reducing crime is a partnership between all residents, the Town and the MCPD. The Town will continue to do its best to get information to you as soon as it can be released.

Thank you, and have a safe, happy, and healthy New Year.

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 progress, call 911. In addition, please report incidents to the Town Office at 301-654-7144 so that we can notify our off-duty Montgomery County police officers.

12/10/11

At 3:09 p.m., Montgomery County Police received an alarm call from the "rear door" at a residence in the 4000 block of Thornapple Street. It appeared the lock had been broken on the rear door from a screw driver left on the scene. Police K-9 attempted a track in the area. No suspects were found.

11/30/11

Two residents in the 7000 block of Hillcrest Place reported that their cars were entered. Change was stolen.

11/28/11

A resident in the 7300 block of Maple Avenue reported a burglary that occurred sometime last week while the resident was out of Town. Culprits removed several items, some of which were recovered.

Police also reported the arrest of a man who was breaking into cars in the public parking lot off of Leland Street over the weekend.

11/22/11

An unknown suspect or suspects entered a home through an unlocked rear window in the 7200 block of Maple Avenue sometime between 11/20/11 and the morning of 11/22/11. Once inside, culprits removed several items from the home. No suspects were seen by neighbors.

11/21/11

An unknown suspect or suspects smashed in two rear windows of a home in the 4400 block of Ridge St. sometime between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Once inside, culprits removed several items from the home.

11/17/11

A resident on the 7000 block of Maple Avenue noticed 3 suspicious persons in a white 4-door sedan driving northward on Maple Avenue. Police responded and took a report.

Volunteer To Serve on the Lawton Center Advisory Board

The Jane E. Lawton Community Center is looking for Town residents to serve on a community advisory board. Bridget Hartman of the Town's Community Relations Committee is working with Jordan Henson, the Director of the Center, to reenergize the board. Jordan is hoping to get input from the community before planning the schedule of programs, events and classes for next year. The Council encourages residents to participate and to voice their ideas so the Center can continue to be a wonderful resource for our community.

Please email Jordan at jordanhenson@montgomerycountymd.org or call him at 240-777-6855 if you would like more information or to volunteer to serve on the board.



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.

The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; 301-654-7144. Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to each address in the Town and posted on the Town's website.

Happy New Year!

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

David Lublin, Mayor

Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor

Al Lang, Secretary

Linna Barnes, Treasurer

Pat Burda, Community Liaison