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## Participate in the 2012-13 Budget Process

Linna Barnes, Treasurer

March 14 Public Meeting on Budget

March 28 Council Budget Work Session

April 11 Approval of Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 1 Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 9 Adoption of Budget and Tax Rates

The Town Council will hold a public meeting on **Wednesday, March 14** to hear from residents regarding next year's budget. 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 28** to review the proposed budget that the staff and Treasurer have prepared. Another discussion of the budget will occur at the **Wednesday, April 11** 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 1**, before the Council adopts the budget for the next fiscal year at either the May or June 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, 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 current service levels as well as to fund necessary capital projects and other initiatives. The Council wants to hear suggestions from residents about what projects they would like to see funded. Residents also can recommend areas in which the Council might spend less.

In addition to comments on expenditures, the Council welcomes input on setting next year's property tax rate. We look forward to hearing from you at these meetings. If you are unable to attend in person, please submit written comments to the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane or to [townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org).

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# Greetings from the Mayor

David Lublin

At its February meeting, the Town Council discussed possible changes to the Town's household trash and recycling services. The contract is up for renewal this spring, and the Council wanted to investigate different options.

Based on suggestions from neighbors, and the recent imposition of a County bag tax, the Council asked the staff to look into ways to make it easier to recycle paper and to explore the purchase of larger bins for other materials such as glass, metal cans, and plastics. The larger bins would provide more capacity for commingled recyclables, as many families find the current bins too small, and people now recycle more items.

At the same meeting, the Council discussed whether to pursue single stream recycling, which would allow residents to place all recyclable materials in one container. The Council decided against this service because it would require the purchase of large, wheeled recycling carts, which many residents might find difficult to store or move to the curb. Additionally, a majority of residents opposed these large carts in a recent Town survey.

The Town Council will continue to discuss potential changes to the Town's recycling services and report back in a future edition of the Forecast.

## March



Thursday, March 1 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 6 – Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 10 – Drum Circle, 4 p.m.

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

Wednesday, March 14 – Council Meeting and Public Hearing, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 15 – Public Services Committee, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, March 19 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 21 – Meeting with PEPCO, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 27 – Climate and Environment Committee, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 28 – Council Budget Work Session

## Crimewatch

1/25/2012

A resident reported that someone knocked on her door to ask if she needed landscaping services. She felt uncomfortable so reported the incident to the Montgomery County police. A police officer stopped the man and ran a criminal check. The police officer discovered the suspect had three outstanding warrants for scamming people. He was arrested and taken to jail.

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. Please report incidents to the Town Office at 301-654-7144 so that we can include them in CRIMEWATCH. To make our neighborhood safer, volunteer for the Town's **Neighborhood Watch Program**. Please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 to get more information and/or to become a block captain. Also, this is a reminder that the Montgomery County Police Department offers free home security assessments. Please contact Dana Stroman, Community Services Officer – 2<sup>nd</sup> District, at 240-876-1277 to schedule an appointment.

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# COUNCIL ELECTION 2012

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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 three candidates in the May 1, 2012 election, each to serve on the Council for a two year term. The terms of Al Lang, David Lublin and Kathy Strom will expire in May. All three of the incumbents will be candidates in the May 1 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 10, 2012, 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 10** between the hours of 5 and 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 11**. 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' FORUM

Candidates are invited to participate in a moderated forum and dialog with the community on **Thursday, April 19** at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. The Election Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents.

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

## FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

There is no requirement for candidates in the Town of Chevy Chase to file a financial disclosure statement for these volunteer positions.

## 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, May 1, 2012**.

## ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Any qualified voter may vote by absentee ballot. Residents desiring an absentee ballot must apply, individually, in writing (by mail, fax, email or in person) to the Town Office. Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Office on **Wednesday, April 11** after 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 1, 2012**.

**Residents with questions on any aspect of the election are encouraged to contact a member of the Election Board: Brenda Lizzio, 301-656-8595; Ed Finn, 301-657-4607; and Cory Modlin, 301-652-6789.**

# Council Actions and Updates

## Council Establishes Land Conservation Program

The Town Council recently approved a resolution establishing a voluntary Land Conservation Program for the Town. The volunteer program, developed by the Town's Environment Committee, will enable qualifying Town residents to give gifts of open space to the Town in order to protect that open space in perpetuity. Such voluntary donations, which could provide tax benefits to the donor, would be done through conservation easements or other agreements under which the Town is the named beneficiary, or by conveying land in fee simple to the Town.

The Town is currently developing a brochure outlining the benefits and objectives of the program and explaining how it will work. Once completed, the brochure will be available to Town residents and posted on the Town's website. The full text of the approved Land Conservation Program resolution can be found on the Town's website ([www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org)). Please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 for more information.

## New Lights Brighten Town Streets

As of March 1, the Council has approved the installation of 15 new street lights in locations identified as dark areas by the Town's street light evaluation study. Seven of these lights have been installed and the remainder should be installed over the next few months. The locations of all of these lights are listed on the Town website.

At its February meeting, the Council held a public hearing on three proposed lights about which residents had raised some objections. The Council decided not to approve one proposed light and deferred decisions on the other two lights pending further study.

Residents are encouraged to continue to request new street lights by using the form available on the Town website, but are reminded that the Town may not be able to fund the installation of all requested lights in this fiscal year. The Council will consider all requests and prioritize those located within dark areas and along major commuter routes in Town.

Residents also may report problems with existing street lights by calling the Town Office. Please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) for more information.

## Update on the Purple Line Project

The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) recently released a list of residential properties along the planned Purple Line route that are at risk of condemnation, in whole or in part, in order to accommodate the proposed light rail project. Many flaws in this list have already been identified, and the Town has requested a corrected inventory to determine if any Town properties are included in the anticipated condemnations. We will share this preliminary list with residents once we ensure that it is accurate, and expect to share updates to the list as more detailed engineering work is done over the coming year.

Last October, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approved the Preliminary Engineering (PE) Phase of the Purple Line project. At the completion of preliminary engineering, the FTA will review the project again and decide if it will be accepted into final engineering. The State's most optimistic project schedule has the State receiving federal permission to move into final design in the summer of 2013, to start construction in 2015 and to begin operation of the Purple Line in 2020. Being accepted into preliminary engineering, however, does not guarantee full acceptance of the project.

Meanwhile, the Town's Purple Line Mitigation Advisory Group (MAG) continues to work with the Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) to minimize noise, visual and safety impacts of the project on our community if the Purple Line is built. Questions about the Purple Line mitigation efforts can be directed to Mary Anne Hoffman, MAG Chair, at [maryannehoffman@starpower.net](mailto:maryannehoffman@starpower.net) or Pat Burda, Council Liaison, at [patburda@aol.com](mailto:patburda@aol.com).

# Town Updates

## Solicitors Must Have Permits

An abbreviated definition of “solicitor” is any person traveling by foot or car in the Town taking or attempting to take orders for the sale of services, goods, wares and merchandise. A solicitor must have a Town permit in addition to a Montgomery County permit. Solicitation is allowed only between 9 a.m. and sunset. If you are approached by a solicitor, who cannot produce the required permits, you should report them to the Montgomery County police at 301-279-8000. If you feel threatened by the solicitor, you should call 911. For a more complete explanation of the regulations about soliciting in Town, please visit the Town website. Businesses and organizations distributing literature to Town households are not required to have a permit.

## Locations of Dogi-Pots

The Town Office continues to get complaints about dog owners and dog walkers allowing their pets to defecate in the public rights-of-way. In an effort to address these complaints, we remind pet owners and pet walkers that the Town has installed dogi-pots in key locations throughout the Town. The Town has produced a map of the locations, which is available on the Town website. Please take advantage of these dogi-pots.

## Don't Fear the Deer

Jake Baskin, Intern from the Field School

If you live in the Town of Chevy Chase, chances are you might have problems with deer, foxes, raccoons, or rabbits destroying your precious flowers or eating your prized vegetables. I know my family sure does! And if you don't want to constantly complain about how “the deer are ruining my garden!” the Maryland Department of Natural Resources can help with tips on how to prevent this from happening. According to the Department's website, backyard fencing is the best way to deter deer. Descriptions on wire and plastic deer fences are included on the website, as is information on electric fences for the bucks and does who just won't take a hint. If you value one plant in your garden over all the others, build a tree shelter, wire cage, or a plastic net that is normally used to keep birds away. Because all I know on this subject is based on research and not experience, I suggest you visit the website, <http://www.dnr.state.md.us>, for more information.

## Volunteer To Serve on the Lawton Center Advisory Board

The Jane E. Lawton Community Center is looking for a few more Town residents to serve on a community advisory board. Bridget Hartman of the Town's Community Relations Committee is working with Jordan Henson, the Center's Director, 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](mailto:jordanhenson@montgomerycountymd.org) or call him at 240-777-6855 if you would like more information or to volunteer to serve on the board.

## Neighbors Meeting Neighbors

Please join your neighbors for a Town coffee at the home of Desiree Kraus, 6901 Oakridge Avenue, on **Thursday, March 15** from 10 to 11:30 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 Desiree at [krauscasa@gmail.com](mailto:krauscasa@gmail.com). 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!

# Committee Corner

## Climate and Environment Committee

### PEPCO Explains New Smart Meters

Wednesday, March 21, 7 p.m., Town Hall

The Climate and Environment Committee has invited a representative from PEPCO to explain the new Smart Meters at an event in the Town Hall. All PEPCO customers recently received a notice in the mail saying that Smart Meters would be installed this year. A Smart Meter is a high tech metering device that sends out data to PEPCO on electricity consumption. When smart meters are installed, residents will be able to access real time information on electricity use in their homes. This could enable residents to better manage energy usage and costs. In addition, PEPCO will be able to get more accurate data without having to send out meter readers and will be able to detect power outages instantaneously. Smart Meters will be installed on the outside of most houses and will not require you to be present when they are installed. There will be a short period of energy loss during installation, however. Some people have raised questions about the health risks posed by radio frequency waves emitted from the meters and about data security.

### Energy Trailblazers of the Month: Marcie Meditch and John Murphey



After getting a home energy audit and reviewing all the work that needed to be done to their original house, Marcie Meditch and John Murphey decided to get maximum energy efficiency and build a new house. So they have built the house of their dreams! It's near "net zero" energy use and adaptable for aging in place. In addition to super insulation and solar and geothermal energy, it has a green roof, passive solar heating, and radiant floor heat. Read more about their home on the Town website.

## Long Range Planning Committee

### Chevy Chase Lake Plans

Presented by the Chevy Chase Land Company

Current development plans for the Chevy Chase Land Company property just south of Manor Road on both sides of Connecticut Avenue were presented by Lisa Fadden, the company's vice president of public affairs, at a Town public meeting in January. The plans remain a work-in-progress and are substantially different from the initial proposal presented by the Land Company last year.

A model on display showed nearly 1.5 million square feet of commercial and residential redevelopment, including retail and office space, 723 new residential units, and a 150-room hotel. Buildings heights are projected up to 180 feet, equal to the existing 15-story building on the west side of Connecticut Ave. at Chevy Chase Lake Drive. New buildings would be clustered around the proposed Purple Line station and along Connecticut Ave. Development is expected to occur in two phases, before and after construction on the proposed light rail begins. Fadden said traffic-impact studies are underway, but are not yet available.

A final plan hinges on the new Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan. The County Council is expected to vote on that plan in the fall of 2012. Meanwhile the Land Company continues to meet with the County planning staff and the Connecticut Avenue Corridor Committee, a group that includes the Town and 20 other concerned local communities.

All Town committee meetings are public meetings. The dates and times of the meetings are posted on the Town website, [www.townofchevychase.org](http://www.townofchevychase.org).

# Around and About Chevy Chase

## WELCOME SPRING WITH CC@H

Caroline Michaelis

**Tuesday, March 6** - The Meet & Mingle (M&M) will be an early St. Patrick's Day celebration, featuring Ellouise Schottler with recollections and readings of Irish folk tales from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall.

**Thursday, March 8** - The 2nd Thursday Brunch Bunch will get together on at the Olympia Coffee Shoppe, 7021 Brookville Road, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This informal gathering each month is a great chance to chat with your neighbors (including some of the CC@ H Board members) over coffee or even breakfast. It's always lively, and there's plenty of free parking in back.

**Wednesday, March 14** - CC@H will sponsor an important evening program, "SELECTING A FINANCIAL ADVISOR: Planning, Investing and Protecting Your Retirement Years," presented by Glen J. Bucu, CFP, at 7 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall.

**Tuesday, March 20**, M&M and find out! Elizabeth Gerstein, a Certified Handwriting Analyst, will be on hand to tell us all "What Handwriting Tells About You" from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. Be prepared to have your own analyzed, if you'd like.

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

## Troop 255 Annual Mulch Sale

For the 8th year, Chevy Chase's Boy Scout Troop 255 will deliver mulch to your door on March 18! \$5.50 per 3 cubic foot bag; \$5.25 per bag for orders 40+. Order forms at [www.t255.com](http://www.t255.com), or call Don Loomis at 301-652-5961.

## Sixth Annual Community Fundraiser for the Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School Educational Foundation Honoring the CollegeTracks Program and Its Founders

Thursday, March 8, 7 to 9 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase  
Wine Tasting – An International Sampling  
with "heavy" hors d'oeuvres

Tickets: \$50 (estimated ticket value \$30)

Purchase tickets at [www.bccedfoundation.org](http://www.bccedfoundation.org) or mail check to B-CC HS Educational Foundation, P.O. Box 31209, Bethesda, MD 20824-1209. RSVP by Sunday, March 4.

## Events at the Chevy Chase Library, 8005 Connecticut Avenue Sponsored by the Friends of the Library Chevy Chase

**Saturday, March 3 at 1 p.m.** – Foreign film, "The Lives of Others" – political thriller set in East Germany.

**Saturday, March 17 at 4 p.m.** - The Living Roots of Music - Lauren Pelon of Red Wing, Minnesota, traces the story of music and performs music from around the world for voice and ancient and modern instruments.

Visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries) for a complete calendar of events.

## CCHS Spring Programs to Focus on Clara Barton

The Chevy Chase Historical Society will continue marking the 150th anniversary of the Civil War with two spring programs about Clara Barton. On **Sunday, March 18** at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall, residents are invited to hear the story of Barton's extraordinary life. On **Saturday, March 24**, CCHS will offer a free tour of the Clara Barton House at 11 a.m., followed by optional lunch at the Irish Inn in Glen Echo. The meal, including tax and tip, is \$20, payable by check in advance. To reserve for the tour or lunch, call 301-656-1779 or email [2e@chevychasehistory.org](mailto:2e@chevychasehistory.org).

# Maryland Resident Tax Return 2011 - Form 502

FORM  
**502**

**MARYLAND  
RESIDENT**  
INCOME TAX RETURN

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2011, ENDING

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

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only

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 CHEVY CHASE

Please check the Town website for up-to-date information about the Town.

[www.townofchevychase.org](http://www.townofchevychase.org)

Spring Trash and Treasures - April 21 and 22

**Town of Chevy Chase**  
4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

PRSRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Bethesda, MD  
Permit No. 418

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

# Town Events

## Community Relations Committee

### Town's First Drum Circle

**Saturday, March 10, 4 – 6 p.m., Lawton Center Social Hall**



Jason Walker, percussionist, will be our guest performer at the Town's first Drum Circle. Jason has performed in many settings including the Kennedy Center, DAR Constitution Hall, the Birchmere and Blues Alley. At the event, you will have the opportunity to explore instruments from many cultures around the world. In this playful environment, you and other residents - both adults and children - will discover how to interact to create a collective rhythm. Instruments will be provided but feel free to bring your own. This is a community event where everyone's contribution adds to the excitement. So bring a drum (if you have one), bring yourself and let's make some music! Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 7 by calling the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or emailing [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org).

### Get a Head Start on Trash and Treasures - Children's Used Goods Sale

**Saturday, April 14, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**



The Community Relations Committee is organizing a sale of used children's goods in the Town Hall. Town families are invited to **drop off** used (but still in good condition) clothing, books, equipment and toys at the Town Hall between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. on **Friday, April 13**. Volunteers will be needed throughout the day on Friday to sort and price items and on Saturday to help with the sale. Volunteers will be allowed into the sale one hour early on Saturday morning. Funds from the sale will go to the Lawton Center, which also will be hosting family, kid-friendly activities and light refreshments on Saturday. Leftover items will be donated to a local charity. Families who cannot deliver their donations on Friday may call Christine Riley at 615-423-1772 to make other arrangements. The Town Office has also offered to receive items on Thursday during the business day. Volunteers should call Put Ebinger at 301-652-8732.

### Town of Chevy Chase Bake Off

**Sunday, April 29, 2 - 3:30 p.m., Town Hall**



Join us to meet your neighbors at the Third Annual Town of Chevy Chase Bake-Off. All are welcome! This year the bake-off will be for **sweet and savory pies (including quiches)** and will be judged by **Food Wine and Co.** Bakers should bring enough for at least 8 slices. 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@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org).

### Wanted: Town Artists to Create Small Works for Smart Sacks

Town artists are invited to contribute one or more pieces to Small Works for Smart Sacks, the Town's art show to be held the weekend of June 1. The show is a charity event to benefit Manna Food Center's Smart Sacks Program, which provides more than 1,600 children in Montgomery County with backpacks full of food every Friday, including during the summer months.



All art pieces must be under 12 inches in height, width and depth, and must be submitted suitable for hanging. Each piece will be for sale for \$100. We encourage all artists – architects, filmmakers, photographers, graphic designers, sculptors, potters, fiber artists, jewelry makers, high school and college art students, amateur and professional artists – to donate to this event. Town artists also may invite a guest artist from outside the Town to donate a work to this wonderful event. For more information, please contact Katie Vita ([katie.vita@gmail.com](mailto:katie.vita@gmail.com)). To participate, contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org).