

# Forecast

JUNE 2011

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

## In This Issue

Mayor's Greetings

Calendar

Crimewatch

-page 2-

Fees Increased

Town Testifies on  
County Zoning  
Proposals

Town Street Lighting

-page 3-

CC Lake Development

Play Date in the Park

Host a Block Party

-page 4-

Canopy Conservation

Block Captains  
Needed

Climate Protection

CC@H

-page 5-

Volunteer 2011-12

-page 6-

Town Teens

-page 7-

Invitation to the July 4  
Picnic and Parade

-insert-

## Public Hearing on 7206 Meadow Lane

On **June 8**, the Town Council will hold an advisory public hearing on the possible resubdivision of 7206 Meadow Lane into two single-family lots. At the same meeting, the Council will consider multiple variance requests for the proposed homes to be built on the two lots.

Following discussions with Town representatives, the developer of 7206 Meadow Lane has proposed a two-lot resubdivision rather than the original three-lot plan that the

**Public Hearing** Town opposed. While the Planning Board has the final say on resubdivision requests, the Town will consider the proposed plan and variances at the June 8 meeting. The resubdivision hearing is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., followed by the variance hearing.

Residents are encouraged to attend the **June 8** meeting to provide comments on the proposed plan. If you are unable to attend the meeting to testify in person, you may e-mail comments to [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org) or submit written comments to Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, prior to the hearing date. The proposed resubdivision plan is posted on the Town website and is available for review in the Town Office.

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## Congratulations Linna Barnes and Pat Burda

At the May 3 Annual Town Election, Linna Barnes and Pat Burda were reelected to serve on the Town Council. They were sworn in at the May Council meeting, and officers were selected for the coming year. **David Lublin will serve as Mayor, Kathy Strom as Vice Mayor, Al Lang as Secretary, Linna Barnes as Treasurer and Pat Burda as Community Liaison.**

We would like to extend special thanks to the Town Election Board members Brenda Lizzio, Ed Finn and Hope Pinkerton for overseeing and monitoring the election, and to the League of Women Voters for administering the election.

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The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; 301-654-7144; [townoffice@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).

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# Greetings from the Mayor

## David Lublin

It has been a privilege to serve our community as mayor of the Town for the past year, and I am honored to be entrusted with this responsibility for the coming year. Involvement and participation by so many of our neighbors play a critical role in making sure we can achieve our common goals. In addition to helping assure the continued efficient provision of excellent public services, Town volunteers promote a stronger sense of community through numerous Town events and spend many hours to help protect the natural environment that make the Town so special. Many also give their time to advocate for their neighbors in the larger community, from working to improve playgrounds to taking time to address developments in our area.

I will continue to work to increase opportunities for involvement and participation to achieve our common goals. We are lucky to live in a community where residents have an amazing array of talents, experience, and interests. Whether by volunteering to join one of our standing citizen committees--my letter asking for your involvement is included in this issue of the Forecast--or by signing up to attend, host, or speak at a community event--such as the Town's upcoming Fourth of July celebration--you can make a real contribution to our community.

Many thanks to all of you who have participated in and attended Town events. We hope you can be as generous with your time in the coming year and welcome the participation of new faces as well. I know that all members of the Town Council encourage your input whether it is through testifying at a public hearing, serving on a committee, or coming to Town events and meeting more of your neighbors.

Thanks for the trust and the opportunity to work with you for our community as your mayor this year. I look forward to seeing and hearing from you in the months ahead.



# June

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

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

Wednesday, June 8 - Council Meeting, 6 p.m.

Monday, June 13 – Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 16 – Public Services Committee, 7:30 p.m.

Monday, June 20 – Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 21 – Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 28 – Climate Protection, 7 p.m.

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

[www.townofchevy Chase.org](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org)

## Crimewatch

On **May 15** a resident in the 4400 block of Stanford Street reported to the Town Office that someone broke a ground level window in the back of her house. No one entered the house.

Please report all crimes to the Montgomery County police at the non-emergency number 301-279-8000. For emergencies, call 911. In addition, please report incidents to the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

## Permitting and Variance Fees Increased

At its May meeting, the Town Council approved increases to various Town permit and variance fees. The new fee schedule, which is posted on the Town website, will become effective **July 1**. During the FY12 budget process, the Town Manager proposed the increased fees as a means to cover more of the Town's costs associated with processing a permit or variance application. While the new fees will not allow the Town to recover all costs, they will offset a greater portion of the Town's administrative and legal expenses. Permit and variance fees were last increased in 2008. Please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 with any questions.

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## Town Street Lighting

At the **June 8** Council meeting, the Town's Public Services Committee (PSC) will present several options to improve Town street lighting. The PSC also will propose procedures to implement these improvements.

In February 2009, the Town commissioned an engineering study to assess and suggest ways to improve street lighting in response to resident concerns. Following an extensive review of this study, which was completed in January 2010, the PSC has identified a number of options for the Town to consider. These options, which can be undertaken alone or in tandem, include: 1) continuing to improve existing street lighting by correcting problems, such as overgrown vegetation, light fixture disorientation, burned out bulbs, etc.; 2) identifying dark areas that require additional street lights and paying PEPCO to install them; 3) working with PEPCO to evaluate the viability and cost-effectiveness of alternative lighting technologies, such as induction or LED; and 4) pursuing the purchase of Town street lights. All of these initiatives involve working with residents and PEPCO to balance costs against the benefits of the anticipated improvements.

The Council plans to discuss and refine these options at its June 8 meeting and then ask the community for its input at the July 13 meeting. The Town's street light engineering study can be found online at [www.townofchevy Chase.org/streetlightreport.pdf](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org/streetlightreport.pdf).

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## Town Testifies on County Zoning Proposals

Recent Town testimony at the May 20 public hearing on proposed County zoning changes expressed concern that new mixed-used commercial/residential zones (CR zones) would allow for higher density development in areas close to transit without adequate opportunities for community input or sufficient infrastructure to support the level of growth.

Town testimony cautions that the CR zones "would materially alter and potentially cause irreparable harm to our town and other similar existing single family residential neighborhoods in the county." "While we welcome additional growth," the testimony states, "it is critical that it occur in a manner that maintains both neighborhood diversity and the public infrastructure critical to supporting such growth. Growth near transit facilities isn't smart growth if it increases congestion on already overcrowded roads, overburdens schools and other public facilities, and eliminates transitional areas between residential and high-density neighborhoods."

Regarding development near transit, the Town warns of the consequences of treating planned but unfunded transit stations the same as existing ones, as proposed in the amendment. The testimony also expresses concern about proposed shortcuts in the planning process. By allowing many projects to proceed "by right," rather than with review, it noted, "the proposed CR zones would result in greater conflict between communities and developers, while eliminating a critical role the development process plays in helping to reconcile these conflicts."

Steve Seidel, co-chair of the Long-Range Planning Committee, drafted the Town testimony. The committee has been following development of the proposed amendment, a prelude to the County's full rewriting of existing zoning.

The Town's full testimony and related information are available on the Town website, along with information about contacting County officials to express your views on these zoning proposals.

# Chevy Chase Lake Development

Pat Burda, Council Liaison, Long Range Planning Committee

As reported earlier in the FORECAST, the County Planning Board is, at the request of the County Council, drafting a Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan. The area under discussion is generally located north of the Town at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Manor Road. The Town Council and the Long Range Planning Committee are following this process carefully and want to update you on recent developments.

In March, the Planning Staff held a public workshop designed to get input on what the community would like to see at Chevy Chase Lake. Over 130 people attended the workshop, including many Town residents, and the Planning Staff issued the findings in a report which can be found at <http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/chevychaselake/>. In the report's first paragraph, they sum up what they heard: "Future development in the commercial area of Chevy Chase Lake should remain 'local' in character and identity, not a destination. Existing residential areas should be left alone. The commercial area should be a low-to-medium scale village center with expanded affordable housing, a diversity of community-serving retail and restaurants, and a central green space." They also noted that traffic "along Connecticut Avenue is a major concern . . ."

Separately, over the past several months, the President of Chevy Chase Land Co., the biggest property owner in the area, has held individual meetings with representatives from some local communities, including the Town, so that he could hear what residents want and what their concerns are. In April, the Land Company unveiled its plans at its own public meeting at the 4-H. This plan, which can be viewed at <http://www.cclandco.com/>, envisions a transit-oriented development centered on a new Purple Line of 4.3 million square feet of useable space, part commercial and part residential, including 12 new buildings 10 to 19 stories tall on a total of 49.4 acres.

Presumably taking all that they have heard from the community and the developer, the Planning Staff is now busy working on their draft of the plan for the area which they plan to release in early June. They will ask for feedback on this draft at a public meeting before submitting a final draft to the Planning Board for consideration.



Chevy Chase Land Company's Proposal for Chevy Chase Lake

We encourage you to follow these developments carefully and to attend the Planning Staff public meeting on Saturday, June 18 from 10 a.m. to noon at Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue.

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## Play Date for Toddlers in the Park

Are you are interested in meeting other parents in the Town? The Parks and Playgrounds Commission is starting a regular "Play Date" for preschoolers and toddlers at the Town parks. Please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 to sign up today.

If you would like to become a member of the Parks and Playgrounds Commission, please e-mail the Town staff at [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org) or call the staff at 301-654-7144.

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## Foster Community Spirit – Host a Block Party

Join the block party tradition. Many blocks in Town have been hosting block parties for decades. This is a great way to get to know your neighbors and create a stronger sense of community. If your block has not hosted a block party and would like to give it a try, call the Town staff (301-654-7144) to find out how to get started. Once your block has hosted the first party, you will want to make it an annual tradition. Join the fun!

# Committee Corner

## Chevy Chase Canopy Conservation

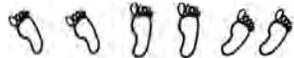
The **Environment Committee**, working with staff, has added a useful resource to the Town's website that consolidates all tree-related information on a central page. Titled "Chevy Chase Canopy Conservation," the page features four main pillars of the Town's strategy towards providing a safe, beautiful tree canopy: Preserving, Replacing, Removing, and Maintaining. Each pillar features specific information on Town services and policies regarding public and private trees. The site will be a useful resource to answer all your questions on tree health, safety, and planting. Visit <http://www.townofchevychase.org/c/338> or click "Chevy Chase Canopy Conservation" under the Services tab.

## Neighborhood Watch Needs More Block Captains

After a successful year, the Town's **Community Relations Committee** Neighborhood Watch program hopes to expand its members to include more residents. The program has been instrumental in connecting neighbors with one another throughout our town and its success is due to 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 streets up to date on safety initiatives and recent crime trends. However, there are still blocks throughout the Town that 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 participate 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.

## Climate Protection Committee

### Energy Trailblazers



What's the value of tracking your energy bill? Betsy Johnson, who has reduced her electricity consumption by 43% between 2003 and 2009, has found out that it can be worth hundreds of dollars. In April of this year, Betsy noticed her monthly electricity bill spiked 75% over her historical average. She investigated and discovered her refrigerator was on the fritz and called a repairman pronto. Over just two months her refrigerator problem had cost her about \$30. Early detection kept the problem affordable. So Betsy says "you'll be rewarded if you track your energy use." Learn more about her incredible electricity savings tips on the Town website.

### Energy Factoids

Idle your car no more than 10 seconds to save on gas, reduce damage to your car and improve air quality. Read the myths about car idling on the Town webpage.

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## CC@H Programs - Become an Explorer

Joan Hoover

Discover the story you have been creating day by day. Consider the occasions and the people who have influenced your life, and then write your own fascinating history for the pleasure of those who care about you. On **Tuesday, June 7**, Chevy Chase at Home has invited Wendi Kaplan, LCSW, to help you get started. She has had years of experience leading memoir workshops and can show you just how it's done. Come at 2 pm, with pad and pencil and give it a try. Refreshments? Of course!

On **Tuesday, June 21**, at 2:00 PM, Matthew Kelleher, who is Special Project Facilitator at the Office of the Fire Marshall, will speak about "Safety in the Home." Come and learn of better ways to care for yourself. As usual, we shall plan to welcome you to both events at the Chevy Chase Village Hall on Connecticut Avenue.

June 2011

Dear Neighbor:

As you begin to think about the coming year in the Town, the Town Council encourages you to consider volunteering to serve on a Town committee. In July, I will appoint, with the advice of the Town Council, residents to serve on each of the Town's committees for a period of one year beginning in September.

Following is a list of the committees, including a short description of each:

- **Climate Protection:** Works to reduce the Town's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.
- **Community Relations:** Encourages a strong sense of neighborliness through community activities and communications.
- **Environment:** Promotes the Town as a good steward of its natural resources through innovative environmental initiative.
- **Land Use:** Guides building and redevelopment through the use of available planning tools.
- **Long-Range Planning:** Identifies emerging issues that require longer-term planning and analysis.
- **Public Services:** Advocates high-quality Town programs and services for our residents.

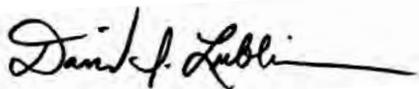
If you are interested in volunteering, please submit a brief note expressing interest to the Town Office by June 30, 2011. Your correspondence may be submitted by mail or e-mail to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) and should include your name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and a few sentences about why you would like to serve on a specific committee.

In consultation with the Council, I also appoint residents to serve on various Town boards and commissions, including the Water Board, Election Board, Tree Ordinance Board, and Parks and Playgrounds Commission; the Bethesda and Chevy Chase Fire Boards; and the Montgomery County Police Advisory Board, District 1. The length of these appointments varies from one to three years. As these appointments become available, we will include a notice in the FORECAST and on the Town website.

The Town's goal is to involve as many residents as possible in Town affairs, so we hope you will consider applying to serve on a Committee to help lead the Town through another challenging year. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Council would like to extend a special thanks to all of you who served on a committee during the past year. Your time and talents are an invaluable resource to the Town.

Sincerely,



Mayor



# Town of Chevy Chase Independence Day

## Picnic and Parade

Monday, July 4, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
Chevy Chase Elementary School

RSVP by June 27  
301-654-7144  
[townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org)

Invitation included in this issue.



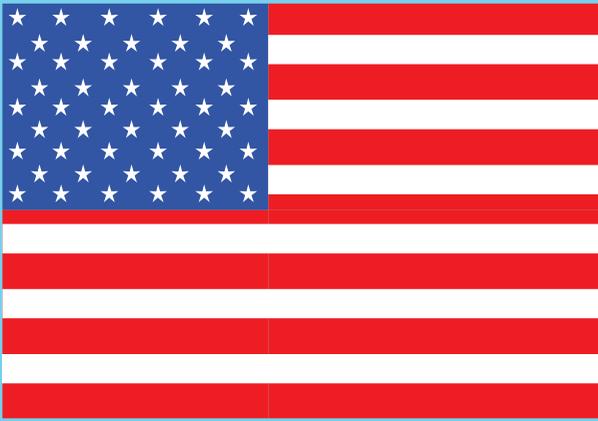
### Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

PRSR 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 of Chevy Chase Independence Day Picnic and Parade

Monday, July 4, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
Chevy Chase Elementary School

RSVP by June 27  
301-654-7144

[townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org)

You must RSVP to attend this event!

### 12 p.m. Parade

The parade will begin at 12 p.m. led by Uncle Sam on stilts. **Come to the school at 11:30 a.m. to decorate your bikes, scooters, wagons and baby carriages.** Decorating supplies will be provided by the Town.

### 12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Picnic

Town residents will be treated to pulled chicken or pork, hot dogs, hamburgers, potato salad, coleslaw, iced tea and ice cream. Vegetarian selections are available upon request. Red, Hot and Blue and Ben and Jerry's will cater the event.

### 12:30 p.m. - 2 p.m. Music and Games

Come and enjoy the music of Glenn Pearson's band, Street Life. Join in the games and fun! Please remember to bring a picnic blanket. We will have water and sodas, but we encourage you to think green and bring a water bottle.

Volunteers are needed to help with the setup and takedown. Please give the Town Office a call at 301-654-7144 to volunteer to lend a hand or just stay after to help clean up. Thanks in advance!



## Donate Food to Manna Food's Summer Smart Sacks Program

Starting June 1 at the Town Offices and continuing through the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration at Chevy Chase Elementary School, the Town's Community Relations Committee will be collecting for Manna Food's Summer Smart Sacks Program. With more than 1,400 Montgomery County children at-risk of going hungry this summer, Manna Food Center is supplying healthy groceries to some of the neediest kids in the county each week in July and August. Here's the list of food. Oatmeal, peanut butter and shelf-stable boxed milk are especially needed. Please be generous. If you can't stop by the Town Offices, please call Bridget Hartman (301-654-5961) for pick-up.

### Manna List of Food for Smart Sacks

Small jars of peanut butter  
Small packets of oatmeal  
Shelf-stable boxed milk  
Small cans/cups of applesauce, fruit or pudding  
Juice boxes with 100% juice  
Macaroni and cheese mixes

Microwavable/canned bowls of pasta or soup  
Individual cereal boxes  
Small cans of tuna fish  
Crackers packaged in sleeves  
Nutritious cereal bars or granola bars  
Small boxes of raisins, peanuts or mixed nuts



### Help us decorate the Town for Independence Day!

The Town will provide flags for residents who would like to decorate the front of their properties. The flags will be available for pickup in the Town office beginning June 15. If it is difficult for you to stop by the office during office hours, just give us a call at 301-654-7144 or e-mail [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org) and we will deliver a flag to you. After July 4, please remove the flag from the right-of-way. Thanks for helping us deck the Town out in red, white and blue!