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Greetings from the Mayor

Kathy Strom

In June the Town's Climate Protection Committee held a brainstorming session with nearly 40 residents of the Town who gathered to share ideas about ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Their objective is to help the Town meet its goals of greenhouse gas emission reduction under the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement which the Town signed in 2006.

It was a fun evening, with information, games, food, and much food for thought! One of the articles in this edition of the Forecast describes in detail the events of the evening and some of the creative ideas that were presented. The event reminded me, again, of the tremendous human resources we have in our Town and how neighbors sharing knowledge, experience and ideas with each other, can allow us to achieve the goals we set as a community. This group of 40 volunteers made great strides towards recommending some voluntary steps to help us reach our common goals. This evening showed us that by working together, listening to each other, and engaging in dialogue we can resolve community concerns.

It is that spirit of collaboration, cooperation and participation that I look forward to in the coming year as our volunteer committees commence a new year of work and dedication to the Town. It is that community spirit that will allow us to listen and speak to each other with patience and mutual respect.

Thanks to all of you who have worked hard this past year and over many years in the Town to volunteer your time and energy to the community and thanks to those of you who have already volunteered for a new year.

I hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and we look forward to a fall filled with interesting Town activities and engaging Town projects.

www.townofchevy Chase.org

PUBLIC HEARING ON CCES TRAFFIC PLAN

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on a proposed new traffic plan for the area around Chevy Chase Elementary School (CCES) at its July 9 meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. A report on the plan has been prepared by the Town's Public Services Committee (PSC) as has a map detailing the proposed changes. The report and map are available for review on the Town's website and in the Town office. In addition to proposed signage changes, the PSC is investigating a change to the traffic flow around CCES at certain times of the day. An illustration of this plan also is available on the Town's website and in the Town office. Please call 301-654-7144 for more information.

In addition to speaking at the public hearing, residents may submit comments on the proposed traffic plan by e-mail to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or in writing to Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Following the July 9 public hearing, the Town Council may choose to act on the proposed traffic plan or hold additional public hearings.

PUBLIC HEARING ON OAKRIDGE/THORNAPPLE SIDEWALKS

At its July 9 meeting, the Town Council will continue the public hearing on the proposed sidewalks for the 7100 block of Oakridge Avenue and the 4200 block of Thornapple Street. The meeting begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. Engineering plans for the proposed sidewalks are available for review on the Town's website (www.townofchevy Chase.org) and in the Town office.

In addition to speaking at the public hearing, residents may submit comments on the proposed sidewalk by e-mail to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or in writing to Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. Following the July 9 public hearing, the Town Council may choose to act on the proposed sidewalks.

DONATE OPEN SPACE TO THE TOWN **Vicky Taplin, Chair of the Environment Committee**

Are you concerned about saving open space in the Town? Would you like to leave a legacy of preserving green space and a mature tree canopy for current and future residents of the Town? If so, you may be interested in taking advantage of the Town's land conservation program. As a government entity, the Town of Chevy Chase can accept certain donations of land or conservation easements from residents for the public purposes of preserving open space, protecting environmentally sensitive areas, enhancing the Town's tree canopy or preserving the leafy, green character of the Town.

In 2004, the Town Council passed a resolution to establish a program for accepting such donations from residents. Although the program has not been extensively used since then, the Environment Committee is developing guidelines for the program and legal forms so that residents can more easily take advantage of this program as soon as possible. The goal of the program is to allow residents to give the Town land outright, or give the Town rights to land in the form of conservation easements, so as to preserve the land as open space in perpetuity, and enable donors to receive tax benefits in return. If making a gift of open space appeals to you, please contact Councilmember Linna Barnes or Town Manager Todd Hoffman and watch for news of further details about this program in upcoming issues of The Forecast.

TOWN TOPICS

THROUGH THE GARDEN GATE

On Sunday, June 8, several of our most enthusiastic gardeners opened their gardens and over fifty of you braved the heat to visit them. The reviews are in and the tour was a success. As a matter of fact, the seed has been planted to revive the Town garden club. Thanks to **Marcy and Arthur Forrest, Lynne and John List, Frederica and Charles Johnson and our premiere gardener Kathleen Williams**, there is a renewed interest in planning more events for Town gardeners. Please e-mail the Town office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or give us a call at 301-654-7144 if you are interested in joining this group. We will collect names over the summer and get organized in September.

WELCOME TO NEW RESIDENTS!

The Town Council and Community Relations Committee are planning a party on September 14 to welcome new residents to the Town. We hope you will put this on your calendar right away. We will have more details in the September newsletter. Please also read about the packets of information available to new residents in the Monthly Reminders section of the FORECAST.

DO NOT BLOCK SIDEWALKS

We encourage all of our residents to be part of our effort to make the Town pedestrian friendly. Please make sure that the sidewalks around your property are not blocked by parked cars, overgrown vegetation or any obstacle. Thank you for your cooperation.

COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to serve on one of the Town committees or the Town's Election Board, please send an e-mail to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org to let us know which of the committees you would like to join. The Town Council would like to make the appointments soon so, if we have not heard from you yet, we hope to hear from you by July 15. For more information, give us a call at 301-654-7144 or e-mail townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org

STORM DRAIN RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATE FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The repairs on East Avenue should be completed in early July. The road will be repaired and the Town will work with Montgomery County to restore the rights-of-way. Once this work is completed, the crew will resume the work on Aspen Street, Chatham Road and Meadow Lane.

WSSC WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

The crew is now working on 46th, 47th and Walsh Streets. The work on 46th and 47th Streets should be completed in mid-July and then the crew will move to Walsh Street to begin the replacement work there.

ARE YOUR TREES HEALTHY?

Are you doing everything you can to keep the trees on your property healthy? Remember the Town's Consulting Arborist Program.

Maintaining our lush, healthy tree canopy is a major priority for our town. We want to be sure to nurture flourishing trees, and also must be careful to address tree hazards that may threaten our safety. Diseased trees or those with damaged root systems can be dangerous to you and your neighbors, especially in summer and winter storms. To assist you with the job of maintaining the health of your trees and identifying potential problems, the Town offers each homeowner one hour of free time with its consulting arborist every two years.

Through the Consulting Arborist Program, the arborist will visit your property and evaluate tree health and care specific to your property. He will examine your trees for pest infestation and hazardous conditions, such as deadwood, rot, or co-dominant branches. You'll receive a detailed report after the visit, recommending pruning, fertilization, or removal if needed.

It's easy to request a visit from the arborist. The request form is available in the Town Office or on the Town website under "Services." All you need to do is fill it out and send it to the Town office. The office will contact you to set up a convenient time for the arborist to come to your house and meet with you. This is a simple way to get expert, confidential advice on the condition of your trees. Since our large canopy trees affect not only our own experience living here, but also that of our neighbors, it's in everyone's interest to keep current on the condition of our privately-owned trees. The Consulting Arborist Program helps us do that.

MONTHLY REMINDERS

TOWNNEIGHBORS IS DIFFERENT—GIVE IT A TRY

Need a recommendation for someone to fix or install something in your home? Do you have items or tickets to sell or give away? Looking for a new doctor or want an opinion about one you've heard about? Need a babysitter or nanny? Need travel or restaurant suggestions? Lost or found a pet? These subjects and many, many more can be posted and responded to on the Townneighbors listserv. Although at times, we discuss issues involving the Town, we offer a much more personal approach of neighbor-to-neighbor exchange than the Town's entirely separate, more formal Towncrier listserv that sends out official Town-related announcements. Why not join Townneighbors today? The more members we have, the more we can share. For instructions on how to join the Townneighbors listserv, go to www.townofchevy Chase.org and click on "Townneighbors" under "Quick Links" found at the bottom right of the page.

TOWN CRIER KEEPS RESIDENTS INFORMED

We strongly encourage residents to join the "Town Crier," the Town's e-mail alert system. The Town uses the listserv to keep residents informed of timely Town news and information. To subscribe, please visit the Town's website www.townofchevy Chase.org.

NEW RESIDENT INFORMATION PACKETS

The Town staff will be happy to provide new residents with a packet of information about the Town. Please give us a call at 301-654-7144 or e-mail townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org to request that we drop the packet to your house. We also invite new residents to stop by the office to pick up the packets. The Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org, is another great source of Town information.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT – HOST A BLOCK PARTY

The list of block parties continues to grow as more and more neighbors realize that this is a great way to get to know each other 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.

COMPLAINT/COMPLIMENT FORM ONLINE

If you have a complaint or compliment about a Town service or program, please complete the electronic form on the Town website, www.townofchevy Chase.org. The form provides a way for us to track issues and to make improvements to Town services and programs.

THE MVA IS ON A ROLL!

Reminder: MVA On Wheels will be in Friendship Heights, Monday, July 21, 10am to 2pm

The MVA on Wheels will be set up at the intersection of North Park Avenue and Friendship Heights Boulevard near the Friendship Heights Village Center. The mobile unit is usually in front of the Village Office on the fourth Monday of each month. (This month it is the third Monday.) For details of the services offered at the MVA on Wheels, call the MVA at 1-800-950-1682.

RECYCLE COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS (CFL) IN THE TOWN OFFICE

Have you wondered where to recycle CFL bulbs? We have a collection box for the bulbs in the Town office. Just drop them by, and we will make sure the bulbs are recycled properly.

TOWN DISCLAIMER

The Town's newsletter and listserv sometimes refer to companies and organizations that may be of interest to Town residents. In providing this information, the Town does not formally endorse these groups or their products or services. The Town encourages all residents to perform the screening they feel necessary to determine if these groups are suitable.

CATCH THE READING BUG!

Visit the Montgomery County Library website:
www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/libraries/index.asp
Check out Pearl's Picks and much more...

INFLUENCING THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Stephen Seidel and David Lublin

The Long-Range Planning Committee follows development in the areas near to the Town. Inevitably, many projects occur at once, so we tend to pay attention to projects which we think will have the greatest impact on Town residents. The Town receives notices about new projects as well as proposed changes to zoning laws, known as zoning text amendments (ZTAs).

Most new large development projects require approval from the Montgomery County Planning Board. While the Board's central duty is to judge whether the proposal complies with the law, it retains discretion regarding compliance with the Bethesda Master Plan, and even specific legal requirements, as these issues are often far from clear cut. Planning Board staff members provide recommendations to the Board—available on their website—supported by a report on issues related to the project.

The development process is complex, but there are opportunities for community participation. Developers often hold meetings to inform the public about their proposal. In addition, the Town encourages residents to testify in writing or in person at Planning Board hearings. We hope to inform residents about specific hearing dates on projects which may interest Town residents, though frequently hearing dates and times change on short notice.

Town representatives—both members of the Council and Committee members—meet with developers on projects of interest to the Town. Recently, we met with supporters and opponents of the proposed new 19-story office building at **4 Bethesda Metro Center**. The Town took no position on the merits of the project (because it did not alter substantially the open space at the site), but did submit a letter expressing concern about the method used to calculate the overall size of the site as use of the method proposed could affect the size of projects in areas directly abutting the Town. The Planning Board rejected the developer's proposal at a meeting in mid-June.

The Town is also currently following plans at other sites near the Town. A developer has filed plans to build a nine-story commercial office building at the current site of the **McDonald's** located on Pearl Street. The Planning Board will review this application in the fall. The site where **Pier One** is now located on Wisconsin Avenue near Bradley Lane has been purchased by a developer. No plans have been filed yet, but the Committee will continue to monitor progress on this project.

The County seems to be moving forward in implementing the **Bethesda Bikeway** included in the Master Plan, which calls for a permanent on-street crossing of Wisconsin Avenue. Plans are currently being considered that will take riders through Elm Street Park, across Wisconsin Avenue, and then down Bethesda Avenue. This route would be in addition to keeping the bike trail in the tunnel open under Wisconsin Avenue. A public hearing will be held sometime this summer on the proposed route.

Finally, as part of the development plan approved by the County for **Woodmont East**, the developer is to make improvements to the playground at Elm Street Park; they will be working with Susan Reynolds of the Town, who will coordinate with the Committee. Also, the developer agreed to put together a community advisory group to look at options for the development of the public area at Woodmont East. Pat Burda as Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee will represent the Town on the advisory group.

SOLAR ENERGY INFORMATION MEETING

Thursday July 10TH at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall



Come learn about solar energy in general, and the Common Cents Solar co-op in particular. Town residents Ketch Ryan and Kirk Renaud will explain how “**Common Cents Solar**” can make going solar more economical and efficient. Would it make sense for you to consider solar electricity or hot water systems for *your* home? Ketch and Kirk will share their findings from an analysis of the first 80 households in our Town to be evaluated for solar potential, and tell you how you can participate in this exciting venture. Common Cents Solar is a co-op effort developed for and by private individuals in our Town. It is not a government-sponsored organization, and the Town office is not responsible for providing information about this initiative. If you would like to learn more but can't come to the meeting, please visit the website: Commoncentsolar.org.

RECYCLING PLASTICS CAN BE A PAIN IN THE “NECK”

Monique Shimm, Public Services Committee

Since I researched the topic on paper recyclables, I've noticed that I have doubled the paper that goes out to the curb every Wednesday. I'll even make an extra trip down the stairs delivering a used toilet roll to my makeshift recycling center in the kitchen. However, the news is not so sweet with plastics. Many of you may be aware that the ONLY plastics that you can recycle are containers with necks. But, do you know why this is so?

The "necked" plastic containers are formed through a blow-molding process, for which molten plastic has a viscosity similar to that of honey. The non-neck containers, formed through injection-molding, require a more water-like consistency. Generally, these two categories of plastic containers cannot be mixed together during the recycling process; the resulting "soup" would not be suitable for either molding process. The numbers basically indicate what the plastic is made from, but just because it has a recycling symbol on the container, does not mean that Montgomery County has the process in place to recycle it. And in this case, recycling means getting the product to the market.

Although the Town of Chevy Chase uses its own contractor for collection, the recyclables all go to the same waste transfer station that serves all of Montgomery County. The station sorts through our plastics and binds them in groups based on the prices in the market and then sells our recyclables. Interestingly, at least once municipality in Montgomery County ships its recyclables to another facility.

The good news is that although we cannot recycle all of our plastics at the moment, the County hasn't ruled out accepting more types of plastics in the future.

In the meantime, here is a summary of recycling of plastics:

- Recycle all clear and colored plastic bottles with necks, which is any container that tapers at the top and where the opening is smaller than the body – regardless of its resin number.
- Rinse out the food or material. Throw away the lid. Labels and the little rings around the neck from the lid/cap are ok.
- Place these bottles in your recycling bin along with cans, glass bottles and jars. Do not use plastic bags to hold the bottles. I will have to drop my long standing habit of collecting my plastics in plastic bags. The County does not accept any plastic bags, even if they are holding your recyclables.
- Do not recycle plastic containers without narrow neck openings like yogurt containers, margarine tubs, pint-sized baskets for fruit, beverage cups, salad bar containers, and flower pots. Nor can you recycle bottles from hazardous products like automotive and garden products.

Since it is spring cleanup time, I thought I would leave you with this: the County is now accepting small consumer electronics for recycling at the Shady Grove Solid Waste Transfer Station in Derwood. So if you can't donate, why not recycle it?

All the information provided for the article comes from the Montgomery County Government's Solid Waste Services website. It is easily reached if you go to <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov> and type "Plastic Bottles" into the search box.

SEE THE STARS ON THE AVENUE

The fourth annual Bethesda Outdoor Movies: Stars on the Avenue will be held on July 29-August 2 in Veteran's Park at the corner of Norfolk and Auburn Avenues in Bethesda's Woodmont Triangle. Five evenings of blockbuster films in a variety of genres will be showcased. Admission is free and show time is 9 p.m.

TOWN MEETING IS A GAS

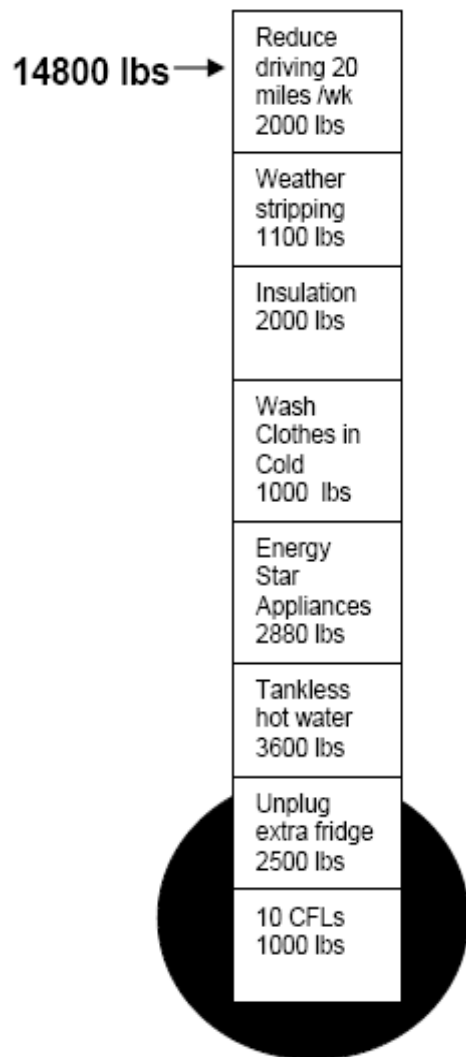
Judy McGuire, Climate Protection Committee

Close to forty residents had a great deal of fun at the Town's climate protection brainstorming event on June 12, and we all learned a lot about how to reduce our impact on global warming. The Town signed the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection agreement in 2006, which commits us to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to 7% below 1990 levels by 2012. Because of the residential nature of Chevy Chase, our greenhouse gas emissions are predominantly due to household and personal transportation decisions so reducing our carbon footprint requires changing household-level behaviors. To understand how the Town might motivate residents to make climate friendly choices, we used an interactive game to understand better residents' decision-making processes.

Participants were divided into three teams, and each was given a paper "thermometer" – really a carbon dioxide meter - to fill up with paper carbon dioxide blocks. Each block represented the CO₂ a household might save by taking an action at home or in transportation choices. Our greenhouse gas assessment (presented at a Town meeting on April 29) showed that the town emits, on average, 24.7 tons of CO₂ per household per year (of which 2/3 is related to the home and 1/4 is related to cars). To meet the goals of the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, we would need to reduce that number to 17.3 tons of CO₂ per household per year by 2012. The thermometer was used to show ways to get to (or even exceed) the 7.4 tons or 14800 lbs. of savings per household to achieve the goal. The size of the blocks on the thermometer was based on specific actions posted on the Town's website, which would result in a reduction of CO₂ emissions. For instance, replacing 10 incandescent or halogen bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulb was worth 1000 pounds of CO₂ while reducing driving by 20 miles per week was worth 2000 pounds of CO₂. Team members had to be willing to make the changes added to the thermometer. All three teams debated what to add, the pros and cons of different actions, and why they would or would not take a particular action. The good news is that all teams easily found enough actions to achieve the goal and even had more in reserve. Interestingly enough, the teams all developed different portfolios and only one action was found in all three: install weather-stripping (worth 1100 pounds of CO₂).

In the second part of the meeting, each team presented its thermometer to the rest of the group and discussed ideas about how the Town could be involved in working to lower greenhouse gas emissions. Participants mentioned a wide range of ideas including more and better access to information (regular "tips"), installing state of the art streetlights, improving recycling and reuse of materials, creating a sense of community spirit and unity to achieve the goal, having a "green" house tour in town so residents can see what their neighbors are doing, advocating for improved bike lanes and paths or supporting a local shuttle bus.

The Climate Protection Committee will consider these and other recommendations as it develops the Town's Climate Action Plan. If you have any further suggestions, please send them to the Town office (townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org).



TOWN TEENS

Thanks to the following teens for contacting the Town office to confirm that they wish to remain on the Teen List. If you would like to add your name to the list, please e-mail the Town staff at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. It is important to update the Teen List so that we can provide residents with a current list of teens who are available to do a variety of jobs.

Also, if you find you do not have time to provide services, please let us know so that we can remove your name from the list. We can put you back on the list when your schedule allows. We are counting on you to help us to update the list so that residents do not become frustrated when using the list.

The Town does not screen to determine the experience and maturity of the teens on the Town Teen List. Please do the screening you believe necessary to determine if the teen can fill your needs adequately and responsibly.

Kristine Albanes
301-986-5475
4211 Bradley Lane
baby-sitting, pet-sitting

Alex Berlin
301-654-5879
4111 Rosemary Street
pet-sitting, plant care

Will DeBruin
301-654-7973
4312 Leland Street
pet-sitting and walking,
baby-sitting, plant
watering

Lindsay Druskin
301-654-6944
7109 46th Street
pet-sitting, plant care,
dog walking and mother's
helper

Katie Fox
301-951-0031
301-520-5646
4504 Elm Street
party help, dog walking,
pet-sitting

Peter Geiser
301-907-3193
7405 Oak Lane
pet-sitting, dog walking,
yard work, plant watering

Sam Hartman
301-654-4938
7214 Ridgewood Avenue
pet-sitting

Margot Henderson
301-718-0546
4314 Willow Lane
dog walking, pet-sitting

Will Hirsch
301-652-5629
4322 Leland Street
pet-sitting, dog walking

Maddie Magnusson
4228 Leland Street
301-664-9654
baby-sitting, pet care

Sophie Mangassarian
3904 Leland Street
301-654-5063
baby-sitting and pet-sitting

Rebecca Miller
301-654-4404
4212 Oakridge Lane
pet-sitting, baby-sitting, dog
walking

Alex Palmer
301-941-1223
7008 Meadow Lane
baby-sitting, pet-sitting

Leah Plave
301-656-3649
4204 Leland Street
baby-sitting, pet-sitting, and
catering

Chris Simundson
301-452-6187
4336 Leland Street
baby-sitting, yard work,
computer help

Gabriella Simundson
301-452-6184
4336 Leland Street
baby-sitting, pet-sitting, dog
walking

Henry Sisson
301-654-6236
7504 Lynn Drive
dog walking

Jackie Sisson
301-654-6736
7504 Lynn Drive
baby-sitting

Jacob Strom
301-718-0334
7212 Ridgewood Avenue
yard work, pet-sitting

Chris Walker
301-654-5916
4302 Stanford Street
cat-sitting

Covey Willkens
301-656-5281
7108 45th Street
pet-sitting, yard work, light
chores

Nick Zeidman
301-652-8911
6907 Maple Avenue
pet-sitting, baby-sitting

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

- We will be back in September with a new issue of the FORECAST. Until September, please visit the Town's website for current Town news.
- Join the Town Crier listserv (details in Monthly Reminders) for news and information alerts.
- The Town Council will not meet in August. The next regularly scheduled monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, September 10.

www.townofchevyCHASE.org

The **FORECAST** is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; e-mail: townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org; phone: 301-654-7144; fax: 301/718-9631. Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to all Town residents. The Town Council meets in open session the second Wednesday of each month in the Town Hall unless otherwise announced. All residents are invited to attend.

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Kathy Strom, Mayor
Robert Enelow, Vice Mayor
David Lublin, Secretary
Linna Barnes, Treasurer
Al Lang, Community Liaison