



# Forecast

SEPTEMBER 2013

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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## Backdoor, Single-Stream Recycling To Begin September 11

Beginning Wednesday, September 11, the Town will provide backdoor, single-stream recycling service. Single-stream recycling allows residents to place all recyclables into the same container(s), including the new 64-gallon wheeled recycling carts or the existing 18-gallon bins. The service, which will continue to be offered weekly on Wednesdays, will be provided "backdoor," meaning that residents will no longer need to place recycling containers at the curb. A guide to single stream recycling is included as an insert in this edition of the Forecast. Please keep it in a handy place for future reference.

Residents are welcome to keep their existing 18-gallon bins for use in recycling or for other purposes, such as storing household items. However, if you wish to dispose of your bins, please place them at the curb, overturned, any Wednesday to be collected and recycled by the Town's contractor.

## Montgomery County Council Approves Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan

After three years of community work, the County Council approved the Chevy Chase Lake Sector Plan on July 30. While the plan will significantly alter the landscape along Connecticut Avenue near the Beltway interchange and undoubtedly contribute more traffic to the area, community leaders worked successfully to reduce the scale of the overall development and to ensure that the timing of much of the construction is linked to actual construction of the Purple Line.

Because the Chevy Chase Land Company already holds an approval for redevelopment of the Chevy Chase Supermarket and TW Perry area, construction of a new Chevy Chase Lake Town Center will proceed in Phase I (prior to the Purple Line) and include predominantly new residential units as well as retail and office space. New zoning requires that the redeveloped Town Center include public open space and other amenities. It was through active community input and advocacy, including from the Town, that the County Council reduced the maximum height of several of the new buildings on that site, including reduced heights on properties along Connecticut Avenue and on those closest to existing homes.

Community groups also worked hard to assure that the trigger for allowing Phase II development to proceed is the actual construction of the Purple Line versus funding agreements for the Purple Line. Redevelopment of other properties at Chevy Chase Lake must wait until construction begins on the Purple Line.

# Mayor's Message

Patricia Burda

It's hard to believe that summer is practically over. And, what a busy fall we have ahead of us. The Montgomery County Zoning Code rewrite comes to a head (see the article on page 4), the Bethesda Master Plan process begins, and the Town will host a number of lectures, community events and family programs.

And, then, there is the question of the best use of our reserves. Considering the economic uncertainties over the last few years, we are fortunate to find ourselves with such reserves, and I urge you to read the Treasurer's comments on page 4 in this newsletter that explain how we got to this point.

In order to give the Council guidance on community priorities and how best to move forward using these reserves, I am asking the Long Range Planning Committee to organize a community forum this fall so that we can hear directly from you on the topic. Luckily, the Council and our committees have laid the groundwork for considering some potential uses already. For instance:

1. The Public Services Committee oversaw a project several years ago regarding street lighting. At the time of the project, the committee and its consultant recommended that the Town purchase our lights from Pepco once LED lighting technology became more established and Pepco set its equipment rates. The Council recently asked the Town staff to provide an update and to outline the potential benefits/risks and costs of moving forward on this project.
2. The Council formed a subcommittee last June of John Bickerman and Al Lang to explore in more detail undergrounding the Town's power lines. They will present a report to the Council in September that outlines the potential costs, benefits and impacts on the community of burying the electrical lines in Town. The report will contain a set of recommendations, including a list of potential locations for burying lines, for the Council to consider as next steps. A copy of the Subcommittee's charge is available on the Town's website.
3. The Council adopted a set of recommendations formulated by a special Parks and Playgrounds task force that outlines specific criteria to be used when evaluating open space within the Town and a public process to follow for the potential acquisition of this space. A copy of the report is available on the Town's website.
4. The Climate and Environment Committee has undertaken a project to see if there are additional ways the Town can help protect our environment. Two initial recommendations were the Private Canopy Tree Maintenance Program and the move to single-stream recycling. Other suggestions may come forward after public workshops later this fall, which I encourage all of you to attend.

These are just some of the possibilities the Council has been exploring – and none of them are final. We know you may have other important ideas about how we could best use our reserves. Therefore, before we make any decisions on potential big ticket items, we want to hear from you.

## Private Canopy Tree Maintenance Program

This program assists Town residents with some of the costs associated with the maintenance of canopy trees on private property. Please visit the Town website or contact the Town Office for details.



## Native Canopy Tree Planting Program Continues

If you have a spot in your yard suitable for a canopy tree, you might want to take advantage of this Town program. The Town will purchase and install a canopy tree on your property at no cost to you. Residents are responsible for the long-term care of the tree once installed. If you would like to participate, please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 soon. We are in the process of preparing the list for plantings this November.

# September

Wednesday, September 11 – Town Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 11 - Single-Stream Recycling Begins

Thursday, September 12 – Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, September 28 and 29 – Trash and Treasures

Saturday, September 28 – Alternatives to Trash and Treasures

Sunday, September 29 - Climate and Environment Committee Event, 4 - 6 p.m.

## Mark Your Calendar

Tuesday, October 1 - Climate and Environment Committee Event, 7 - 9 p.m.

Thursday, October 3 - Flu Clinic, 4 – 7 p.m.

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

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

## Climate and Environment Committee Events

Sunday, September 29, 4 - 6 p.m. - Wine and Cheese Event

Tuesday, October 1, 7- 9 p.m. - Desserts and More

Whether it's making our homes more energy efficient or trying to recycle as much as possible, most people in our Town are concerned about environmental issues. A stalwart group of volunteers on the Climate and Environment Committee organizes a number of activities and initiatives each year. Based on the Environmental survey results and other input from residents, the Committee has developed a tentative action plan for the next three years and would like to get input from a broad range of residents about what matters most. Please attend one of the events the Committee has organized and make your opinions known. You can review a working draft of potential actions (that is being updated regularly) on the Climate and Environment Committee page on the Town website.

## Sign-Up for the Flu Clinic - Medstar Visiting Nurses

Thursday, October 3, 4 – 7 p.m., Town Hall

- The MVN will administer flu shots on **Thursday, October 3, from 4 to 7 p.m.**
- Shots will be administered to anyone nine years of age and up.
- The cost without Medicare Part B is \$30.
- Pneumococcal vaccine (\$90) is recommended for all adults 65 years of age & older.
- There is no charge if you have Medicare Part B and are not part of a HMO.
- We accept cash and checks. Checks should be made payable to MedStar VNA.
- Mist (nasal spray) is available for healthy people ages 9 through 49 and not pregnant.
- A "high-dose" inactivated vaccine (\$55) is available for persons 65 years of age and older.

Please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 by **Friday, September 27** to sign up for the program. **You must sign up to receive a flu shot or pneumonia vaccine.**

# Increased Income Tax Revenues Contribute to Town Surplus

## David Lublin, Treasurer

As fiscal year 2013 ended on June 30, I wanted to give you an update on Town finances and revenue sources.

In FY13, income tax receipts accounted for 89%, or \$4.35 million, of Town revenue. The Town has no control over income tax rates, which are set by the State. Income tax revenues are very hard to predict because the State releases no information on such revenues to municipalities in an effort to protect the privacy of individual taxpayers. In recent years, the Town has often received far more or far less than in previous years, depending upon the economy and taxes paid by our residents. Notably, the Town’s income tax revenues fell substantially in FY10 and FY11 as a result of the recession. The Town ran a deficit in both of these years.

As most of you know, the Town surplus has increased recently (see the following table), largely due to increased income tax revenues. The Council is currently considering a number of initiatives that would be funded by this surplus, and the Town is organizing a community forum where residents can provide feedback on these initiatives in addition to sharing any new ideas for Town programs or services. I hope many of you will participate in this dialogue.

### Town General Fund Balance

<b>FY</b>	<b>Operating Revenues</b>	<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>Capital Expenses*</b>	<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>Balance</b>
07	\$3,521,013	\$2,259,145	\$354,732	\$907,136	\$3,886,916
08	\$3,484,991	\$2,769,913	\$159,029	\$556,049	\$4,442,965
09	\$5,143,292	\$2,741,097	\$597,050	\$1,805,145	\$6,248,110
10	\$2,471,840	\$2,775,629	\$1,141,898	-\$1,445,687	\$4,802,423
11	\$2,537,330	\$2,532,757	\$246,627	-\$242,054	\$4,560,369
12	\$4,309,563	\$2,226,713	\$654,077	\$1,428,773	\$5,989,142
13	\$4,862,986	\$2,275,014	\$341,747	\$2,246,225	\$8,235,367

\*Capital expenses vary from year to year primarily based on the need for infrastructure repairs, including street and sidewalk work.

## Long Range Planning Committee

### County Moves Forward with Major New Zoning Legislation

Over the summer, the County expedited its review of the zoning code rewrite that will affect our neighborhood and the way we live in Montgomery County for generations.

The rewrite, which began four years ago, includes many significant changes. Most notably, the rewrite will allow greater densities and building heights than currently permitted in areas such as Bethesda and Friendship Heights. In addition, it will allow certain types of “non-residential” buildings to be located in single-family neighborhoods, where they are currently not permitted.

Neighborhood Montgomery, a community network advocating for sensible growth, has outlined a number of concerns with the zoning rewrite. More information is available on the Town website.

The Town will continue to monitor the rewrite review process and provide updates in future editions of the Forecast. Residents who wish to submit comments to the County Council regarding the proposed zoning rewrite may do so at [county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov).

# Committee Corner

## Committees 2013 - 2014

Thanks to all of you who volunteered to serve on Town committees and boards. We have an impressive roster of committee members for the coming year. We have a great mix of residents volunteering for the first time and those returning to serve another year. We hope to highlight many of these members in future issues of the FORECAST.

### Land Use Committee

#### New County Regulations for Accessory Apartments

In February, Montgomery County adopted new regulations for accessory apartments in single-family homes. The regulations became effective throughout the County, including the Town, on May 20, 2013. Below is an outline of the main conditions for approval of an attached accessory apartment. For more information, contact the County at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov).

Number of units	1 apartment per lot
Other rentals	Accessory apartment prohibited if there is a "registered living unit," rented guest room, or other rental at the address
Owner occupancy	Owner must reside at the address 6 months of the year.
Entrance for apartment	1) Separate rear or side entrance, or 2) Separate front entrance if it existed before the new regulation, or 3) Shared front entrance
Number of occupants	1) 2 adults 2) No limit on number of minors (except per the housing code)
Size of apartment	The lesser of: 1) Less than 50% of the total floor area of the house, or 2) 1,200 square feet No more than 800 square feet of a new addition to a house (if the addition increases the floor plate of house).
Age of house	Must be at least 5 years old
Spacing of apartments	Must be at least 300 feet from any other apartment located on the same side of the street and in the same block
Parking	1) If there is an existing driveway, 1 on-site space must be provided in addition to any spaces required for the main dwelling 2) If a new driveway is required, 2 on-site spaces must be provided in addition to the spaces required for the main dwelling
Notification of neighbors	The applicant must post a sign at the location of the unit once the final approval stage of the licensing process has begun (usually about 30 days before the license is issued). Neighbors may look up the project online to review details and submit written comments if they have concerns.
Waiver	Under some conditions, the 300 foot spacing and the on-site parking requirements may be waived. This requires that an applicant apply for a Special Exception.
Appeal	If the County decides NOT to issue a license, the applicant may file an objection and request an administrative hearing. A final action of the County may be subsequently appealed to the Circuit Court. Aggrieved neighbors also may file an objection and request an administrative hearing and subsequently appeal a decision to the Circuit Court.

# Around and About Chevy Chase

## Eighth Annual Ellen's Run

REGISTER NOW at [www.ellensrunonline.org](http://www.ellensrunonline.org) for the Seventh Annual Neighborhood 5K Run/3K Walk on Sunday, September 29 at 9 a.m., in memory of Ellen Vala Schneider, a Chevy Chase Section 5 resident, to benefit B-CC High School Community Scholarship Fund and the Mental Health Association of Montgomery County, two groups that Ellen supported. Adults, students and children are welcome! See [www.EllensRunOnline.org](http://www.EllensRunOnline.org) for details.

## Chevy Chase @ Home Fall Events

Beginning this fall, **Chevy Chase At Home** will again offer a monthly discussion group for adult children of aging parents, led by Nathan Billig, MD. The series will run from late September until June. Please call the **CC@ H** office at 301-657-3115 for details and to sign up.

The popular gentle Pilates classes will continue to be held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Avenue, on **Wednesday mornings from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.**, and on **Friday afternoons from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.** There will be a fee per 4-week session of each class, payable in advance at the first class of the session (\$40 for members and parishioners and \$48 for other participants).

On **Thursday, September 12**, the Brunch Bunch will get together at the Olympia Coffee Shoppe in the Brookville Road shopping center from **10 to 11:30 a.m.** There's plenty of free parking.

"Legal Matters of Particular Relevance to the Elderly" will be the important topic addressed by attorney Barbara Mulitz, at the Meet & Mingle on **Tuesday, September 17, from 2 to 4 p.m.** at the CCV Hall.

Looking ahead -- **Tuesday, October 1** has been formally designated "International Day for Older Persons". **CC@ H** president Irene Hoskins will speak briefly on the significance of that designation at our M&M scheduled for that day, prior to a talk by Monique Milhollin on "Current Developments in Hospice Care".

For more information about **CC@ H** and our programs, please visit [www.chevychaseathome.org](http://www.chevychaseathome.org).

## Events at the Chevy Chase Library

\*Sponsored by the Friends of the Library Chevy Chase

### Children's Events

**Tuesday, September 3, 10, 17 and 24\* (bilingual), 10:30 a.m.**  
Pre-School Storytime

**Saturday September 21, 10:30 a.m.**

Family Fun Day - Tim Livengood will talk about the planets and with your help, design a robot vehicle to explore the planet of your choice.\*

### Adult Events

**Saturday, September 7, 1 - 3:30 p.m.**

Foreign Film--"Z". The leader of a Greek opposition party is struck down by a truck and the witnesses mysteriously disappear.

**Non-Fiction Book Discussion** **Wednesday, September 11, 2:30 p.m.**

Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation by Joseph Ellis.\*

### Jefferson Café

**Friday, September 20, 10:30 a.m.**

Capitalism and Inequality--What the Right and the Left Get Wrong by Jerry Z. Muller in "Foreign Affairs" March/April 2013.\*

### Fiction Book Discussion

**Wednesday, September 25, 2:30 p.m.**

Growing Up by Russell Baker.\*

For a complete listing, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/libraries).

## Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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### TOWN COUNCIL

*Patricia Burda, Mayor*

*Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor*

*Al Lang, Secretary*

*David Lublin, Treasurer*

*John Bickerman, Community Liaison*

## The Town of Chevy Chase Welcomes Students Back to School

**DRIVE WITH CARE!  
WALK WITH CAUTION!**

Please observe all of the posted traffic and permit parking signs in the vicinity of Chevy Chase Elementary School.

Please remember that all dogs must be leashed when on school property, and owners must pick up after their pets.



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## Single-Stream Recycling Begins on Wednesday, September 11 Trash and Treasures - September 28 and 29

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The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; email, [townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org); telephone, 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 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall unless otherwise announced.