

CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE

ESTABLISHED 1890

CRIER

January 2012

Vol. 100, No. 1

Tentative Agenda

Board of Managers' Meeting
Chevy Chase Village Hall

Monday, January 9, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

Note: The full agenda will be available on the Village website by Friday, January 6.

February Appeal Deadline: 1/23 at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Appeals

5815 Cedar Parkway
135 Grafton Street
5803 Kirkside Drive
20 Magnolia Parkway
3 Newlands Street

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

New Business

Manager's Report

Police Report

Staff Reports

Chairman's Report

Mark Your Calendar

January 11: Winter Classes Begin

January 17: CC@H's Meet & Mingle

January 25: CC@H Evening Lecture

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Overview of the Urban Forest Code and the Permitting Process

The stately streets of Chevy Chase Village owe much of their unique beauty to the Village's well-established urban forest. In addition to aesthetic value, our trees protect air quality, abate noise, mitigate storm water runoff, and provide habitat for wildlife. To ensure that future generations will experience the same enjoyment and quality of life in the Village as residents today, the Board of Managers, in 1988, adopted Chapter 17 of the Village Code, entitled the "Urban Forest." This ordinance applies to all trees on public and private property. The most important aspect of this ordinance is that **any tree with a trunk larger than 24 inches in circumference measured at 4½ feet above ground level may not be**

Continued on page 2...

From Your Neighbors on the Chevy Chase Village Public Safety Committee

Light It Up & Lock It Up!

Many of us are now busier than ever, and we don't always think about security habits and crime prevention. We all need to pay more attention to these matters because we unfortunately continue to experience property crimes in the Village. Actual or attempted burglaries (thefts where a house is entered) and thefts from autos are our two most prevalent crimes, and they have increased significantly this year.

Continued on page 5...

Noise Complaints Continue Regarding Leaf Blowers

We have reached the completion of the first full leaf collection season since new regulations went into effect limiting the hours during which landscape power equipment can be operated. These regulations were enacted by the Village Board of Managers in response to resident complaints about the excessive noise generated by this machinery and the adverse impact this has on the community.

Although the complaints have decreased, residents continue to express frustration regarding the sheer volume of the power landscaping equipment being used, specifically leaf blowers.

Continued on page 3, second column...

Guidelines for Village Committees

The Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers is committed to meaningful and wide-spread participation of Village residents in the governance of our community. Committees of residents serve as advisors to the Board. They provide a critical interface between the residents and the Board by generating a wealth of

Continued on page 4, second column...

5906 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815

Chevy Chase Village Board of Managers' Meeting, 2nd Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at the Village Hall

Telephone: 301-654-7300, Fax: 301-907-9721, E-mail: ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov, Website: www.chevychasevillagemd.gov

In The Village

...Continued from cover article, entitled "Overview from the Urban Forest Code and Permitting Process"

removed, destroyed or otherwise harmed without a permit from the Village Manager. **Violating** this ordinance carries a **\$1,000 fine per tree**.

Maintenance

A **permit is not required** for normal and reasonable trimming or other tree care designed to **maintain health, shape, or balance of a tree**. It is a state regulation, however, that any tree contractor hired must be licensed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR). If a tree in need of maintenance has a Village tag on it (typically a metal tag located at about eye level), contact the Village office to request maintenance by the Village. If a tree is not tagged, then in most cases the property owner adjacent to the right-of-way is responsible for routine maintenance of the tree.

Removal

Residents must obtain a Village permit to remove any tree on your property that has a trunk larger than 24 inches in circumference at four and one-half (4½) feet above the ground. If you wish to remove a tree on your property, please contact the Village office. The consulting Village Arborist will come and assess the tree. Please be aware that under the Village Code, the Village Manager may issue a permit for tree removal *if and only if at least one of the following conditions applies*:

- ✓ The tree is diseased beyond restoration, insect infected beyond restoration, or injured beyond restoration;
- ✓ The tree is dead or dying, or is in danger of falling;
- ✓ The tree constitutes a hazard to the safety of persons;
- ✓ The tree constitutes a hazard and threatens injury to property;
- ✓ The tree constitutes a hazard and threatens injury to, or would have a negative effect on the health of other trees;
- ✓ The tree is injurious to or creates a condition injurious to the health of a person, certified to by a qualified medical practitioner.

If a Tree Removal Permit application is denied, a property owner may decide to accept the findings of the Village Arborist, or to appeal the decision to the Board of Managers.

Tree Protection During Construction

The Village Code requires that before undertaking any activity that poses a potential risk to a tree, a property owner must have the Village Arborist prepare a Tree Protection Plan (TPP). The determination that a TPP will be warranted is made when you file a Village **Building Permit Application**. Any tree preservation measures prescribed by the Village Arborist for your work site must be installed **before construction begins and maintained throughout the project**; otherwise, the project may be subject to a Stop Work Order at any time. **Violating** this Village ordinance carries a **\$1,000 fine per tree, per day**.

A Tree Has Fallen in My Yard: What Should I Do?

If a tree on your property has entirely fallen down (i.e., knocked over by wind, lightning, etc.), it is not necessary to get a Tree Removal Permit from the Village to have the tree removed. *However, property owners must contact the Village office so the downed tree can be properly documented.* Property owners may hire any MD DNR-licensed tree contractor to remove the downed tree. If you are unsure about whether a tree must be removed or can be saved, contact the Village office.

Conclusion: Our Thanks

While the Urban Forest Code may sometimes feel onerous to a property owner faced with an injured or unwanted tree, over time our community benefits tremendously by preserving as many of our trees as possible and ensures that our urban forest will flourish for generations to come. The Village residents and staff sincerely appreciate the extra effort periodically required by all members of the community to preserve our urban forest. See the complete Urban Forest Ordinance on the Village website or contact Permitting & Code Enforcement Coordinator Ellen Sands at ccvpermitting@montgomerycountymd.gov for further information.

In The Village

THE SENIOR CORNER

MEET AND MINGLE – 1ST & 3RD TUESDAYS 2:00-4:00 P. M.

Afternoon at the Movies on December 6th, *The Bishop's Wife*, was a perfect beginning to the holidays. Our **Poker Party** on January 3 is a first for us. We will have experts to teach those who have not played and tables set up for those who are "experts".

January 17—**Strumming and Singing**: David Almy, a Chevy Chase native, will bring his four-string tenor guitar and singers, Cheryl and Hal Gearhardt to entertain us.

February 7—**How to Find the Best Hearing Aid for You**: Factors that Contribute to the Success or Failure of Hearing Aid Use. Aurion Dwyer, M.D. and Attorney Carolyn Wyatt will bring a very informative program for all of us.

February 21—**Creativity in Aging**: an interesting topic. We will have more on that next month.

Plans for the future include:

Our Annual St. Patrick's Day Party with Irish Stories and Treats, A Handwriting Analyst, John Fitzgerald, Chief of Police for The Village, addressing crime prevention and safety, Millie Shott's workshop, print-making using unusual food, Bill Sheehan and Sid Davis with a special evening program – not to be missed.

Save the Date: Wednesday evening, January 25, 2012, at the Village Hall—CC@H will offer a program on Maintaining Your Sight and Health: This free forum for the community will be presented by Dr. Daniel M Berinstein who specializes in Vitreoretinal and Macula Diseases and Surgery and is Associate Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at Georgetown University. He has authored over seventy papers and has been the principal investigator of nine major clinical trials. Dr. Berinstein has been recognized and honored by both the American Society of Retinal Specialists and the Prevention of Blindness. He practices with the Retina Group of Washington. Don't miss this program – it may help you save your sight

Betty O'Conner

Chairman, Committee for Seniors

betty.oconnor@comcast.net or 301-656-0597

...Continued from the cover article, entitled "Noise Complaints Regarding Leaf Blowers"

Many residents hire companies that employ 2-6+ crewmen, each with a leaf blower in-hand. Additionally, many neighbors on a single block may have crews on their properties at the same time, further contributing to the high noise volume.

We encourage residents to speak to their contractors and discuss ways to voluntarily decrease the noise levels. Additionally, leaf blowers have been proven to distribute all sorts of toxins into the air. Please be considerate of elderly immediate neighbors with respiratory problems and families with small children by letting them know when you expect your crew to be using leaf blowers so they can make arrangements to stay inside.

We can work as a community to reduce the impact of leaf blowers by using them in a responsible and considerate manner.

Weekly Toddlers Group

The Weekly Toddlers Group will begin their Winter session on Monday, January, 9 at 9:30 in the Village Hall. They will meet every Monday after that for the rest of the Winter Session.

The Village provides the group with toys and a clean, indoor play space. Most kids are between one and three years old, but all ages-including babies are welcome! There are lots of moms, grannies, nannies and sometimes dads who attend.

If you have any questions about the group, please contact Lesley Caldicott at caldicott@gmail.com or Tanya Correa at tanyaalan@ah.net with questions.

Classes held at the Village Hall

Chevy Chase Village offers various classes to Village residents throughout the year. Each semester, a Schedule of Classes is sent out in the Crier to inform residents of upcoming classes. Every year, we add something new to entice students to join a class. Please be sure to check out the schedule to see if a class is of interest to you. If you have any ideas for classes, please contact Grace Brock at grace.brock@montgomerycountymd.gov

In The Village

Annual Village Holiday Party a Success

What a party! Residents attended the Annual Holiday Party held on December 14th. Innovative Gourmet provided delicious hors d'oeuvres and wonderful desserts for everyone's enjoyment. In addition to a wonderful meal, there were visits by the Christmas Fairy, a.k.a. Miss Paula, and Santa. The children had their own room again in which to play, where they decorated picture frames for their pictures with Santa Claus. A very special thanks is extended to teen helper Bernadette Sundback who assisted with the children's crafts table.

Many Village residents and staff have contributed their energies to build, enhance and preserve the sense of community which the Village residents have come to cherish. Among those who have not sought, but certainly deserve thanks for helping with this year's event is the Garden Club of Chevy Chase for the seasonal decorations. Special thanks goes to Grace Brock who organized the event and did a great deal of the actual set-up both indoors and out with the greatly appreciated assistance of the Public Works staff.

We hope to see even more residents in attendance at

Board of Managers Meeting

Board Actions—December 12, 2011

Approval of Previous Meetings' Minutes: November 14, 2010 Regular Sessions—approved. **Appeals: A-6042 (Special Permit Request): 20 Magnolia Parkway**—Install a freestanding lamp post in the Magnolia Parkway public right-of-way, located to the left (south) of the front walkway, eight feet, and nine inches (8'-9") from the public sidewalk—approved. **A-6045 (Special Permit Request): 12 Primrose Street**—Install a pair of handrails, each measuring nine (9) feet in length, on either side of the front steps located in the Primrose Street public right-of-way—approved. **A-6044 (Retroactive Special Permit Request): 5810 Connecticut Avenue**—Maintain an external air conditioning unit that was installed in the east (front) Connecticut Avenue yard—approved. **New Business: Supplemental Appropriation and Purchase Authorization Requests**—Thermal Vision Scopes—approved. **Contract Award Authorization Request**—for *SafeSpeed* Program to *ACS State & Local Solutions*—approved.

This is a synopsis of the Board's actions. To view an archive of the approved minutes from the Board's meetings, please visit the Village website www.chevychasevillagemd.gov.

...Continued from Cover article, entitled "Guidelines for Village Committees"

ideas, research and analysis for the policy initiatives that underlie good governance.

To strengthen the role of Village committees and to ensure that their work is transparent and a model of democratic practice, the Board has adopted guidelines, which will be available on the Village website around January 1.

Thank you From the Village Staff

The Village staff would like to thank all Village residents who contributed to the Village Employee Holiday Fund. What a wonderful way to say thank you!

The Village staff loves what they do and truly feels like they are making a difference in this great community. Thank you again for your generosity this Holiday Season.

Rent the Village Hall for Your Next Event

The Village Hall is the perfect place to host an event. It is a beautiful building with high ceilings, wooden floors, wonderful lighting and a caterer's prep space. The rental of the Hall for a weekend event is \$350.00 per room for 7 hours. There is a reimbursable damage deposit of \$750.00 per room. There is a \$75.00 per room cleaning fee as well. The rental price for a weekday event is \$250.00 per room for 7 hours. The damage deposit is \$500.00 per room and the cleaning fee is \$75.00 per room.

The Village Hall has been used for many different types of events, such as: Birthday Parties, Anniversary Parties, Weddings, Bar and Bat Mitzvah's, Fundraisers, Retirement Parties, and meetings.

Some uses of the Village Hall may qualify for a fee waiver. If you are looking to use the space for a small meeting or conference, please call the Village office to inquire if your use qualifies for a fee waiver. Please contact Grace Brock at the Village Office or by email at grace.brock@mongtomerycountymd.gov.

The Police Beat

To e-mail Police Chief John Fitzgerald: john.m.fitzgerald@montgomerycountymd.gov

...Continued from the cover article, entitled "From Your Neighbors on the Chevy Chase Village Public Safety Committee"

For the first ten months of 2011, the Village had 14 burglaries or attempted burglaries and 60 thefts or attempted thefts from cars (as compared to 7 and 50 respectively for all of 2010). These property crimes are crimes of opportunity, and it is critical that we all take reasonable steps to reduce those opportunities.

For many years, our Village Police Department has been reminding us to take simple steps to reduce our chances of becoming victims of property crime. Our new Police Chief, John Fitzgerald, who has placed renewed emphasis on crime prevention, has made it clear that he and his officers cannot do it by themselves. Crime prevention is every resident's obligation, and when one of us fails to do our part, that failure creates an opportunity for criminals to commit crime affecting the larger neighborhood. In other words, good security habits on the individual level benefit the larger community, and bad habits put the larger community at risk.

As a result, we urge all Village residents to immediately incorporate the following "Light It Up & Lock It Up!" habits into their daily routines for the benefit of themselves and our entire community:

Light up your house. Specifically, every home should have **two exterior lights** (one in the front and one in the rear) turned on through **all hours of darkness**. Turning on outside lights can reduce dark areas while simultaneously enabling our officers to see someone who may be lurking at night. Dusk-to-dawn or timer-controlled lights turn on automatically and can continue doing so when you are away from home.

Lock up your house. Doors and windows should be locked—not just at night and when you are away from home, but at all times. A burglar may attempt to enter your home when you are inside—they may not know or care that you are home.

Lock up your car. Never leave your vehicle unattended with the engine running, and **always lock your car** when you park. Additionally, all **valuables** must either be **removed** from your car (this is preferable), or at a minimum, valuables—and any related accessories—should be **completely hidden** from view.

Call the police immediately when you see or hear anything suspicious. Residents are sometimes reluctant to call the police (or delay calling) for various reasons. Our police department wants to hear from you right away when something happens so that they can respond and investigate whatever you've seen or heard. If we don't call the police right away, chances increase that the thieves will not be caught. A successful night of property crime emboldens the thieves to come back to the Village and commit their crimes again. Call the police. That's what they're here for. **For emergencies, call 911. For anything else (including any suspicious activity), call the Village Police Department at (301) 654-7300.**

Important MVA Information for our Maryland Drivers

Maryland's Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) announced it has added an emergency contact option to Maryland driver's licenses. Maryland drivers can now add three emergency contacts to their driver's license so police will know who to call if an accident occurs. The emergency contact information is stored electronically on an individual's driver's license and will be available only to authorized law enforcement personnel.

You can go to MVA's website at www.mva.maryland.gov and add your three emergency contacts in just a few minutes.

Continued on page 6, second column...

Sign up for the Village's New Email Blast(s)

Sign-up for the Village Email Blasts! The Village has created 2 different lists to deliver information to residents:

- Urgent News Alerts which are emergency alerts that are sent out only on an as needed basis.
- General News Alerts which are geared towards community events, Board meetings, etc. These alerts will be sent to you once or twice a week.

To subscribe, please visit the Village's website at www.chevychasevillagemd.gov and then click on the "white envelope" located under the Village logo. Please note that in order to sign-up for the email services you must be a Village resident and have registered for access to the website.

Community News

Village Observed Holidays: 2012

The Administrative Offices and Public Works Department will observe the following holidays in 2012:

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - Monday, January 16
 Presidents' Day - Tuesday, February 20
 Memorial Day - Monday, May 28
 Independence Day - Wednesday, July 4
 Labor Day - Monday, September 3
 Veterans' Day - Monday, November 12
 Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 22
 Christmas - Tuesday, December 25

The Village Police Department and the Communications Center will remain open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

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Go to the website, click "On-line Transactions, then click "More" and then click "Emergency Contacts" to add your emergency contacts. The entire process takes less than 10 minutes.

Please pass along to your family and friends as well...it's worth it!

Another note: The MVA will no longer be sending out regular reminders that your driver's license will need to be renewed. It's your responsibility to keep track of when it's due for renewal. And be careful, if you miss your renewal date for over a year, you will have to take a driver's test again.

Snow Removal on Sidewalks

Residents are responsible for clearing all snow and ice from the sidewalk in front of or abutting their property within the first forty-eight (48) hours after the cessation of falling snow. Residents who occupy corner lots are responsible for the sidewalk in front of and on the side of their property.

Motor Vehicle Administration on Wheels

The MVA mobile service bus will visit the Friendship Heights Village Center from 10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. on Monday, January 23.

For further information, go on the MVA website at: www.mva.state.md.us/location/montcty.htm or call the MVA at (800) 950-1682, ext. 2.

Christmas Tree Disposal

Public Works staff will collect trees, natural wreaths and garlands left at the curbside.

Please remove all ornaments and lighting. The trees are recycled into mulch and any wires left on the trees will damage the chipping equipment. Wire-framed wreaths and wire-strung garland should be disposed of with the regular trash.

FORM 502 MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME TAX RETURN

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING 2010, ENDING

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 Chevy Chase Village

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only

Tax Return Reminder

When preparing your State of Maryland tax return for 2011, please remember to enter **Chevy Chase Village** in the proper block of **Form 502/503** as shown here





5906 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012!

BOARD OF MANAGERS

Patricia S. Baptiste, Chair
Peter T. Kilborn, Vice-Chair
Allison W. Shuren, Secretary
Richard Ruda, Assistant Secretary
Lawrence C. Heilman, Treasurer
Gary Crockett, Assistant Treasurer
David L. Winstead, Member

VILLAGE MANAGER

Shana R. Davis-Cook



Public Works Department/Trash Collection



Resident input regarding the contracted services for trash and recycling collection is an important factor during the evaluation of these services.

The Village provides rear-door collection of refuse and recycling as a convenience to our residents. Please leave your gates unlocked to allow access to your receptacles and remember to contact the Communications Center if either your refuse or your recycling was not collected.

On windy collection days, please weigh down the lids to your paper and trash receptacles. This small effort saves the collection crew from chasing lids and debris all over the neighborhood and ensures your lids aren't lost.

Special Pickups of bulk items are collected on Wednesdays. Requests must be submitted either by phone or the Village website by 2:00 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday to ensure collection.

How to Stop The Washington Examiner

In the face of periodic complaints from residents, The Washington Examiner has promised to stop delivery of newspapers to nonsubscribers' homes. Un-retrieved, the papers can alert burglars of a residents absence.

To stop the deliveries, contact Ms. Teresa Browne at The Washington Examiner by email to tbrowne@dcexaminer.com or by fax to (703) 738-0754.

Officials at the The Washington Examiner have advised that this is the most effective way to ensure delivery is stopped, but to be aware that it still might take a couple of weeks for the delivery to stop completely.

Building Permits Issued in December 2011

4009 Oliver Street	Replace driveway
24 West Irving Street	Install wood fence
20 Magnolia Parkway	Construct second floor bay
4017 Oliver Street	Install wood fence
5514 Grove Street	Replace wood fence
5700 Kirkside Drive	Construct arbor, patio



Chevy Chase Village Announces Classes for the Winter Session 2012



The Chevy Chase Village Building Facilities Commission is pleased to announce that the following classes will be offered in the Village Hall beginning January 2012. After reading the description for each class, please complete one registration form (on the other side of this flyer) for each class and return with **a check for the fee as noted under the class description made payable to the instructor to:** Chevy Chase Village, 5906 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD 20815, at your earliest convenience.

Children's Classes

Creative Movement Instructor: Paula Brassfield

Wednesdays: 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (2-3 yrs) Jan 11 to Mar 28*
 \$120 per 12week session—Residents
 \$150 per 12-week session—Non-Residents
Check payable to: Paula's Fantasy Theater
(Minimum 6 students)
 *Open Enrollment



Musical Theatre/Dance Instructor: Paula Brassfield

Wednesdays: 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (5-7yrs) Jan 11 to Mar 28*
 \$120 per 12-week session—Residents
 \$150 per 12-week session—Non-Residents
Check payable to: Paula's Fantasy Theater
(Minimum 6 students)
 *Open Enrollment



Toddlers' Group

Contact: Tanya Correa at tanyaalan@ah.net
 or Lesley Caldicott at caldicott@gmail.com
 Thursdays: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. (1-3yrs)
 No Charge. Sponsored by the
Committee on Children, Youth and Families



Pre-Ballet Instructor: Paula Brassfield

Wednesdays: 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. (4yrs) Jan 11 to Mar 28*
 \$120 per 12-week session—Residents
 \$150 per 12-week session—Non-Residents
Check payable to: Paula's Fantasy Theater
(Minimum 6 students)
 *Open Enrollment



Adult Classes

Yoga Instructor: Kathleen Thomas

Fridays: 10:15 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Jan 13 to Mar 30
 \$120 per 12-week session—Residents
 \$150 per 12-week session—Non-Residents
Check payable to: Kathleen Thomas
(Minimum 12 students)



Registration Form

Student's Name: _____ Address: _____

Telephone number: _____ Age (for children's classes) _____

Class Selected: _____ Time Selected: _____

Payment: \$ _____ Village Resident (check one): Yes _____ No _____

E-mail Address (for subsequent class schedule notification): _____

For Office Use: Payment received on: _____ *Payment received by:* _____

If you have an idea for a class you would like to see at the Village Hall, please contact the Village office at 301-654-7300 or email us at ccv@montgomerycountymd.gov.

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- ◆ *If a class is to be cancelled due to weather or another reason, the teacher will contact each student enrolled in that class. Exception: If Montgomery County Schools are closed for inclement weather or Holidays, classes will not be held.*
 - ◆ *At least 60% of a class' registrants must be Village residents in order for the class to begin.*



CHEVY CHASE AT HOME

Neighbors Helping Neighbors Stay at Home

Upcoming Events

CC@ H's Meet & Mingle

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
2 pm to 4 pm

“Strumming and Singing”

A musical program by David Almy, a professional 4-string guitarist, who plays tenor guitar.

Singers Cheryl and Hal Gearhardt will entertain us and also lead us in a sing-a-long

Tuesday, February 7, 2012
2 pm to 4 pm

“How to Find the Best Hearing Aid for You”

Aurion Dwyer, MD, and Carolyn Wyatt, LLD, each of whom hold Master's degrees in Audiology, will discuss the factors that contribute to the success or failure of hearing aid use.

Both events take place in the Chevy Chase Village Hall, and refreshments will be served.

***www.chevychaseathome.org
info@chevychaseathome.org***

**Members: do you need a ride?
Call 301 657-3115 several days ahead of time**