



City Manager to Address Canyon Residents



CCEA is very excited that **Scott Ochoa**, Glendale's new City Manager, will be the guest speaker at this year's Annual Meeting. Mr. Ochoa will address items which are important to all Glendale residents, with particular emphasis on issues which could affect Canyon residents. You won't want to miss this important opportunity to hear directly from one of the people most responsible for keeping Glendale on track and guiding the City into the future.

Come On Down!

Presidents' Message

by Brian Duran and Leigh Torgerson

As another year has passed in the Canyon, we can again be thankful that the beauty, serenity and relaxed lifestyle we enjoy continue even as difficult economic times persist. The City has attempted to ameliorate the impact of cutbacks on various municipal services, but those cutbacks have at times had a direct impact on the quality of life and well-being of residents, areas that the Chevy Chase Estates Association is pledged to protect.

Budget cutbacks that reduced our police force prompted Police Chief Ron DePompa to appeal to city residents to supplement law enforcement staff by forming neighborhood coalitions to provide extra eyes and ears to coordinate with law enforcement personnel. It is for this reason that the CCEA Board of Directors has vigorously supported Neighborhood Watch, and to good effect! Over the past year, thanks to volunteers who have stepped up to become block captains, we have greatly increased the percentage of homes that are within Neighborhood Watch areas. Check these coverage areas on the new and improved CCEA website and contact your block captain if you are not already a part of Neighborhood Watch, an easy way to add another level of security for you and your family.

Another cost-cutting measure that caught the attention of many Canyon residents was the City's proposal to drastically cut Chevy Chase Library services based on the low usage of the Chevy Chase branch. Your Board of Directors, working with highly motivated library volunteers, convinced the City to maintain at least minimal

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75TH CCEA

ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14, 2012

TIME:

7:00 p.m.

LOCATION

**Chevy Chase Country Club
3067 East Chevy Chase Drive**

The 75th Annual Meeting of the Chevy Chase Estates Association will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012 at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 3067 East Chevy Chase Drive.

The evening will start with a half-hour social at 7:00 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., we will conduct the business portion of the meeting, including the President's report, the Treasurer's report and election of Directors.

Join CCEA!

Those of you who are not dues-paying members might be wondering why you are receiving notice of the CCEA Annual Meeting. The answer is simple: we want *all* Canyon residents to be involved! Won't you come and join us on Wednesday, March 14? Meet the CCEA board of directors and the hundreds of CCEA members who work hard to make the Canyon and our city better for all of us. Come join us, and join CCEA.

Presidents' Message *(continued from page 1)*

publicly funded library services in our branch, and went a step further by pledging to provide CCEA sponsorship for the growing number of library events being organized by this dedicated group of Canyon volunteers. As a result of our community's efforts, not only will the library remain open, it will continue to host the many special programs which the library volunteers work hard to arrange. We encourage you to visit the library and take advantage of these events, which include story-telling for kids, meet-the-author events for adults and cultural celebrations which are both entertaining and educational for your entire family.

We have seen evidence of an uptick in the economy in the increased number of filings by real estate developers – filings which CCEA monitors and opposes as appropriate to fulfill CCEA's mission of vigilantly protecting the Canyon against irresponsible speculative development. Several projects are currently underway which we are following closely. In addition, CCEA is reviving the call to strengthen the Glendale Hillside Ordinance, particularly since Los Angeles recently implemented hillside-development restrictions which are much stricter than Glendale's, leaving Glendale as the "easier" choice for developers seeking to turn a quick profit by developing every square foot of hillside property, regardless of its effect on the surrounding neighborhood. More to follow on this topic!

We continue to collaborate with Neighborhood Services, Public Works, Street Maintenance and other City departments to ensure that standards of appearance, privacy and behavior are maintained as residents come and go. If you see or know of an unsatisfactory situation in the Canyon, please notify any board member and we will do our best to expedite a satisfactory response.

If you haven't done so already, please visit CCEA's totally revamped website at chevychaseestates.us. Primarily developed and maintained by board member Graeme Whifler, the site offers a wealth of current and past information about Chevy Chase Canyon, and not only provides a convenient way to contact the CCEA Board with questions and concerns, but also allows for easy membership registration. ■



Chevy Chase Garden Club present sign and light located at Linda Vista and Chevy Chase Dr. circa 1961

Election of Directors

The CCEA Directors whose terms will expire in March 2012 have agreed to serve another three-year term and will stand for re-election by the membership at the Annual Meeting. CCEA's bylaws provide, "Other and additional candidates for Directorships may be made by the Members by submitting to the Secretary of the Association, at least two (2) weeks prior to such election and not more than four (4) weeks before such election, a petition signed by at least ten (10) Voting Members of the Association, to the effect that they would like to nominate a certain person as a candidate for Directorship and containing also the consent of such person to be so named. Thereupon such name or names will be added as candidates." If you are interested in standing for election, you may send your petition to Bill Nicoll, CCEA Secretary, 1671 Chevy Knoll Place, Glendale, CA 91206. ■

Chevy Chase Community Keeps Library Open...Again!

by Pamela Tom



Since its opening in 1972, the Chevy Chase Library has provided generations of families with books, computers, story-time readings for kids, and countless educational, cultural, and community events. In our beautiful canyon, the library has become a place for residents to meet, share information and get to know each other.

Throughout the years, the “little library that could” has repeatedly faced numerous threats of closure, and has had its hours, staffing and programs reduced. And 2011 was no exception. Due to the city’s \$18 million shortfall, all departments were required to submit budget-slashing plans. In response, the Library Director submitted a proposal to the City Council on May 11, 2011 which effectively would have ended the library’s existence as a library, turning it instead into a minimally supported community center and rental venue.

Spearheaded by the Chevy Chase Library Volunteers, and with the

support of the Chevy Chase Estates Association board, CCEA members and hundreds of local residents, a concerted effort to save the library was launched. In just a few weeks, 469 petition signatures were collected, letters were sent to the Glendale News-Press and City Council, 63 Glenoaks Elementary students wrote letters to the City Council, and Volunteer Phil Lee produced a slide show highlighting the strong attendance at recent volunteer-led events. On May 24, I appeared at City Hall and made an impassioned plea to the City Council to keep the library open. At the public hearing on June 14, fellow volunteer Carol Choy and I, along with several children, presented the petition

signatures, children’s letters, and the slide show to the council.

As a result of these efforts, not only was the Chevy Chase Library saved, but the City Council approved \$3,500 for the library to purchase children’s books! With its status as a library protected, long-overdue capital improvement plans are moving forward: new carpet has been installed, a kitchen remodel is underway, and new furniture is on its way.

The library is increasing staff oversight and programming at our

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Canyon residents reading aloud at the Christmas party held at the library



Brand Studios Come to the Chevy Chase Library!



Brand Studios, a section of the Department of Recreation, will be moving temporarily to the Chevy Chase Library beginning April 1st. They will be offering a variety of art classes, including painting, four days a week (Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays).

This temporary relocation is part of the renovation and remodeling of the Brand Library. Since that process will take 14-18 months, Canyon residents will have the opportunity to enjoy art classes right in our own backyard for at least a year! If the classes prove popular enough, Chevy Chase could become a permanent site for Department of Recreation classes. The general public will not be allowed into the building during classes, but

class participants may check out materials at class time.

The classes will appear in the Spring Leisure Guide.

Check <http://www.ci.glendale.ca.us/parks/default.asp> for class offerings and schedules. ■

Annual Christmas caroling event at Chevy Chase firehouse



Upcoming Library Events



Lego Club is held every second Saturday of the month, 3:30-4:30

- February 11
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9
- July 14
- August 11
- September 8
- October 13
- November 10
- December 8

Save these dates for other exciting activities at the Library!

- March 31 Dr. Seuss's Birthday
- April 28 Springtime Egg Hunt
- May 5 Mother's Day Tea

All events from 3:30-4:30

GWP Rate Increases Puts Canyon Residents at Risk

Glendale Water & Power recently announced a proposed rate increase and rate restructuring. GWP's proposal is now under review, in part due to a controversy over \$20 million in GWP revenue which was apparently transferred from GWP's coffers to Glendale's General Fund during the past 5 years. Some have alleged that these transfers were illegal or otherwise improper, and that the money must be returned to GWP to pay for much-needed infrastructure improvements, thereby mitigating the need for a rate increase at this time. The City Council is scheduled to take up this issue at its March 20th meeting.

If the proposed rate hike is approved, residential water rates will

rise an average of 3.25% per year for the next 4 years. These increases, combined with the rate increases imposed during the past 4 years, will mean that the average homeowner will be paying 50.8% more for water by the end of 2015. Metropolitan Water District payments, which used to show up on our bills as a "Water Adjustment Charge (WAC)," have been largely absorbed into the new rates. However, GWP retains the authority to add a new WAC in the future – without ratepayer review. At this point, GWP estimates that the future WAC will be about \$0.11 per Hundred Cubic Feet of water used, but will make no promises that the WAC won't go up.

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How Much Will Your Rates Go ↑ ?

To see how you'll be affected by the GWP rate restructuring and increases please go to <http://www.glendalewaterandpower.com/rates/WaterRateCalculator.aspx> and plug in your water-usage numbers. Note that you will need to input your water usage in HCF per month (not per billing cycle).

What is a Hundred Cubic Feet of Water?



One cubic foot of water (12"x12"x12") is 7.48 gallons so 100 cubic feet of water (1 HCF) is 748 gallons.

GWP Rate Increases *(continued from page 5)*

Even if the proposed rate increases are not approved, the new “tiered” restructuring plan could go forward and have significant impacts on Canyon residents. According to GWP, the purpose of the tiered system is to encourage conservation by creating a system of “price signaling” – in other words, the more water you use, the more each gallon costs, “signaling” you with a very expensive water bill if you use “too much.” The question is, how much is “too much?”

GWP proposes five rate tiers which become increasingly punitive as water use rises. The theory is that residents will do whatever they can to avoid using the more expensive water in the top tiers. The third tier – where water gets substantially more expensive – is triggered when water use reaches 12.52 HCF per month. Unfortunately, GWP has calculated that the average household in Glendale uses 19 Hundred Cubic Feet (HCF) of water per month. Therefore, to avoid the punishing top-tier water rates, the “average” household will need to cut its water use by more than 34%!

The effect of the proposed tiered rate system could be particularly punishing to Canyon residents, many of whom have larger, hillside properties and are required by law to irrigate up to 100 feet from their homes. Even without a rate increase or a hike in the WAC charge, the new rate tiers could push your water bill to heights you never dreamed possible, leading many in the Canyon to worry that residents will be forced to decide whether to pay drastically higher water bills (particularly during the hot summer months) or simply to limit irrigation to the point where their home, and others in the Canyon, are placed at significantly increased risk from brush fires.

Is the GWP plan a smart step toward conservation, or an invitation to disaster? Take a look at the numbers and the facts, then let City Council know your concerns before they take up the issue at the regular Council meeting on March 20. ■

Keep Your Neighborhood Safe Join Neighborhood Watch

by John Martin

It has been more than a year since the kick-off of a renewed Neighborhood Watch program in Chevy Chase Canyon and tremendous progress has been made. Our list of Block Captains continues to grow: currently, 22 Block Captains and Assistant Block Captains cover 18 segments of the Canyon. These volunteers have undertaken to canvass their areas to get residents’ contact information so that people can receive alerts from the police and so that they can stay connected with one another. This information was invaluable in keeping residents updated during the wind storms that knocked out power to so many in the Canyon.

As a result of the wind storm experience, the Block Captains have met with the leader of the Disaster Preparedness program in our sister canyon, Glenoaks Canyon. We plan to bring what we learned from that meeting to all Canyon residents in follow-up programs in the near future. What is clear is the need for all residents to participate in Neighborhood Watch, and to connect with their Block Captains and with CCEA. Provide Block Captains with your contact information. An e-mail address provided to the Block Captains and CCEA will allow you to receive e-mail alerts from Glendale Police promptly. It also provides a way for your neighbors to assist you in an emergency. If you don’t have a Block Captain in your area, consider being one. Many areas have Assistant Block Captains so the responsibility can be shared.

Check out the Neighborhood Watch sections of CCEA’s website. There you can see what coverage we have in the Canyon, find contact information for your Block Captain and see a list of coming events. Some areas have already had local gatherings not only to share information, but also to get acquainted and know one another on a more social level. These types of gatherings are the beginnings of an effective Neighborhood Watch network. ■

**Our strength is in unity.
Please support Neighborhood Watch!**

Library *(continued from page 3)*

branch. Library staff will present four programs this year, which is significant given that no staff programming has occurred for years at the Chevy Chase branch. The void has been filled by the Chevy Chase Library Volunteers, a group of area residents passionate about keeping the library doors open, and keeping people coming in those doors. To attract patrons, the volunteers have developed monthly children's and grown-up events, as well as a new Lego Club. Librarian Tiffany Barrios has been assigned to the branch, and has brought a welcome burst of energy, ideas and skills. Friends of the Glendale Library, a non-profit group which has been reimbursing expenses for some volunteer-led events and has sponsored a paid summer performer, will sponsor two performers this year.

This is an exciting time for our library and is a great example of what a community can accomplish with volunteerism, creative ideas and political pressure. However, it is vital that we all keep up our level of commitment and dedication to our library.

We encourage all Canyon residents to take advantage of our wonderful library facility and programs:

- Visit the library (Wednesdays 2-8 p.m., Saturdays 12-5 p.m.).
- Check out books (New books are being added, including in Armenian and Korean).
- Order books online at <http://catalog.glendalepubliclibrary.org>, request that they be delivered to the Chevy Chase Library and enjoy the convenience of picking them up at your neighborhood library.
- Attend library programs. (Check CCEA e-blasts for coming events, or send an e-mail to chevychaselibraryvolunteers@yahoo.com and we will e-mail you announcements.)
- Share your ideas with us at chevychaselibraryvolunteers@yahoo.com. Let us know what types of programs you would like to see at the library.
- Get creative and spearhead your own program, event, or club that interests you. We volunteers are interested in expanding branch offerings with a crafts club, a seniors' club, a cooking or recipe-exchange club, book clubs...the sky's the limit!
- Volunteer at a library program.

Write a letter or e-mail to the City Council letting them know how much you value our library, and how much you appreciate their support in keeping our branch open. The Chevy Chase Library is a gem in our community.

Treasure it, use it, and enjoy it! ■

The **2012 CCEA Annual Meeting** will be held on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Country Club. This year, we have a special guest speaker: **Scott Ochoa**, our new City Manager. Please join us and make your voice heard about what issues are important to you as Canyon residents. We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Meeting!



Three talented violinists performed at Chevy Chase Library

Korean cultural event held at the library in 2011





REAL ESTATE NEWS Chevy Chase Canyon Home Sales in 2011

by Brit Trydal

(The following sales were recorded by the Los Angeles County Tax Office)

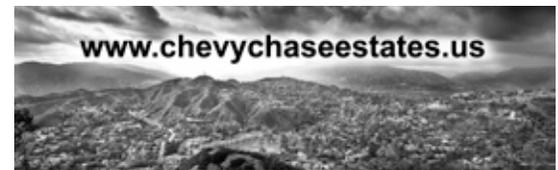
Address	Br/Ba	Sq Ft	Sales Price
1973 Ashington Dr	4/4	3,198	\$1,050,000
1991 Ashington Dr	4/5	4,244	\$1,055,000
2038 Buckingham Pl	4/3	2,244	\$710,000
3271 Buckingham Rd	3/3	2,370	\$759,000
2380 Cascadia Dr	3/3	2,424	\$685,000
2255 E Chevy Chase Dr	4/3	3,375	\$634,500
2471 E Chevy Chase Dr	3/2	1,509	\$640,000
2584 E Chevy Chase Dr	3/2	1,864	\$499,000
2655 E Chevy Chase Dr	3/2	1,668	\$620,000
2815 E Chevy Chase Dr	4/3	(unknown)	\$1,350,000
3616 E Chevy Chase Dr	2/3	2,096	\$870,000
3300 Crail Way	4/2	2,379	\$770,000
3301 Crail Way	3/2	1,822	\$720,000
3255 Emerald Isle Dr	3/2	1,742	\$645,000
3510 Fallenleaf Pl	4/3	2,498	\$675,000
3520 Fallenleaf Pl	4/3	3,047	\$800,000
2224 Flintridge Dr	5/3	2,934	\$835,000
2955 Graceland Way	4/3	2,864	\$845,000
3161 Grangemount Rd	4/3	2,700	\$830,000
3126 Hollyburne Ct	4/3	2,498	\$685,000
3311 Linda Vista Rd	5/3	2,580	\$670,000
950 Norham Pl	4/4	3,392	\$800,000
2565 Saint Andrews Dr	4/2	2,553	\$835,000
3757 San Augustine Dr	3/2	2,046	\$680,000
3901 San Augustine Dr	3/2	1,963	\$730,000
3931 San Augustine Dr	3/3	2,233	\$775,000
3940 San Augustine Dr	3/3	2,107	\$720,000
1610 Sheridan Rd	3/2	1,665	\$595,000
1676 Sheridan Rd	3/4	2,417	\$870,000

Receive E-mail Updates from CCEA

CCEA would like to keep **all** Canyon residents updated with information of importance or interest to them, and it goes without saying that the fastest and most effective way to communicate these days is by e-mail. Consider joining our e-mail list so you can be informed of what is happening in the Canyon – whether it’s a Canyon barbecue at the Country Club or the sighting of a mountain lion in Emerald Isle.

CCEA will not inundate you with e-mails. (Last year, we sent fewer than one e-mail per week.) Plus, we never include commercial, religious or political information in our communications. Just Canyon news you need to know. And of course, we never, ever sell or release your e-mail address to any third party.

If you would like to join our e-mail list, please send your request to info@chevychaseestates.us with a subject line “Join CCEA E-mail.” ■



CCEA's new website is your gateway to Chevy Chase Canyon news. The website now features articles about special events and the various things happening in our neighborhood, along with the fascinating history of the Canyon and other interesting facts. We have also included convenient links to many City-related websites – City Hall, GWP, public services, the *Glendale News-Press*, and video-on-demand at Glendale's GTV6. You can even join or renew your CCEA membership securely online (just click the gold JOIN NOW! button) and help CCEA in its mission to preserve and protect our canyon. Explore all the links in the left-hand column of the home page and get the information you need *now!* ■