

Forecast

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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Contact the Town Office
To Request a Copy



Trash and Treasures
April 18 and 19
For information, visit
www.townofchevychase.org

Town Election and Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2015

Voting:8 a.m. – 8 p.m.Town HallReception:6:30 p.m.Social HallMeeting:7 p.m.Social Hall

The Town Election and Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5. Town residents will elect two Councilmembers, each to serve on the Council for a two year term.

Beginning at 6:30 p.m., the Council will host a reception, during which residents will have the opportunity to learn more about the status of the Bethesda Downtown Plan rewrite and the Town's involvement in the process. The Town's consultants will be in attendance to provide information and answer questions about proposed uses for the area bordering the Town along Wisconsin Avenue.

At 7 p.m., the meeting will begin with a brief presentation about the Bethesda Downtown Plan. Mayor Kathy Strom will then provide an overview of the Town's accomplishments over the past year, and Town Treasurer Vicky Taplin will present the proposed budget for the 2016 fiscal year, followed by a public hearing on the budget.

We look forward to seeing you on May 5!

FY16 Budget Process Continues

On Tuesday, March 24, the Town Council held a work session to review the proposed FY16 budget that the staff and Town Treasurer prepared. The Town Council is scheduled to approve the proposed budget and tax rates at its meeting on Wednesday, April 8, at which time residents will be able to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting. The Council will then hold a public hearing on the proposed budget at the Town's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 5. The Council will adopt a final budget for the next fiscal year at the Council meeting on Wednesday, May 13. The proposed budget will be published in the Election issue of the FORECAST so that residents may review it prior to the May 5 public hearing. If you are unable to attend any of the budget meetings, you may submit written comments to the Town Office by mail to 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815 or by e-mail to townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; townoffice@townofchevychase.org; 301-654-7144; Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to each address in the Town and posted on the Town website, www.townofchevychase.org.

A Message from Mayor Kathy Strom

Those of you who pass by the Lawton Center may have noticed that we have new equipment on the Lawton Center playground. We thank the Community Relations Committee, including Erin Kopelman and co-chair Bridget Hartman, and the Land Use Committee, including Sid Narang. We also thank our Town Manager Todd Hoffman for the coordination and implementation of the project with the County and its vendor. Thanks to all of them, we now have several new pieces of tot play equipment on the Lawton Center playground and a nice area for our younger residents to enjoy some outdoor play time.

The Town's Election and Annual Meeting, which are held on the first Tuesday of May, are fast approaching. We are pleased that so many residents have participated in our Town government and Town activities this year. Many have volunteered to serve on our Boards and Committees, and many have attended our monthly Council meetings as well as our ongoing special events, including movie nights, the food truck dinner, climate and environment forums, and winter concerts. We hope that all of you will come out on Election Day on May 5 to vote in our annual election of Councilmembers and to attend our Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting, we will have a presentation and public hearing on the budget, a speaker of interest to the community, as well as our report on the Town's accomplishments and activities for the year. This event is a great time to connect with neighbors and friends. Hope to see you there. Cake and beverages will be provided!



Thursday, April 2 - Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, April 8 - Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 9 - Public Services Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14 - Candidate Nominating Petitions Deadline, 5 p.m.

Tuesday, April 14 - Climate and Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Friday, April 17 - Magic Show for Families, 6 p.m.

Saturday, April 18 - Tips for Dog Owners, 3 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday, April 18 and 19 - Trash and Treasures Weekend

Saturday, April 18 - Alternatives to Trash and Treasures

Monday, April 20 - Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21 - Absentee Ballots Available, 12 p.m.

Tuesday, April 21 - Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Thursday, April 23 - Candidates' Night, 7 p.m.

For more information about Town events, please visit the Town website.

Environmental Topics

For more information about initiatives undertaken by the Climate & Environment Committee, please visit the committee's page on the Town website. You will find brief summaries, supporting documents, and videos of the programs hosted by the committee.

Town Events

Impossible Made Possible

Friday, April 17, 6 p.m., Town Hall

The Community Relations Committee is hosting a special family event featuring magician Michael Chamberlin. Michael has planned a startling and hilarious show that proves magic can be created by all of us. Using music and comedy, this master magician performs dazzling contemporary magic along with his hilarious trademark audience participation routines. The show provides fast-paced, original and spellbinding sorcery for the entire family!

Please arrive right at 6 p.m. to get a slice of pizza and a bag of popcorn before the magic show starts. Space is limited. Parents must accompany their children. Please RSVP to 301-654-7144 or townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

It Must Be Magic – simple solutions to common dog problems Saturday, April 18, 3 - 4 p.m., Town Hall

You probably think of training as the solution to all your dog's issues. But here's a secret -- trainers don't. There are many behaviors that can be prevented, or even remedied, with a little thought and no training. Come learn tips that will save you a lot of time, money, and stress. This is a no-dog event. Our guest speaker for the event is Hedda Garland, a topical expert. This is guaranteed to be an informative afternoon for dog owners.

Town Updates

Tot Lot Installed and Ready for Use - Bring your kids to the park!

The Town is pleased to announce that new play equipment has been installed at the Lawton Center playground and is now available for public use. In response to resident interest in a "tot lot," the Town's Community Relations Committee and Land Use Committee, in conjunction with Town staff, worked with the County Parks Department and its vendor to design a play area designed for 2-5 year olds. The equipment, which was funded by the Town Council, includes a jungle gym, a rock climbing piece and several free-standing play panels.

We encourage parents to bring their children to the park and take advantage of these wonderful additions to the playground. As a reminder, there also is a fenced tot lot behind the Wonders Daycare Center available for public use on weekdays after 6 p.m., and on weekends and holidays.

Tree Review and Removal Procedures

At its March 11 meeting, the Town Council adopted written procedures intended to provide additional information and clarification to residents about the Town's private and public tree review and removal practices. These procedures outline the methods and criteria used by the Town to review, and process appeals of, private tree removal permits as well as to prune and remove public trees. The procedures, which Council directed staff to prepare during its discussion of the Town's Urban Forest Ordinance, are available on the Town website.

Clear Overgrown Vegetation from Sidewalks

As a reminder, residents are asked to keep all sidewalks clear from edge to edge up to a height of 7 feet. The Town's maintenance standards for vegetation installed by Town residents on public and private property are available on the Town website. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep Town sidewalks safe.

COUNCIL ELECTION 2015

TOWN ELECTIONS

Town Elections are governed by the provisions in Chapter 8 of the Town of Chevy Chase Municipal Code and election procedures adopted by the Town Council.

Town residents will select two candidates in the 2015 election, each to serve on the Council for a two year term. The terms of Pat Burda and John Bickerman will expire in May.

NOMINATIONS ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination, a resident must have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election and be a registered voter in the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase.

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

To be a candidate for election, a resident must complete the Town's official nominating petition. The Town requires that a resident requesting a petition must sign the official log of residents seeking office. Nominating petitions are available in the Town Office. The nominating petitions are considered public documents and are subject to public inspection.

Completed nominating petitions must be delivered to the Town Office before 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14, the third Tuesday preceding the election, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the printed ballot.

The Election Board may make additional nominations and must do so if an insufficient number of candidates have been nominated by petition to ensure that at least one candidate is nominated for each opening on the Town Council.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

A candidate for office is required to submit a financial disclosure statement at the time the candidate submits the official nominating petition. The financial disclosure statement is available for review at the Town Office.

CANDIDATES FORUM or MEET AND GREET

If the election is contested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a moderated forum and dialogue with the community on Thursday, April 23 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. The Election Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents. If the election is uncontested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a meet and greet event on the same day.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

There will be appropriate blanks on the printed ballot for the purpose of adding write-in candidates at the time of the election.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

The name, a short biographical sketch and short statement (not to exceed 400 words) of each candidate will be mailed to all residents two weeks preceding the election.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

A resident must be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age, have resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days preceding the Town election and be a registered, qualified voter of the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase to be eligible to vote.

POLL LOCATION AND HOURS

The poll will be located in the Town Hall, 4301 Willow Lane. The poll will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Office on Tuesday, April 21 at 12 p.m. Any qualified voter may vote by absentee ballot. Residents desiring an absentee ballot must apply individually in writing (by mail, fax, email or in person) to the Town Office. Absentee Ballot Requests are considered public documents and are subject to public inspection.

Once an absentee ballot request has been received, the Town will mail or hand deliver a ballot and return envelope to the requestor in a sealed envelope. The absentee ballot must be returned in the printed envelope provided by the Town. To be counted, any absentee ballot must be received by the Town Office by 8 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, May 5, 2015.

ELECTION BOARD

Residents with questions on any aspect of the election are encouraged to contact a member of the Election Board:

Steve Lawton, Chair, 301-654-5904 Anthula Gross, 301-652-3017 Gloria Tristani, 301-215-4005

The Town has contracted with the League of Women Voters to work with the Town's Election Board to administer and monitor the election.

Around and About Chevy Chase

"Active 55+" Events and Activities at the Lawton Center

Stop by the Lawton Community Center to meet Barbara Hulin, the new Senior Program Coordinator. Barbara is working with Jordan Henson, the Center Director, to launch the new "Active 55+" events and activities, while retaining some of your favorites. She is a certified wellness coach and special events planner and is passionate about all things wellness. Feel free to stop by the Center to say hello! We encourage you to take advantage of these new activities offered at the Lawton Center.

APRIL OFFERINGS FROM CHEVY CHASE AT HOME

The monthly Brunch Bunch will gather at the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road on Thursday, April 9. Everyone is invited to drop by anytime between 10 and 11:30 a.m., buy a cup of coffee or a tasty treat and enjoy the conversation with old friends and new. It's always interesting and fun, and there's plenty of free parking in back.

Our Tuesday, April 14, Meet & Mingle talk will definitely be of great importance to all of us of a certain age -- How to Improve Your Balance and Prevent Falls. The speaker, Nancy Weinberg, is an experienced physiotherapist who is well-known for her work in aquatic therapy. If you've ever experienced a fall, you won't want to miss her tips on improving your balance. The event will be from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall.

CC@ H and Chevy Chase Village are once again offering tech classes. **IPhone ABCs** will meet for three consecutive Wednesdays, beginning on April 15, from 2 to 3 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. The course will cover all the essentials of iPhone use, including taking photos, adding and using apps, texting, video chatting and more. Registration and payment for this 3-week session is required in advance and is due by April 7. For CC@ H Members, Friends of CC@ H, and residents of Chevy Chase Village, the fee for the whole session is \$45. For the general public, the fee is \$55. You may register and pay online at www.chevychaseathome.org or send checks payable to Chevy Chase At Home to P.O. Box 15102, Chevy Chase, MD 20825. The class size is limited to 10 participants. For more information, check the website or call our office at 301-657-3115.

WHAT'S IT WORTH? TRASH OR TREASURE? Join the fun at CC@ H's appraisal day fund-raiser, back by popular demand! Registration and admission (\$45 before May 12, \$55 thereafter and at the door) entitles you to have up to three of your treasures evaluated by expert appraisers from Sloans & Kenyon. There also will be talks on "What's Hot, What's Not" and how to "Get Smart About Art," as well as door prizes and refreshments. Get more details and register early for your preferred appraisal time at www.chevychaseathome.org or call 301-657-3115. The event will take place at the Chevy Chase Village Hall on Saturday, May 16 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Chamber Music Concert Invitation

The Da Capo Chamber Players, including pianist David Garlock, a Town resident, will perform a recital of chamber music on Sunday, May 3 at 3 p.m. at the Friendship Heights Village Center, 4433 S. Park Avenue. The program will consist of a trio for violin, viola and piano by German Romantic composer Robert Fuchs and the magnificent quintet for clarinet and strings by Brahms. The Brahms quintet will feature Master Sgt. Carl Long, recently retired from the role of principal clarinetist in the U.S. Air Force Band.

The concert is free, and no RSVP is necessary. A reception will follow the concert.

TRASH AND TREASURES

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!

The Town's spring Trash and Treasures is scheduled for the weekend of Saturday, April 18 and Sunday, April 19. The Town offers this bulk trash pickup so that residents can dispose of items that are no longer usable, such as appliances (doors must be removed for safety), furniture, rolled rugs, mattresses, games and bikes, but, if the items are usable, we encourage you to review the list of Alternatives to Trash and Treasures. We have tried to give you a variety of options.

GUIDELINES

- Please remember to bag, box or contain all of your discards.
- Please do not put items on the curb before Friday afternoon, April 17.
- The following items will not be picked up:
 - NO construction debris
 - NO parts of junked automobiles (engines, transmissions), boats or trailers
 - NO loose glass of any kind
 - NO firewood or fencing of any kind
 - NO paint cans
 - NO flammable or hazardous liquids or solids
 - NO recyclable items, such as newspapers, mixed paper or cardboard, landscape pots, old books and magazines, large plastic bins - please recycle!
 - NO shrubbery cuttings, yard clippings, leaves or grass recycle with yard trash!

If you have questions about how to discard any of these items, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144. We will be happy to help you arrange a special pick-up for items that are not included in Trash and Treasures. There will be a charge for a special pickup.

PICK UP SCHEDULE: At 7 a.m., Monday, April 20, a crew will begin clearing feeder streets to Chevy Chase Elementary School. During non-rush hours, the peripheral streets will be cleared. After these priority streets are cleared, the truck will proceed according to a schedule arranged with the Town Manager. An account of daily progress will be kept in the Town Office. Once a street has been cleared, the contractor will *not* return to that street. Residents who discard items after the street has been cleared will have to arrange for a special pick-up – for a fee.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

The Household Hazardous Waste receiving area at the Shady Grove Solid Waste Transfer Station is located in the recycling drop-off section of the Public Unloading Area, 16101 Frederick Rd, Derwood, MD 20855. Please use the car entrance to the facility. The drop-off is open: Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Household Hazardous Waste can only be received during these hours -- please do not drop off this material at other times. Batteries are accepted (alkaline batteries may be put in regular trash) as are fertilizers with herbicides, fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, including CFLs, herbicides, insecticides, mercury containing items, oil-based paints, paint thinners, pesticides, used motor oil and most other oils. Visit the website www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recylcing for a complete list of items accepted or more information.

New Homes for Old Bikes



Bikes for the World (BfW) is a project sponsored by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association whose mission is to collect valuable but unwanted bicycles and related material--parts, tools, and accessories--in the United States and deliver them at low cost to community development programs assisting the poor in developing countries. If you have a bike you would like to donate, please take it to City Bikes, 8401 Connecticut Avenue, 301-652-1777. A \$10/bike donation is suggested to defray shipping to overseas charity partners. Receipt provided for all material and cash donations. For more information, please visit the BfW website, www.bikesfortheworld.org.

ALTERNATIVES TO TRASH AND TREASURES

The following vendors will be in the Lawton Center Parking Lot from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Donate Books

The Town will be collecting books for the Friends of the Library, Montgomery County (FOLMC) on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Town Office. There are 17 FOLMC chapters at branches throughout the county, including Chevy Chase, Little Falls and Bethesda. Please bring gently used books (no damaged or mildewed books accepted) in a box or bag. Textbooks are welcome, but no magazines or encyclopedias will be accepted. The donations will benefit the libraries in Montgomery County.





Interfaith Works

Recycle your gently used clothing and home goods and preserve our planet while helping your Montgomery County neighbors in need. The Interfaith Clothing Centers provide clothing/home goods free of charge to low income County residents. Please put items in a plastic bag that has been secured at the top. Your donation is tax deductible. Interfaith Works will have a truck in the Lawton Center parking lot on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

A Wider Circle

We are happy to continue our partnership with A Wider Circle by hosting our twenty-first event to collect gently-used items for families in need. The mission of A Wider Circle is to end poverty. A Wider Circle provides basic need items to families transitioning out of shelters or simply living without life's necessities. In 2014, A Wider Circle furnished over 4,000 homes, all free of charge. They also provided the job skills courses, mentoring, computer training, and professional attire and accessories that our most vulnerable neighbors need to make the journey back to work – and out of poverty.

If you have furniture or household items in gently-used condition that you would like to donate, please bring them to the Lawton Center parking lot on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Families are always in need of beds (including mattresses that are free of rips and stains), dressers, tables and chairs, living room furniture, bedding, dish sets, baby items, professional clothing, and children's clothing up to size 4T. If you have items that are too large to bring to the drop-off, please contact A Wider Circle at 301-608-3504 or furnish@awidercircle.org and they would be happy to schedule a pick-up date. More information can be found at www.awidercircle.org

The following vendors will be in the Lawton Center Parking Lot from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Shred-It – Shred Your Documents

Back by popular demand! The Town has contracted with SHRED-IT to have a truck in the Lawton Center parking lot on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to shred paper for residents. Staples and paper clips are okay. Shred-It is bonded and insured. If you have additional questions, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.





Recycle Electronic Equipment

The Town has contracted with National Reclamation to have a truck in the Lawton Center Parking Lot on Saturday, April 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the collection of the following electronic equipment: TVs, monitors, printers, copiers, stereos, VCRs & DVD players, camcorders, CD players, fax machines, calculators, scanners, electronic toys and microwaves. You can recycle any item with a plug. National Reclamation does not provide tax deduction receipts. If you have a question about items not listed, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

Donate Building Supplies

The following organizations accept donations of reusable or new building materials. Please visit their websites or give them a call. For large items, both organizations will arrange special pickups.

Community Forklift http://communityforklift.com 301-985-5180 Habitat for Humanity http://www.habitat-mc.org 301-947-3304

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane Chevy Chase, MD 20815 PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID Bethesda, MD Permit No. 418

TOWN COUNCIL

Kathy Strom, Mayor Patricia Burda, Vice Mayor Al Lang, Secretary Vicky Taplin, Treasurer John Bickerman, Community Liaison

Verify Your Voter Registration Status

The Town Election Board would like to remind all Town residents, and especially young adults 18 years of age and older, who want to participate in the May 5 Town Election that to be eligible to vote you must be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age, have resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days preceding the Town election and be a registered, qualified voter of the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase. You must meet the same requirements in order to be eligible to sign a nominating petition for a resident seeking election to the Town Council.

If you have recently moved to the Town, make sure that you have changed your address. To verify that you are registration is up to date, please visit the Montgomery County Board of Election website at https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch, call 240-777-8519 or email elections@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Maryland Resident Tax Return 2014 - Form 502

A major source of revenue that the Town receives each year is the Town's share of income taxes, which each resident pays to the State of Maryland. Remember to write Town of Chevy Chase in the box marked city, town or taxing area. If you use a tax form online, please type TOWN OF CH CH in the box (there are not enough spaces for the complete spelling). This will ensure that a portion of your tax dollars will return to the Town so that the Town can continue to provide exceptional municipal services. Do not assume that people at the state level understand the different municipalities that share the 20815 zip code.

The Town maintains a list of Town Teens, who are available for a variety of jobs, including baby-sitting, pet-sitting and yard work. If you would like the list emailed to you, please call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.