



Forecast

MARCH 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Wednesday, March 2

Bethesda Downtown Plan
Community Meeting,
Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 3

Community Relations
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 4

Movie Night for Grown-Ups,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 8

Purple Line Mitigation
Ad Hoc Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9

Council Meeting,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 10

Public Services Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 11

Movie Night for Families,
Town Hall, 6 p.m.,

Sunday, March 13

Soup's On,
Town Hall, 4 p.m.

Monday, March 14

Climate and Environment
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Monday, March 21

Long Range Planning
Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 24

Land Use Committee,
Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Message by Mayor Al Lang

It's been a busy and productive month, and my thanks go out to all. I continue to be struck with how our residents come together to address common interests. First, we had neighbors volunteering and working together with the Council to turn-back 1M square feet of planned county density; residents have organized a Town Meeting with Roger Berliner, more information is in this Forecast. With the two recent snow storms, including the blizzard of '16, which dumped more than 24 inches in just 36 hours, and the Town working hard to clear the streets and sidewalks, neighbors helped neighbors in many ways, including clearing driveways and making sure all were safe. This shows the true nature and spirit of our Town.

These two storms certainly impacted our budget. As I have written previously, we are addressing the budget issues confronting our Town and all are invited to provide their thoughts. The costs are still coming in, but we expect the total for street and sidewalk snow removal to be well over \$210,000, which exceeds the budgeted \$90,000. However, nothing is more important than ensuring the safety of our residents, and I'm sure that all would argue the snow removal expense was money well spent. Knowing that there is always room for improvement we have reached out and received many suggestions; for example, the possibility of the sidewalk shovelers clearing the driveways. All suggestions will be reviewed and we will provide a summary of possible changes to our operating procedures.

With neighbors pitching in to help neighbors the Town Council is doing its part to reduce the complexity of our rules; to make it easier to improve our homes. Specifically, this Forecast has information on 2 efforts – Administrative Variances and modifications to the Urban Forest Ordinance.

Again, I greatly appreciate the cooperation and good will from all. Neighborly, friendly cooperation is what the Town of Chevy Chase is all about.

Public Hearing on Administrative Variances & Retaining Wall Ordinance

On March 9, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to expand the types of construction projects that are eligible for administrative variances and to allow certain retaining walls to be constructed without a variance. Administrative variances are exceptions to Town building regulations granted by the Mayor and Town Manager if no objections are received from residents following public notice. The primary goal of these proposed changes is to save time and cost to residents who wish to make certain minor improvements to their properties.

(Administrative Variances, continued on page 2)

Administrative Variances, from page 1

The proposed ordinance would allow administrative variances to be approved for:

- Certain new front yard fences on corner lots and border streets.
- Certain new retaining walls up to 30” in the public right-of-way.
- Certain unenclosed improvements, such as decks, chimneys and stairs, that project into front or rear yard setbacks.
- Certain bay windows that project into front and rear yard setbacks.
- Non-shared driveways between 10’ and 16’ wide in a front yard or in the public right-of-way.
- Extensions of existing wall planes beyond 34’.
- Replacement of all or part of existing nonconforming structures in the same location and in the same dimensions.

The proposed ordinance also would allow for the construction of new retaining walls up to 30” in a front yard and the replacement of certain retaining walls in front yards and in the public right-of-way without the need for a variance.

A complete copy of the ordinance is available for review on the Town website. If you cannot attend the **March 9** meeting, which begins at **7 p.m.** in the Town Hall, you may submit comments on the proposed ordinance to the Town Office at 4301 Willow Lane or by email to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Public Hearing on Urban Forest Ordinance

On March 9, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Town’s Urban Forest Ordinance. The primary purpose of these changes is to reduce the burden on those who wish to remove a tree on private property.

The proposed ordinance would implement the following changes:

- The definition of “canopy tree” would be limited to specific tree species of a certain size, as enumerated in the proposed ordinance, rather than all trees of a certain size. All trees of a certain size not defined as canopy trees would be granted removal permits, if requested.
- In determining whether a tree removal permit may be issued for a canopy tree, the Town Manager would be able to consult with the property owner, in addition to the Town Arborist, to determine if a tree meets certain conditions for removal. However, if the Town Arborist does not find that one of these conditions exists, the property owner would be required to plant a reforestation tree, or pay an impact fee, for each canopy tree removed.
- The penalty provision would be revised to no longer declare a second violation of the ordinance to be a misdemeanor. In connection with a violation, the Town Manager would be able to impose a reforestation requirement or impact fee, as part of the required abatement.
- The Tree Board would be disbanded and the Town Council would serve as the appellate body.

A complete copy of the ordinance is available for review on the Town website. If you cannot attend the **March 9** meeting, which begins at **7 p.m.** in the Town Hall, you may submit comments on the proposed ordinance to the Town Office at 4301 Willow Lane or by email to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Participate in the 2016-17 Budget Process

Fred Cecere, Treasurer

- March 9 Public Comments on FY17 Budget
- March 23 Council Budget Work Session
- April 13 Approval of Proposed FY17 Budget and Tax Rates
- May 3 Public Hearing on Proposed FY17 Budget and Tax Rates
- June 8 Adoption of FY17 Budget and Tax Rates

In March, the Town Council will begin to discuss and develop the Town's operating and capital budgets for the 2017 fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2016 and continues through June 30, 2017.

At its monthly meeting on **March 9**, the Town Council will hold a special public comment period to hear from residents about next year's budget and which new or ongoing initiatives they would like to see funded. Following this meeting, the Council will hold a work session on **March 23** to review the proposed budget that the staff and Treasurer have prepared.

Another discussion of the budget will occur at the **April 13** Council meeting, at which time residents will again be able to speak on the budget during the public comment portion of the meeting. There will be a public hearing on the final proposed budget at the Annual Meeting on **May 3**, before the Council adopts the budget at the **June 8** Council meeting.

Throughout the budget development process, the Town Council will consider suggestions from residents about what projects they would like to see funded. The Council also will consider the Town's property tax rates and will determine the amount of reserve monies to set aside for a "rainy day" fund and for future capital expenditures.

We look forward to hearing from you at these meetings.

Infrastructure Work - Update

Washington Gas and WSSC are planning to begin extensive infrastructure replacement projects in the Town later this spring. Washington Gas main replacement work is anticipated to begin in late March. The Town has received the utility permit request and is reviewing the plans. The project is expected to take 15 months.

Beginning in April, WSSC is scheduled to begin Phase 1 of a two phase water main replacement and relocation project, with Phase 2 scheduled to begin in early 2017. Phase 1 is scheduled to take 28 months to complete, while Phase 2 is scheduled to take 15 months to complete.

A map of the impacted streets has been posted on the Town's website. Affected streets include all or portions of: 44th, 45th, 46th, Willow, Leland, Curtis, Oakridge, Tarrytown, Stanford, Thornapple, Rosemary, Ridge, Walsh, Beechwood, Sycamore, Hillcrest, Bradley, Maple, Maple Terrace, Ridgewood, East, West, and Meadow. Washington Gas has updated the plans to add the 3900 and 4000 blocks of Underwood and Thornapple to the scope of work.

Residents will be notified of upcoming work that will impact their homes, and the Town will be monitoring the work to ensure coordination between the utility companies.

Council Adopts Changes to Town Ethics and Election Laws

On January 13, the Town Council adopted changes to the Town's ethics and election laws to require a write-in candidate in a Town election to file a certificate of candidacy and financial disclosure statement no later than 7 days prior to a Town election. The ordinance also requires the Town to notify residents of a write-in candidate within 24 hours of the filing of a certificate of candidacy.

TOWN UPDATES



Native Canopy & Street Tree Plantings

The Town is finalizing the tree planting list for April. If you have a spot in your yard suitable for a canopy tree, you might want to take advantage of the Native Canopy Tree Planting program. Under this 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.

You may also request to have a tree planted along the street in front of your home. The Town prefers to plant canopy trees when possible. Once the trees are planted, the Town will care for the trees for the first year by ensuring that they are watered. If you would like to request a tree, please contact the Town Office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org

Town Crier

The Town continues to encourage residents to join **Town Crier**, the Town's e-mail alert system, which keeps residents informed of important Town news and information. The Town Crier allows residents a choice of receiving several different types of information, including **Council Meeting notices, monthly Forecast Newsletters, News and Information, alerts, and Special Event reminders**. Also, you may modify, update or cancel your subscription via the "Manage Your

Subscription" link in each e-mail you receive from the Town.

Town Teen List

For the current list, please contact the Town office at townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org or [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144)

Alert TOCC

The Town is pleased to offer **Alert TOCC**, which notifies subscribers with a phone call in the event of Town service interruptions or Town responses to emergency situations, including water main breaks, snow removal issues, etc. This optional service is offered in addition to the existing Town Crier e-mail alert system and Town website. To subscribe to this service, visit the Town website, www.townofchevyCHASE.org, or call the Town Office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144).



Crime Watch

Please report all suspicious activity and crimes to the Montgomery County police at the non-emergency number: [301-279-8000](tel:301-279-8000). For emergencies or crimes in progress, call [911](tel:911). Any information you can give to the police about criminal or suspicious activity in Town will help to make us safer. In addition, please report incidents to the Town office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) so that we can notify our off-duty Montgomery County police officers.

Maryland Resident Tax Return 2015 - Form 502

**MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME
FORM 502
TAX RETURN**

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 TOWN OF CH CH

Print Using Blue or Black Ink Only

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.

TOWN EVENTS

Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee

Movie & Discussion Night for Grown-Ups

Friday, March 4,
7 p.m., Town Hall

Join us for a documentary movie “*The United Nations: Last Station Before Hell*,” that explores the central challenges in UN peacekeeping through field investigations and interviews with key decision makers. It will be followed by a talk with Lise Morjé Howard, Associate Professor in the Department of Government at Georgetown University, who served as an academic advisor on the film. This event is accompanied by desserts and wine. Space is limited, so please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.



Movie Night for Families

Friday, March 11,
6 p.m., Town Hall

Movie Night for Families will feature will feature Pixar’s “*The Good Dinosaur*”. This movie was released in 2015. It is an animated drama adventure film and still showing in theaters. Nominated for 35 awards including Best Animated Motion Picture, this film is a favorite for all age groups. Please arrive by **5:45 p.m.** for free pizza, drinks and snacks. Parents must accompany their children. The film is 100 minutes long.

Space is limited, so please RSVP to [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Soup’s On

Sunday, March 13,
4 p.m., Town Hall



Soup’s on! Two judges and the best soup chefs of the town will meet at our first soup challenge **Sunday, March 13 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Town Hall. Soups will be tasted and judged, and prizes will be given! Cooks – get your best soup recipes ready for this new event. To RSVP as a chef or an attendee, please call the Town Office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. Chefs will be given additional instructions when they RSVP.

About Our Judges: Aviva Goldfarb, a town resident and the Founder and CEO of *The Six O’Clock Scramble*, an online healthy meal planner is one of our judges. Aviva is a Today Show and Washington Post contributor, author of 3 Six O’Clock Scramble cookbooks, including *The Six O’Clock Scramble Meal Planner: A Year of Quick, Delicious Meals to Help You Prevent and Manage Diabetes* (American Diabetes Association, February 9, 2016). More about Aviva can be found at <http://www.thescramble.com/>. Donna Henry is our other judge. Donna is the Chef and Owner of *Soup Up*, the organic soup business that started in Union Market in 2013, and opened up its own brick and mortar location in the first floor of Bethesda’s PeriPoint Building. More about Donna can be found at <http://www.soupup.us/>

Coming Soon: The Moveable Feast is Back! Calling all Town Chefs and Hosts to Volunteer!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 7** for the Moveable Feast, our community’s Town-wide progressive dinner. Event and RSVP details will follow in the April Forecast. We are now looking for Town chefs to prepare a main meal or dessert, and Town hosts to hold the dinner or dessert parties. Chefs cook dinner or bake dessert for 10. Dinner hosts entertain 10 guests, including themselves. Dessert hosts entertain 20 people, including themselves. A small stipend is provided to dinner hosts and chefs. To volunteer as a chef or host (or both!), please contact the Town Office at [301-654-7144](tel:301-654-7144) or townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. If you have questions, contact Community Relations Committee members Loretta Sevier (loretta@lorettasevier.com) or Kathie Legg (kathleenlegg@gmail.com).

COUNCIL ELECTION 2016

TOWN ELECTIONS

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

Town residents will select 3 candidates in the 2016 election, each to serve on the Council for a 2-year term. The terms of Al Lang, Vicky Taplin, and Kathy Strom will expire in May.

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for office, a candidate must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, have resided in the Town for at least 1 year immediately preceding the election, and be a registered voter of the State of Maryland in Montgomery County.

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

To be designated as a candidate on the printed ballot, a resident must complete the [Town's official nominating petition](#). Nominating petitions are available in the Town Office. The nominating petitions are considered public documents and subject to public inspection. Completed nominating petitions must be delivered to the Town Office before [5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12](#), the 3rd 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 to ensure that at least 1 person is nominated for each opening on the Town Council.

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. To be qualified for election, a write-in candidate must file a certificate of candidacy before 5:00 pm on [Tuesday, April 26](#), the 7th calendar day preceding the election.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

A candidate for office is required to submit a [financial disclosure statement](#) at the time the candidate submits the official nominating petition or certificate of candidacy, as applicable. The financial disclosure form is available for review in the Town Office. Once filed, financial disclosure statements are considered public documents and subject to public inspection.

CANDIDATES FORUM

The candidates will be invited to participate in a moderated forum and dialogue with the community on [Wednesday, April 27](#) at [7 p.m.](#) in the Town Hall. The

Election Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents.

NOTICE OF CANDIDATES

The name, a short biographical sketch and short statement (not to exceed 400 words) of the nominated candidates will be mailed to all residents 2 weeks preceding the election. Notice of the filing of a certificate of candidacy for a write-in candidate will be provided to all residents within 24 hours of the filing of the certificate.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to vote, a person must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years of age, have resided in the Town for at least 30 days immediately preceding the election, and be a registered voter of the State of Maryland in Montgomery County.

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 3, 2016](#).

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Office on [Tuesday, April 19](#) 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. The 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 3, 2016](#).

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](#)

[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 CHEVY CHASE

“Streetcar Suburbs” Illustrated Talk

Sunday, March 20,
4 p.m., Chevy Chase Village Hall

Local historian and author John DeFerrari will present the Chevy Chase Historical Society’s winter lecture, “*Streetcar Suburbs: How a 10-Cent Ride Changed Washington*,” on Sunday, March 20, at 4 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue. The community is welcome.

Projecting vintage photos from his recent book, *Capital Streetcars: Early Mass Transit in Washington, DC*, DeFerrari will recall how streetcar lines made it possible for city dwellers to escape to the “countryside” to live and commute to their jobs in downtown Washington. Copies of his new book, *Capital Streetcars*, will be available for sale and signing after his talk.

As a complement to the March 20 lecture, CCHS will host a special field trip to the National Capital Trolley Museum in Silver Spring on Saturday, April 9, beginning at 12 p.m. For more information, please visit www.chevychasehistory.org

CC@ Home in March: From the Peacock Room to everything Irish

By Caroline Michaelis

Tuesday, March 1, 2 - 4 p.m. -- “*Heirloom of the Artist: Rethinking Whistler’s Peacock Room*” is a title of an illustrated lecture by Lee Glazer, Associate Curator of American Art at the Smithsonian’s Freer-Sackler. She will explore the complicated, Trans-Atlantic life of the “Peacock Room,” the famous interior by James McNeill Whistler, recently reinstalled in the Freer Gallery. At the Chevy Chase Village Hall with Refreshments and Q & A.

Thursday, March 10, 10 - 11:30 a.m. -- Brunch Bunch at the Olympia Cafe. Drop in any time. Buy a cup of coffee and join the conversation.

Sunday, March 13, 1 - 4 p.m. -- World renowned classical guitarist David Russell will hold a Master Class at the Chevy Chase Village Hall teaching advanced students who have been pre-selected by the International Conservatory of Music (ICM). This event is co-sponsored by ICM, Chevy Chase At Home and Chevy Chase Village.

Tuesday, March 15, 2 - 4 p.m. -- CC@ H hosts its annual St. Patrick’s Day Party at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. Always a special event, you will not want to miss this afternoon of everything Irish: food, drink, music and blarney!

Bird Egg-Stravaganza!

Saturday, March 26,
10 a.m. -12 p.m., Woodend Nature Sanctuary

Get ready to hunt for eggs! Participants will search for eggs around the grounds of Woodend Nature Sanctuary located at [8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815](http://www.anshome.org), along with learning more about their natural surroundings. Afterwards, the children will cash in their eggs for prizes, participate in crafts, and enjoy other nature themed activities. Food trucks will be present at the event to purchase lunch.

For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit: www.anshome.org/birdegg
Children (ages 10 and under) is \$10, Free for adults

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Al Lang, Mayor

John Bickerman, Vice Mayor

Vicky Taplin, Secretary

Fred Cecere, Treasurer

Kathy Strom, Community Liaison



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Bethesda Downtown Plan Community Meeting

Wednesday, March 2,
7:30 p.m., Town Hall

At the request of a group of Town residents, County Councilmember Roger Berliner will attend a community meeting on **March 2, 2016** about the Bethesda Downtown Plan. This listening session will be an opportunity for the community to provide comments and express concerns on the plan to our elected District 1 representative. The meeting begins at **7:30 p.m.** in the Town Hall and is open to all residents. Please contact Cecily Baskir at cebaskir@verizon.net if you have any questions. The Town Council's position paper on the sector plan is available on the Town website, and more information is available on the Coalition for Bethesda Area Residents website at www.cbar.info, at www.montgomeryplanning.org, and at www.montgomeryplanningboard.org.



In 2016, MVA on Wheels begins its eighteen years of service in Friendship Heights. The bus will park on Friendship Boulevard adjacent to the Chevy Chase Village Center from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** on **March 21, April 25, May 23, and June 20.**