



MAY 2016

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Tuesday, May 3

Town Election

Town Hall, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 5

Community Relations

Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Monday, May 9

Climate and Environment

Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 10

Purple Line Mitigation

Ad Hoc Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 11

Council Meeting,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 12

Public Services

Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Monday, May 16

Long Range Planning

Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 20

Wine and Welcome,

Town Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, May 24

Land Use Committee,

Town Hall, 7 p.m.

Message from Mayor Al Lang

I want to sincerely thank all for giving me the chance to serve on the Council. I value these past eight years. I have made many new friends. And I wish all our residents and our Town the very best.

With the election upon us, and I urge all to vote, I look ahead to several important issues, which I hope future Councils and residents will consider.

Volunteers Council members are all volunteers and all work very hard to do the best they can for our Town. The number of hours required to perform our duties is significant. Perhaps, it is time to consider reducing the complexities, while increasing the responsibilities of the staff. The expanded administrative variances and the tree ordinance amendments are prime examples, and these passed 5-0.

TOCC First While it is fine to attempt to lower heights and reduce densities throughout Bethesda, Council Members are elected to do what is best for TOCC. This means it is important to understand what can be achieved and what cannot be achieved. Opposing everything has not served us well. Perhaps this worked in the 70s and the 80s, which were 30+ years ago when Bethesda was very different, but it certainly has not produced results over the past 10 years. Focusing efforts on selected buildings on the east side of Wisconsin and south side of Montgomery to get results is very important. Achieving parks on the parking lots will yield buffers and green space for all to enjoy.

Transparency I hope the next Council will continue to promote transparency. Having served on the Council for the past 8 years I understand that the way the Purple Line fight was waged exacerbated divisiveness. I hope future Councils will consider requiring a vote of our residents for all non-operating expenditures of perhaps \$200,000 or more, and commit to awarding contracts based on an open, rigorous RFP process, which will level the playing field of competitors and which would, of course, include price negotiation.

Revenues/Expenses While our revenues are now well understood and we have proposed a balanced budget without affecting services, which passed 5-0, there are many aspects of the budget that should be addressed. The proper balance of staff tasks is one. And while our Town has many years to pay back the money we owe to other municipalities, and the Wynne case cost, it is appropriate to seek methods of increasing our real reserves, which are approximately \$2M, more information is available on the Town website.

Public Hearing on an Ordinance Regarding Curb Entrance Permit Applications and Appeals

On May 11, the Town Council will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to amend the Town's building code to expand the factors to be considered by the Town in granting curb entrance permits and to allow the Town Council to impose conditions in connection with related appeals. The Council introduced this ordinance at its April 13 meeting.

The purpose of the proposed ordinance is to expand upon the factors considered when granting a curb entrance in order to address the impacts to Town streets and properties from current and proposed development adjacent to the Town. The proposed ordinance would ensure that the proposed construction or expansion of a curb entrance, driveway, driveway apron, or sidewalk would not interfere with the public health, safety, or welfare. Such factors to be considered include possible vehicle or pedestrian traffic hazards, the location of other potential access points to Town streets, and traffic and parking congestion. The proposed ordinance also would allow the Town Council to impose specific conditions on a permit upon appeal by the applicant.

A complete copy of the proposed ordinance is available for review on the Town website. If you are unable to attend the May 11 Council 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.

TOWN UPDATES

Clear 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.

Block Party



The Town encourages residents to participate in a block party with their neighbors. The Town offers a subsidy of up to \$150 to cover expenses incurred by the party organizer. The organizer must submit receipts for reimbursement following the party. Receipts may not include expenses for alcohol. The block party petition can be downloaded at www.townofchevy Chase.org or call the Town Office at 301-654-7144 for more information.

Tree Plantings

In April, the Town completed the spring tree planting program. In addition to planting 16 public trees in the Town rights-of-way, the Town planted 9 canopy trees on private property as part of the Native Canopy Tree Planting Program. Information about these programs is available on the Town website.

Household Organic Waste Collection

The Town continues to offer curbside household organic waste collection in partnership with the Compost Crew. Residents must opt to receive this service. Participants receive a 5-gallon bin with gamma seal lid and compostable liner. Every Tuesday, Compost Crew collects the bins at the curb, wipes them down, replaces the liner and returns the bins to the curb.



TOWN EVENTS

Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee

Wine and Welcome

Friday, May 20, 7:30 p.m.,
Town Hall



Wine and Welcome! Come to the Town Hall on **May 20 at 7:30 p.m.** for a wine tasting event welcoming “new” residents of the Town (“New” being defined very liberally). We hope that many long-time residents will attend as well - to do the welcoming. We will be tasting 6 wines and ranking them in order of least to most expensive, eating cheese and other savory snacks. And, we will have a small prize for those in attendance who have lived in the Town both the shortest and the longest time. Looking forward to seeing lots of town neighbors at our only May event. Come one, come all.

Save the Date!

The Round House Theatre

Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.



Join your friends and neighbors on **Thursday, June 9, 7:30 p.m.** at Round House Theatre to see the play “*The Who and the What*” by Pulitzer-prize winning playwright Ayad Akhtar. This fierce and funny new play explores issues of identity and religion. As a Pakistani-American writer finishes her novel about the place of women and Islam, she, her conservative father and sister, and a young convert all face the contradiction between traditional values and contemporary lifestyles, Islamic customs and American culture. The *New York Times* calls it “disarmingly funny. A fiery ... probing new play, crackling with ideas.”

A discounted price of \$30 is available for tickets. Arrive for the show shortly before **7:30** and stay for the post-play discussion. Round House is at 4545 East-West Hwy, one block east of Wisconsin Avenue. Contact the Town Office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or **301-654-7144** to reserve your seat.

Play Date in the Park

Saturday, June 11, 9 a.m.

Play Date in the Park returns **Saturday June 11 at 9:00 a.m.** Town toddlers, preschoolers and their families are welcome for a morning of play at the Lawton Center Playground. We will provide juice boxes, coffee and bagels. Families with infants and all older siblings are welcome.



The Progressive Dinner has been moved to **Saturday, October 22**. It is not too early to plan on hosting, cooking, and attending!

Town of Chevy Chase

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Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

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Kathy Strom, Community Liaison



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

CC@ H in the Merry Month of May

Tuesday, May 10, 2 to 4 p.m. -- Jim Resnick, Program Manager of the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service Senior Outreach Program, will discuss the new home safety regulations and the free, in-home inspections provided by fire and rescue experts with assistance from CC@ H volunteers. Refreshments will be served.

Thursday, May 12, 10 to 11:30 a.m. -- Drop by the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road for Brunch Bunch. All are welcome -- just buy a cup of coffee and pull up a chair.

SAVE THE DATE! Monday, June 6, 7 p.m., for an exciting CC@H event: GERALDINE BROOKS, Pulitzer Prize-winning Author of *"The Secret Chord,"* in Conversation with Guy Raz, Host of NPR "TED Radio Hour." Please register by **Friday, June 3** at www.chevyCHASEathome.org or 301-657-3115. Members and Friends of CC@H: \$10, general public: \$15. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing by Ms. Brooks at the conclusion of the conversation. At Phillips Hall, Chevy Chase United Methodist Church.

Annual Town Meeting and Election Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Voting	8 a.m. – 8 p.m.	Town Hall
Reception	6:30 p.m.	Lawton Center Social Hall
Annual Meeting	7 p.m.	Lawton Center Social Hall

Details in the Election Issue of the FORECAST and posted on the Town website.

www.townofchevyCHASE.org