



MARCH

Wednesday, March 2
Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Monday, March 7
Land Use/ Planning*, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 9
4-H Committee*, 5 p.m.

Town Council, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 10
Green Town Series, 7 p.m.
see page 3

Monday, March 14
Town Book Club, 7 p.m.
see page 3

Tuesday, March 15
Climate/Environment*, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 19
Go Electric! Event, 10 a.m.
see page 3

Sunday, March 20
Coffee Meet Up, 10 a.m.
see page 3

Wednesday, March 23
4-H Committee*, 5 p.m.
Public Services*, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 30
Council Work Session, 7 p.m.
see page 2

Thursday, March 31
Green Town Series, 6:30 p.m.
see page 3

* Town Committee meeting

Please visit the website for more information on these meetings.

Developers Present First Concept Plan for Former 4-H Property Development

At a Town forum on February 17, the new owners of the former 4-H property, Galerie Living and Community Three, presented a concept plan for a retirement community on the site. A bird's eye rendering is below, a street level view from Connecticut Avenue is shown on the second page of this Forecast, and the full presentation and slide show is available on the Town website.

The developers emphasized that this is their initial plan and expect to modify it as they undertake further work and respond to comments from residents. They stated that they took note of the Town's letter of last fall, and features of this initial plan incorporate points we had highlighted. The three acres of woods is being preserved, and a walking path through these woods is planned. Also, there is no roadway permitting cut through traffic. But it's also clear that this is a work in progress. The developers could not say exactly how many units will be in the complex or how many square feet will be built in total, and they left open for discussion how Town residents may be able to use some of the planned amenities, such as an indoor pool.

We look forward to a constructive engagement with the developers. Please help us by providing your comments and questions to the Town office. We want to understand what residents think of this project, and think is best for the Town, as we consider our response to this initial plan. Thank you.

– Mayor Barney Rush



NEWS & NOTES

Resident Feedback Requested on Redevelopment Plans

4-H Property Redevelopment Plan

The new owners of the 4-H property recently presented an initial concept plan for redevelopment of the site. Residents are encouraged to review the presentation materials on the Town website and send comments, ideas, and suggestions to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. After reviewing this feedback and conferring with the Town's 4-H Special Committee, the Council will formulate a consolidated set of comments. These will be shared with residents for further discussion before responding to the property owners.



Zimmerman Park Concept Plan

In February, the Council agreed on a package of park improvements that have been incorporated into a single advanced concept plan. Residents are encouraged to review this plan and the associated budget, available on the Town website, and send feedback to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org by March 9, when the Council will decide on a final plan to advance to design and construction.

FY23 Budget Development and Adoption

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 30 to review the proposed budget that the staff and Treasurer have prepared. There will be a public hearing on, and adoption of, the final proposed budget at the Annual Meeting on May 3. Throughout the budget development process, the Town Council will consider suggestions from residents about what programs they would like funded in next year's budget. Please email suggestions to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Town to Transition to Electronic Newsletter

In July 2022, the Town will transition the monthly Forecast newsletter from paper to email in an ongoing effort to streamline and optimize Town operations. We encourage all residents to sign up to receive the Forecast newsletter via the Town Crier (visit <https://www.townofchevy Chase.org/list.aspx>). For residents who still want a paper copy of the newsletter, the Town will print and deliver a hard copy to their home. To sign up to receive a paper copy, please email townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers Banned January 1-October 14

Use electric leaf blowers or rakes -- they are quieter, cleaner, and more neighborly (and it's now the law in the Town of Chevy Chase.) Gas-powered leaf blowers are prohibited from January 1 to October 14. More information about obtaining rebates for the purchase of battery-powered and electric leaf blowers (either for you or your landscaping company) is available at www.townofchevy Chase.org. To report gas-powered leaf blower violations, call the Town Office at 301-654-7144.

*Happy
Birthday*

*Congratulations and best wishes to long-time Town resident
Dr. William Howard Yeager who will turn 99 years old on March 9!*

SPECIAL EVENTS

What's Up with Our Canopy Trees?, March 10, 7 p.m., via Zoom

Have you noticed that the Town's tree canopy is thinning as older trees are dying? Have you heard about the Spotted Lantern Fly quarantine? These phenomena are occurring throughout our region. Get the latest information on these issues from Dr. Tolbert Feather, our very own Town Arborist, who will provide an update on the nature and effects of these phenomena. Dr. Feather also will explain actions you can take, including how to make use of the Town's generous tree programs. Please register here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdOiuqDsuH9MRTbIsXAtiZoHYukQQaq2X>.

TOCC Book Club, March 14, 7 p.m.

Our Town of Chevy Chase Book Club will meet March 14 at 7 p.m. We will discuss *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini, a historical novel on the remarkable friendship between Mary Todd Lincoln and her seamstress Elizabeth Keckley, a freed slave. Join us! Save the date for next meeting on April 25. The vote for the next book was for *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig.

Go Electric! Event, March 19, 10 a.m., Montgomery College

The Climate & Environment Committee would like to alert Town residents about a Go Electric! event sponsored by Montgomery County. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn about "all things electric," including cars, solar power, electric/battery yard equipment, appliance recycling and more. Detailed information can be found at <https://mygreenmontgomery.org/2022/goelectric/>.

Coffee Meet Up, March 20, 10 a.m., Town Hall

Celebrate the first day of Spring! Come join your neighbors for coffee, refreshments (milk or juice for the kids), and conversation. New residents are especially welcome!

County Climate Action Update, March 31, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom

The Climate & Environment Committee is hosting a Green Town Series to provide Town residents with the latest information on County activities to address our climate crisis. Adriana Hochberg, the County's Climate Change Officer, will provide an update on the County's Climate Action Plan. Please register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcpcuuoz4rGdV7TjVOPo81P8aQoyU97Zts>.

Comfort Food During COVID: In Search of Recipes: The Town's Community Relations Committee is hoping to compile an online compendium of recipes. However, we need your input! We're especially interested in family recipes for comfort food. Entries from residents of all ages are welcomed! Please email recipes to townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

Artistic Expressions in the Face of the Pandemic Art Show: The pandemic has affected us all in different ways. If you or your child created a painting, poem, sculpture, musical composition, or another artistic expression that reflected resiliency during this pandemic, we have a few slots left for an art show on April 24. Please email a description or photo to townoffice@townofchevychase.org.

Winter Clothing Drive: Thank you to all the residents who filled the donation box to overflowing every week of our drive! Interfaith Works received so many wonderful warm items for the needy people of our area. Big thanks to Town staff member Miguel Hernandez, who transported all 35 bags of clothing to Interfaith Works!

Save
the
Date

Spring Festival, April 24, Lawton Center -- Come enjoy jazz performances by Bethesda Chevy Chase High School, art exhibits by fellow Town residents, food trucks, children's activities, and much more! Details to follow next month.

Trash and Treasures, April 30-May 1 -- Bulk trash collection and recycling opportunities.

Town of Chevy Chase

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Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Barney Rush, Mayor

Irene Lane, Vice Mayor

Joel Rubin, Secretary

Joy White, Treasurer

Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Community Liaison



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Climate & Environment Tip of the Month

Biophilia and You

On December 26, renowned biologist and author E. O. Wilson died at the age of 92. One of his many legacies is his book entitled “Biophilia”. Wilson argues that our natural affinity for life – biophilia -- is the very essence of our humanity and binds us to all other living species.

During Covid, most of us have gained a greater appreciation for nature. **How, then, could we cultivate and express biophilia in our Town, our homes, and personal lives?**

- **Pay attention.** Every yard is teeming with various species living interconnected lives, to which we can bring appreciation and curiosity.
- **Fear not.** When we have this awareness, anxieties and fears are displaced by appreciation. Then, it’s possible to adopt an attitude of “cultivate and care” rather than “control and eliminate” to live with backyard nature.
- **Follow the science.** People who spend time in nature are proven to be more mentally and physically healthy.
- **More is more.** The oft repeated “less is more” doesn’t apply here. A diverse biome brings greater enjoyment and environmental resilience.
- **Less is more.** Well, maybe it does apply. All of our choices affect nature--from pollution in our immediate surroundings, to use of resources.
- **We are not alone.** When we express biophilia, we’re sharing that gift with our neighbors, our children, people worldwide and future generations.

COUNCIL ELECTION 2022

TOWN ELECTION

The Town's 2022 election is **Tuesday, May 3**. Town residents will select three candidates in the 2022 election, each to serve on the Council for a 2-year term. The terms of Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Irene Lane, and Barney Rush expire in May.

Balloting will be undertaken by mail and drop box only. At least 2 weeks before the election, the Town's election service provider will mail a ballot, a ballot envelope, and a return envelope to each eligible voter. In order for a resident's vote to be counted, return envelopes must either be mailed by May 3 and received by May 10 or placed in the drop box outside the Town Hall by 5 p.m. on May 3.

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for office, a candidate must be a citizen of the United States; be at least 16 years old; have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election; and be a registered voter of the State of Maryland in Montgomery County. (Prospective voters who are at least 16 years old may register to vote with the state although they may not vote in state or federal elections until age 18.)

CANDIDATE NOMINATING PROCEDURES

To be designated as a candidate on the printed ballot, a resident must submit a **nominating petition** to the Town office before **5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12**, the 3rd Tuesday preceding the election. The Town will make available a nominating petition to any Town resident seeking election to the Town Council. A candidate for office is not required to use this form, which is available on the Town website, but must submit a petition containing the same information on the Town's form in order for the individual's name to be placed on the ballot. The nominating petition must show the consent of the individual to become a candidate and hold office, and it must be supported by five qualified voters of the Town other than the candidate. Nominators may indicate their support by sending an email to the Town office. The email should state, "I hereby nominate (name) of (address) as a candidate for the Town Council of the Town of Chevy Chase." All nominating emails must contain the name and address of the nominator. The Election Board shall verify the qualifications of the nominees and the correspondence submitted to support nominating petitions after 5 p.m. on April 12, 2022. Nominating petitions are public documents and are subject to public inspection.

WRITE-IN CANDIDATES

To be qualified for election, a write-in candidate must submit a **certificate of candidacy** to the Town office before 5 p.m. on **Tuesday, April 26**, the 7th calendar day preceding the election. A Town resident seeking election to the Town Council as a write-in candidate must use the Town's official certificate of candidacy, which is available on the Town website. The printed ballot will include blank spaces to add write-in candidates.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

A candidate for office is required to submit a **financial disclosure statement** to the Town office at the time the candidate submits a nominating petition or certificate of candidacy, as applicable. The financial disclosure form is available on the Town website. Financial disclosure statements are public documents and are subject to public inspection.

CANDIDATES' FORUM

The candidates will be invited to participate in a forum with the community prior to the election. The Elections Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents. Please email questions to the Town office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

NOTICE OF CANDIDATES

Information about the nominated candidates will be mailed to all residents at least 2 weeks before the election. Notice of the filing of a certificate of candidacy for a write-in candidate will be posted on the Town website within 24 hours of the filing.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to vote, residents who are U.S. citizens must be at least 16 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. Residents who are not U.S. citizens must be legally authorized to reside in the United States; be at least 16 years old; have resided in the Town for at least 30 days immediately preceding the election; and be registered to vote with the Town. Voter registration forms for non-U.S. citizen residents are available on the Town website.

ELECTION RESULTS & ELECTIONS BOARD

Election results will be announced after 5 p.m. on May 10, and the new Council will meet on May 11. Current Elections Board members are **Chris Wright, Chair; Karen Elkins; and Kirk Renaud**. Please email questions to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.