



Forecast

JUNE 2024

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Sunday, June 2

Seriously Fun Singers†, 4 p.m.

Monday, June 3

Land Use *, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 4

Discussion and Desserts†, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 5

Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 6

Climate & Environment*, 6 p.m.

Sunday, June 9

Ann Wild Gathering†, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, June 12

Town Council, 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 13

Attainable Housing Forum†, 7 p.m.

Monday, June 17

Town Book Club†, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, June 18

Bethesda Market Park†, 7 p.m.

Thursday, June 20

Long-Range Planning*, 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 23

Theatre Discussion†, 11 a.m.

Tuesday, June 25

Discussion and Desserts†, 7 p.m.

* Town Committee meeting

† see page 3

Launching Into a New Council Year

Our small, but spirited, Town is home to a community of dedicated individuals united by a shared commitment to progress. I'm honored to lead our Town Council into a second term as Mayor, alongside Barney Rush as Vice Mayor, Rich Brancato as Treasurer, Joy White as Community Liaison, and Stephanie Martz as Secretary.

Each Council member brings unique talents to the table and each will ensure seamless collaboration across Town committees: Barney Rush with the Public Services Committee, Rich Brancato with the Land Use Committee, Joy White with the Long-Range Planning Committee, Stephanie Martz with the Community Relations Committee, and myself with the Climate & Environment Committee.

As we embark on this new year, there are several key priorities:

- Addressing the County Planning Board's recommendations for residential rezoning, including the construction of multi-family housing in our Town (see page 2 for details about Public Forum);
- Exploring additional Town contributions that would enhance Bethesda Market Park's amenities (see page 2 for details about Design Presentation);
- Completing renovations of Zimmerman Park this summer;
- Mitigating the impacts of Purple Line construction;
- Spearheading traffic management, intersection upgrades, and pedestrian safety initiatives; and
- Fostering vibrant community events that bring us together.

As always, transparency and engagement will remain paramount. We pledge to keep you informed at every turn, welcoming your valuable feedback. Furthermore, we'll continue to forge partnerships with County and State leaders to tackle challenges head-on.

Above all, community involvement is key. Our Town thrives on the active participation of its residents, where ideas and projects come to fruition and bonds are strengthened. I urge each of you to please join us at Town Council meetings, consider participating on a Town committee or board, or simply attend more Town events. Your presence is pivotal in shaping our collective future.

– Mayor Irene Lane



Independence Day Picnic and Parade

July 4, 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m., Lawton Center Grounds

see page 3 for details



Public Hearing on Financial Support for Wonders, June 12

At its June 12 meeting, the Council will hold a public hearing on a \$10,000 request by Wonders Early Learning Extended Day for needed capital improvements to its facility in the Lawton Center. If you are unable to attend the meeting, you may submit comments to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Attainable Housing Public Forum, June 13

The Town Council will host a public forum on Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall to address residents' questions and gather further feedback on the prospect of building duplexes, triplexes, and quadplexes in the Town. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please submit questions and comments to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. For more information, visit bit.ly/TOCCAHSI.

Bethesda Market Park: Revised Design Presentation, June 18

On Tuesday, June 18 at 7 p.m. via Zoom, the Parks Department will present the revised design for the Bethesda Market Park. In developing this plan, the Parks Department considered public comments from last year's meetings and surveys. The plan includes amenities for which the Town is considering additional funding, including a water feature, a stage area, and an interactive playground. Residents are encouraged to attend this meeting to review the plan and learn how the project will proceed. The Zoom link for the meeting is bit.ly/BMPZoom.

Zimmerman Park Redevelopment Update

This summer, the Town will renovate Zimmerman Park, including drainage improvements to the large lawn; a pathway from the Lee Dennison Sustainable Garden to the crosswalk at Blackthorn Street; and a picnic table, benches, trash receptacles, and a bike rack. Following the completion of the work, the turf will be reestablished, and new landscape plantings will be installed. In the fall, the Council will consider the need for and possible location of additional amenities to be installed in the portion of the park located between Blackthorn Street and East West Highway.

Volunteers Needed for Town Committees & Boards

Are you a new resident who is interested in parks, cut-through traffic, or special events? Are you a long-time resident concerned about tree conservation, stormwater management, or potential housing changes? The Town Council encourages you to volunteer for a Town committee, board, or commission. No prior experience is necessary, just a willingness to spend one hour per week, on average, extending your talents, working with fellow residents, and improving our community.

- **Climate and Environment:** Inspires and facilitates energy conservation and environmental stewardship by the Town and its residents.
- **Community Relations:** Encourages a strong sense of neighborliness through community activities, events, and communications.
- **Land Use:** Considers and recommends solutions to issues and concerns relating to land use and construction in the Town. Advises the Council on how to manage residential development and redevelopment.
- **Long-Range Planning:** Identifies emerging issues and trends. Monitors county and state activities likely to impact the Town.
- **Public Services:** Addresses traffic and pedestrian safety, parking, utilities, and infrastructure. Advocates for high-quality services and promotes a safe environment for residents.
- **Elections Board** (one vacancy): Oversees all Town elections, including making appropriate provisions for nominations, approving ballots, and supervising the polls.
- **Ethics Commission** (one vacancy): Receives, verifies, and maintains all financial disclosure forms required by the State of Maryland.
- **Water Board** (one vacancy): Hears requests from property owners who have had a water drainage plan denied by the Town.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org and include a few sentences about why you would like to serve on a particular body.

The following events are sponsored by the Town's Community Relations Committee

Seriously Fun Singers, June 2

Join the Seriously Fun Singers (SFS) for its third performance for Town residents on Sunday, June 2 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Town Hall! With many singers hailing from the Town, SFS will feature its signature eclectic mix of popular music through the ages: madrigals, Broadway tunes, sea shanties, pop hits, and more. Come early, as the doors open at 3:45 p.m., and spend some time mingling with neighbors as you sample the refreshments. Singing begins at 4 p.m. Please RSVP to bit.ly/SFSJune2.

Discussion & Desserts, June 4 & June 25

A Public Health Approach to Gun Violence with Dr. Katherine Hoops, June 4

In honor of the Town's recognition of the 10th National Gun Violence Awareness Day in early June, join us on Tuesday, June 4 from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Town Hall. Dr. Katherine Hoops is a physician in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit at Johns Hopkins Hospital, and she is a faculty leader in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health's Center for Gun Violence Solutions. She conducts research to find effective policy measures and clinical strategies to reduce gun violence. RSVP to bit.ly/DDJune4.

Covering the Olympics with Les Carpenter, Washington Post journalist, June 25

Wouldn't you love to learn how journalist Les Carpenter covered past Olympics, and what his plans are for the upcoming Paris games? If so, please join us in the Town Hall on Tuesday, June 25 at 7 p.m. for delicious desserts and an engaging evening. This will be a fascinating conversation on a timely event, so please RSVP soon to bit.ly/DD618.



Ann Wild Farewell Gathering, June 9

Please join us at the Town Hall on Sunday, June 9, from 4 to 6 p.m. as the Town honors Ann Wild for her many years of civic service. There will be tea sandwiches, festive desserts, and wine -- as well as proclamations of thanks. Please RSVP to bit.ly/AWFarewell by June 3.

TOCC Book Club Meets June 17

The Town of Chevy Chase Book Club has selected *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan for our next read. It's based on a true story of espionage, suspense and love in WWII Italy. We will meet on Monday, June 17 in the Town Hall at 7 p.m. All residents are welcome.

Round House Theatre Discussion Group, June 23

Join us for a discussion of Suzan-Lori Park's *Topdog/Underdog*, the final play in Round House Theatre's current season. Some consider this to be the finest American play of the 21st century! See the play whenever you like, then join us on Sunday, June 23 at 11 a.m. for conversation and breakfast pastries. Notification of the meeting location will be sent to those who sign up. Please RSVP to bit.ly/RHTJune23.



Independence Day Picnic & Parade July 4, 11:45 a.m.-2 p.m., Lawton Center Grounds



11:45 a.m.: Come to the Lawton Center to decorate your bikes, scooters, wagons, and baby carriages. The Town will provide decorating supplies.

12 p.m.: Parade and Dixieland Band

The parade will begin at 12 p.m. and will be led by the Dixie Land Trio.

12:15-2 p.m.: Picnic

Town residents will be treated to barbeque catered by Red, Hot & Blue and the famous Ben and Jerry's ice cream truck. Vegetarian & vegan options are available upon request. Bring your appetite and picnic blanket!

Please RSVP by June 21 at bit.ly/TOCCJuly4. Interested in volunteering for the 4th? Please indicate so when you RSVP.

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Irene Lane, Mayor

Barney Rush, Vice Mayor

Stephanie Martz, Secretary

Rich Brancato, Treasurer

Joy White, Community Liaison



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

A Message from the Public Services Committee *Summer Vacation Home Safety Tips*

Before you leave, please remember these home safety tips:

- Make sure your doors and windows are locked and secure, activate your alarm (same for your vehicles!)
- Stop your mail and newspapers or have them retrieved for you
- Halt your e-commerce purchases to reduce or eliminate packages sitting in front of your home
- Set lights on timers to create the appearance of inside activity
- Exterior motion-sensor lighting aids in deterring crime
- Keep valuables out of public view
- Avoid discussing vacation plans in public or on social media
- Consider informing neighbors of vacation plans so they can keep an eye on your home and vehicles



In case of an emergency, always call 911. And please remember to report all crimes, incidents (including non-emergency vehicle accidents, such as hit-and-run side swipes), or suspicious activity to MCPD's non-emergency line at 301-279-8000. In addition, you are encouraged to report this information to the Town Office, which allows the Town to notify our contracted police officers and to work with the Bethesda Police Station to identify crime locations and trends.

Have a Wonderful Summer!