



Forecast

MAY 2025

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Sunday, May 4

Garden Club Tour, 12 p.m.
see page 3

Park Social, 3:30 p.m.
see page 3

Monday, May 5

Land Use*, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6

Annual Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 7

Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 9

Town Happy Hour, 5 p.m.
see page 3

Tuesday, May 13

Morning Movie, 10 a.m.
see page 3

Wednesday, May 14

Town Council, 7 p.m.

Thursday, May 15

Long Range Planning*, 7 p.m.

Sunday, May 18

Spring Fest, 12 p.m.
see page 3

Monday, May 19

Public Services*, 7 p.m.

Monday, May 26

Memorial Day
Town office closed

* Town Committee meeting

Farewells from Stephanie & Joy

I want to thank my neighbors for the honor of serving as your Town Council member for the last two years. I've enjoyed working with my dedicated colleagues (Mayor Irene Lane, Barney Rush, Rich Brancato, and Joy White -- thank you!), and above all, it has been a rewarding and heartening way to spend time during the last two years, when national politics have been so challenging and, at times, frightening. The Town is truly a community, and there is so much that we can accomplish that actually improves our lives and the lives of our neighbors when we focus on parks, housing, traffic, and community events. I encourage you to run for Town Council, volunteer for a committee, or come to a function!

– Councilmember Stephanie Martz

As my four-year tenure on the Town Council comes to an end, I can't help but marvel at how much we have been through together. COVID-19 social distancing seems ancient history now, but it led to the first Town election conducted entirely by mail-in ballot, and hybrid Council meetings in person and via Zoom. I'm glad to have played a part in overseeing the transition of the National 4-H center site to the future home of a first-class senior living development, the banning of gas-powered leaf blowers, and the beautiful upgrades to Zimmerman Park. For their collaborative spirit and friendship, I thank my colleagues on the Council and Town committees, our amazing Town staff, and, of course, our Town residents, whose love for and commitment to the Town make this a beautiful community to call home.

– Councilmember Joy White

2025 Council Election & Annual Meeting

In this year's Town Council election, residents will elect two of five Council members, each to serve for a two-year term. There are two candidates on the ballot: **Carlo Colella** and **Tambra Leonard**.

Voting will be undertaken by mail and drop box only. Balloting materials and information on the nominated candidates were mailed to residents in mid-April. For a resident's vote to be counted, ballot return envelopes must either be mailed by May 6 or placed in the drop box outside the Town Hall by 5 p.m. on May 6. *Please note that the drop box for the Town election is next to the bulletin board by the Town Hall. It is labeled "Town of Chevy Chase Official Town Election Ballot Box."*

The Annual Meeting will be held on May 6 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall and via Zoom and will include a public hearing on, and Council adoption of, the FY26 budget and tax rates. The proposed budget is available for review on the Town website, as is information on how to join the Annual Meeting.

New Town Council Meets on May 14

On May 14, the Town Council will hold its organizational meeting to swear in newly elected Councilmembers and choose Council officers and committee liaisons. At this meeting, the Council will hold public hearings on two requests for speed humps (on Maple Avenue and Stanford Street) and a request for parking restrictions on Stanford Street. The Council also will hold a public hearing on a \$10,000 contribution and a \$10,000 maximum matching contribution towards an outdoor classroom at Rosemary Hills Elementary School. The agenda for this meeting will be available on May 9.

State Clarifies Municipal Regulatory Authority

During the 2025 state legislative session, which concluded on April 7, the General Assembly passed a technical amendment to state law to clarify municipal regulatory authority. The bill provides that Montgomery County municipalities without zoning authority, such as the Town, may regulate multifamily properties with four or fewer dwelling units as they do for single-family homes. As the County prepares to consider zoning changes aimed at addressing the affordable housing shortage, this legislation provides critical clarity. It allows municipalities like ours to regulate certain forms of multifamily housing in a way that promotes compatibility with existing single-family neighborhoods. This balanced approach supports the broader goal of increasing housing affordability while ensuring that local voices and planning considerations remain integral to the conversation. We are grateful for Delegate Jared Solomon's sponsorship of this bill and for his leadership and continued support of legislation that strengthens local governance and empowers communities.

Crimewatch -- Lock Your Cars

We want to remind residents to ensure that your cars are locked at all times. Also, please do not leave house or car keys, or any valuable items, in your vehicles. If you observe any suspicious activity, please report it to the police immediately at 911. Report any crimes that have already occurred to the police at 301-279-8000 and to the Town office at townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Notes & Reminders

Overgrown Vegetation

Residents are asked to keep all sidewalks and streets clear of overgrown vegetation. All sidewalks must meet ADA standards for accessible pathways (at least 36 inches of clear unobstructed passage for a height of 80 inches). All streets must have a minimum vertical clearance of 14 feet from curb edge to curb edge. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep Town sidewalks and streets safe.

Clean Up After Your Pet, Obey Leash Laws, and Control Barking



The Town office receives ongoing complaints about the improper disposal of dog waste, unleashed dogs, and barking dogs. The Town has installed numerous dog waste stations around the Town, and a map can be found at bit.ly/TOCCDogi. Please remember that your dog should always be on a leash being held by a person when not in a fenced portion of your yard. Also, please note that a dog may not cause noise that is loud and persistent enough to disturb another person's quiet enjoyment. To report an animal creating a noise disturbance, please contact Animal Services at 301-279-8000.

Spring Tree Plantings

In May, the Town will plant 50 trees on private property as part of the Town's Private Native Tree Planting Program. The Town provides a water bag to assist residents with the care needed in the critical first year after planting. Residents are responsible for the long-term care of the tree(s). The Town also will plant 30 trees in the public rights-of-way. Once the trees are planted, the Town will care for the trees for the first year by ensuring that they are watered; the Town is responsible for their long-term care.



Host a Block Party

The Town encourages residents to organize block parties with their neighbors. Block party petitions are available on the Town website and must be signed by at least 60% of the households on the block. The Town offers a subsidy of up to \$150 to cover non-alcohol related expenses incurred by the party organizer(s). More information is available at bit.ly/TOCCBlockParty.

Garden Club of Chevy Chase Garden Tour, May 4

Tour 5 gardens in historic Chevy Chase Village as part of the Garden Club's "Landscapes, Hardscapes and Tablesapes" tour on Sunday, May 4 from 12 to 4 p.m. Rain or shine. Tickets are \$45 per person and are available online at gardenclubofchevyCHASE.org or on the day of the event at tour headquarters (33 West Kirke Street, Chevy Chase).

Lemonade and Cookies in the Park, May 4

Join your neighbors for lemonade and cookies by the Lawton Center playground on Sunday, May 4 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. These types of events help build community and have been popular over the years.

Happy Hour at World of Beer, May 9

The Town is hosting a happy hour event on Friday, May 9 from 5 to 7 p.m. at World of Beer, 7200 Wisconsin Avenue. Come by to meet other Town residents and enjoy a fun evening out. Complimentary appetizers while supplies last. The event is open to all.

Morning at the Movies -- "Man on Wire," May 13

Join your adult neighbors to view the 2008 Academy-award winning documentary "Man on Wire" on Tuesday, May 13 at 10 a.m. in the Town Hall.

A *New York Times* review describes the film as "thorough, understated and altogether enthralling." From Rotten Tomatoes: "Using actual footage from the event seamlessly mingled with new re-enactments, filmmaker James Marsh masterfully recreates high-wire daredevil Philippe Petit's 1974 stunt: performing acrobatics on a thin wire strung between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center. Plotting his feat like a master cat burglar, Petit enlists the help of a motley group of friends as he calculates every detail, from acquiring building access to stringing up the wire, and manages to pull off an astounding crime."



Coffee and pastries will be served, and there will be time to get to know fellow Town residents and to discuss the film. Please RSVP (bit.ly/TOCCMM) by May 9.



2025 Spring Festival, May 18

The Town is partnering with the Lawton Center to host the 2025 Spring Festival. The event will take place on Sunday, May 18 from noon to 2:30 p.m. in the Lawton Center parking lot. Join us for arts and crafts, face painting, moon bounces, music, food trucks, and so much more! All ages are welcome so please join us and bring the whole family for a festive time!

TOCC Book Club Will Meet in June

The TOCC Book Club will next be reading *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon. It is inspired by the diaries of Martha Ballard, a real-life Maine midwife in 1789, and it is a real page-turner of a mystery. The date has not been set, but likely early June will be our next meeting. All residents are welcome.

Chevy Chase at Home (CC@H)

CC@H is a member organization providing social and educational programs to neighbors of all ages and support services to older adults. You can learn more at www.chevyCHASEathome.org.

Do You Want To Assist Older Adults in Your Neighborhood?

Have you considered volunteering with Chevy Chase At Home? Would you like to spend an hour or two each month assisting a local neighbor? We invite you to learn more about providing services to older adults in your neighborhood. Please contact us at info@chevyCHASEathome.org or (301) 657-3115 to learn more about volunteer opportunities with Chevy Chase At Home.

Town of Chevy Chase

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TOWN COUNCIL

Irene Lane, Mayor

Barney Rush, Vice Mayor

Stephanie Martz, Secretary

Rich Brancato, Treasurer

Joy White, Community Liaison



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A Message from the Public Services Committee

Walk and Drive Safely

As the weather gets warmer and the days get longer, more residents will be crisscrossing Town streets and sidewalks for leisurely strolls, longer runs, bike rides, and walking their dogs. The Public Service Committee would like to remind residents to please be courteous, patient, and thoughtful when walking and driving through Town. Good tips to keep in mind:

1. Please obey all stop signs in Town and come to a complete STOP, looking all directions for cars, pedestrians, and bicyclists alike, before proceeding.
2. Please follow the posted speed limits -- 20 mph on most Town streets -- and the adjacent roads that surround the Town (East West, Connecticut, Bradley, and Wisconsin).
3. To our strollers, joggers, and pet walkers, please use the sidewalks when at all possible. We recognize that a small number of streets do not have sidewalks; however, it is important to stay on the sidewalks and avoid surprising drivers who are not expecting pedestrians in the middle of the road.
4. To our pet owners, please respect and abide by the County's leash laws, whether you are walking your pet or playing in a Town park or at the elementary school. There have been far too many reports of dog bites in the Town.

