

Forecast

MARCH 2014

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE

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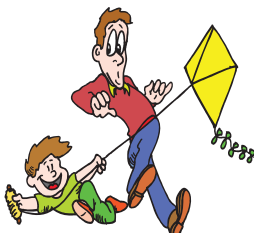
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Participate in the 2014-15 Budget Process

David Lublin, Treasurer

March 12 Public Comments on Budget

March 26 Council Budget Work Session

April 9 Approval of Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

May 6 Public Hearing on Proposed Budget and Tax Rates

June 11 Adoption of FY15 Budget and Tax Rates

In March, the Town Council will begin to discuss and develop the Town's operating and capital budgets for the FY15 fiscal year, which begins on July 1, 2014 and continues through June 30, 2015.

At its regular monthly meeting on **Wednesday, March 12**, 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 **Wednesday, March 26** to review the proposed budget that the staff and Treasurer have prepared.

Another discussion of the budget will occur at the **Wednesday, April 9** 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 **Tuesday, May 6**, before the Council adopts the budget at the **Wednesday, June 11** Council meeting.

Throughout the budget development process, the Town Council will consider many of the ideas proposed by residents during the recent public forums on use of the Town's reserve funds. The Council also 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. If you are unable to attend in person, please submit comments to townoffice@townofchevyCHASE.org or to the Town Office.

Council Retains Purple Line Assistance

At a special meeting on February 20, the Town Council voted to retain the firm of Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney and its subcontractors Alexander & Cleaver and Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell to provide legal and government relations services to the Town of Chevy Chase to assist the Town in continuing to address the proposed Purple Line project. The Council authorized the expenditure of \$29,000 per month for the services, up to a maximum of \$350,000.

COUNCIL ELECTION 2014

Residents with questions on any aspect of the Election are encouraged to contact a member of the Election Board: Ed Finn, Chair, 301-657-4607; Anthula Gross, 301-652-3017; and Steve Lawton, 301-654-5904.

Town Elections

Town Elections are governed by the provisions in Chapter 8 of the Town of Chevy Chase Municipal Code:

“...an election shall be held on the first Tuesday in May of each year to elect members of the Town Council. Three (3) members shall be elected in even numbered years and two (2) members in the odd numbered years.”

Town residents will select three candidates in the 2014 election, each to serve on the Council for a two year term.

NOMINATIONS ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for nomination, a resident must have resided in the Town for at least one year immediately preceding the election and be a registered voter in the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase.

NOMINATING PROCEDURES

Residents are encouraged to present by petition their names or those of Town residents who are willing to serve on the Town Council. Blank petitions are available in the Town Office, 4301 Willow Lane, 301-654-7144.

Petitions must contain the following information: the candidate's name, address, occupation, length of residency in the Town, a short biographical sketch and a short statement (limit to 400 words or less), confirmation of willingness to serve if elected, and the endorsing signatures, addresses and telephone numbers of at least five persons, other than the candidate, eligible to vote in the above election.

Petitions must be delivered to the Town Office before 5 p.m. on April 15, 2014, the third Tuesday preceding the election, in order for the candidate's name to appear on the printed ballot.

Petitions may be inspected at the Town Hall on **Tuesday, April 15** between the hours of 5 p.m. – 6 p.m. Any challenges to the petitions or the persons signing the petitions must be made in writing and delivered to the Election Board at the Town Office no later than 9 a.m. on **Wednesday, April 16**. The Election Board may make additional nominations and must do so if an insufficient number of candidates have been nominated by petition to ensure that at least one candidate is nominated for each opening on the Town Council.

CANDIDATES FORUM or MEET AND GREET

If the election is contested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a moderated forum and dialogue with the community on **Thursday, April 24** at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. The Election Board will accept questions in advance from Town residents. If the election is uncontested, the candidates will be invited to participate in a meet and greet event.

FLOOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations from the floor cannot be considered at the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2014 since voting will begin in advance of the meeting.

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.

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS

The name, a short biographical sketch and short statement (not to exceed 400 words) of all candidates will be mailed to all residents two weeks preceding the election.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

Council members and candidates for office are required to submit annual financial disclosure statements. The financial disclosure statement will be available for review at the Town Office by March 1.

VOTING ELIGIBILITY

A resident must be a citizen of the United States, at least eighteen years of age, have resided within the corporate limits of the Town for thirty days preceding the Town election and be a registered, qualified voter of the State of Maryland, Town of Chevy Chase to be eligible to vote.

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 6, 2014**.

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee ballots will be available in the Town Office on **Tuesday, April 22** 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. 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. To be counted, the absentee ballot must be returned to the Town Office in the printed envelope provided by the Town by 8 p.m. on **Election Day, Tuesday, May 6, 2014**.

A Message from Mayor Pat Burda

I want to thank all of you who attended the recent public forums to offer your opinions on ways the Town could use its reserve funds. There was a very good turnout, with over 150 residents attending, and we received very thoughtful comments and suggestions. The Town's Long Range Planning Committee is currently reviewing these comments and will present a report to the Town Council at the [Wednesday, March 12](#) Council meeting. The Council will then use this report to guide development of the FY15 budget.

While the Council may be able to include funds in next year's budget to support many of your ideas, some proposals will need more thorough analysis to determine their feasibility, desirability and cost. In addition, the Council will need to ensure that any recommended programs or services further a public purpose, benefit a significant number of Town residents, and are something a town government can accomplish, either legally or otherwise.

As detailed on page one, the FY15 budget process is underway, and I invite you to attend the public meetings that will be held over the next few months.



March Calendar

Sunday, March 2 - Green Social, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Tuesday, March 4 - Mitigation Advisory Group, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 6 - Community Relations Committee, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 7 - Movie Night for Families, 6 p.m.

Monday, March 10 - Public Services Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 11 - Climate and Environment Committee, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12 - Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, March 14 - Grown-Ups at the Movies, 8 p.m.

Sunday, March 16 - Classical Concert, 4 p.m.

Monday, March 17 - Long Range Planning Committee, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18 - Land Use Committee, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 22 - Progressive Dinner

Wednesday, March 26 - Council Budget Work Session, 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 27 - RainScapes Program, 7 p.m.

Saturday, March 29 - Drum Circle, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar

Spring Trash and Treasures, April 5 and 6

Fifth Annual Town Bake-Off, Sunday, April 27, 2 - 3:30 p.m.

Town Updates

Household Organic Waste Collection Program a Success

Since household organic waste collection service began on Tuesday, January 7, Town residents have composted approximately 5,700 pounds of organic waste! Residents may choose to participate in this program at any time by contacting the Town Office by the last Tuesday of any month. Compost Crew will deliver a five gallon bin to your house on the first Tuesday of the following month, with service beginning the following Tuesday. Collection is every Tuesday. To guarantee collection, residents should place their bin at the curb by 7 a.m. Each week, the contractor wipes out the bin, replaces the liner and returns the bin to the curb. For a compostable materials list, visit the Town website at www.townofchevy Chase.org.

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 by calling 301-654-7144 or emailing townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. You may also request a tree through the Town website at www.townofchevy Chase.org.

Public Tree Edging and Mulching

Throughout the month of March, the Town's contractor will edge and mulch all street and park trees that are 10" or less in diameter.

New Street Light Installations

If you are aware of any street in Town that has a dark area and would like the Town to consider installing a new street light at that location, please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or email townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. For your convenience the Town has provided a street light request form on the Town website at www.townofchevy Chase.org, click on *Make A Request*.

Construction in Bethesda

Construction continues at the Lot 31 project in downtown Bethesda, with nighttime work scheduled through late March to accommodate substantial concrete work at the site. The work will occur two nights per week, with a scheduled start time of 3 a.m. For more information, or to lodge a complaint, please contact the Town Office at 301-654-7144 or the County's Department of Environmental Protection at 240-777-7746.

Election Board 2014

Mayor Pat Burda has appointed Ed Finn to Chair the Election Board for the 2014 election. He will serve with fellow Board members Steve Lawton and Anthula Gross. The Town has contracted with the League of Women Voters to work with the Town's Election Board to administer and monitor the election.

Sign up on the Town's website www.townofchevy Chase.org
to receive Town Crier emails, Alert TOCC voicemail messages
and an electronic copy of the FORECAST.

Council Seeks Volunteers for Power Reliability Task Force

The Town is seeking resident volunteers to serve on the newly-formed Power Reliability Task Force, which will explore options for improving the reliability of electrical service within the Town. At its February meeting, the Town Council approved organizing this task force to explore a broader range of options to address power outages. The Town will continue to work with PEPCO to explore undergrounding utility lines (*see article below*).

The Task Force will consist of residents with interest and expertise related to this topic. David Lublin will serve as the Town Council liaison to the group, which is charged with developing a report with recommendations for consideration by the Town Council.

The Task Force will examine what steps Pepco has or is planning to take to enhance reliability in the Town and what additional actions might be undertaken to reduce the number and length of power outages during future weather events. Additionally, with Council approval, the Task Force may engage outside experts, as needed, to fully evaluate the costs and effectiveness of options for improving reliability.

Town residents interested in participating in the Task Force should send an email by **Friday, March 21** to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org along with information about the expertise that you would bring to the Task Force.

PEPCO Provides Preliminary Estimate for Undergrounding Utility Lines

At its February meeting, the Town Council discussed PEPCO's preliminary cost estimate for undergrounding electrical lines in Town. PEPCO agreed to provide this estimate at the request of the Town Council during the Public Meeting on Undergrounding Utility Lines that was held in December.

PEPCO officials estimate that burying the Town's power lines would cost approximately \$50 million, not including any costs associated with undergrounding telecommunication lines, any upgrade work required by the customer, or installation of new street lights. According to PEPCO, costs incurred by each customer would range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 for meter box upgrades, burying service wires between the right-of-way and a residence, and internal electrical upgrades, if needed.

PEPCO has agreed to provide the Town with a more refined cost estimate, following a survey and inventory of the Town's electrical infrastructure, as well as an estimate to perform a detailed engineering study. More information will be provided in subsequent editions of the newsletter.

Maryland Updates Smoke Alarm Law Important Information for Residents

- Maryland's new smoke alarm law requires the replacement of all battery-only operated smoke alarms with units powered by sealed-in 10 year long-life batteries.
- All smoke alarms have expiration dates. Both hard-wired and battery-operated smoke alarms need to be replaced every ten years. If your smoke alarm has not been replaced since 2003, it's time!
- Location, location, location- smoke alarms are required to be located outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home including basements (finished or unfinished).
- For homes constructed since 1994, smoke alarms have been required inside all sleeping rooms. For maximum protection, fire officials recommend installing smoke alarms in sleeping rooms regardless of the year of construction.
- Homeowners have until January 1, 2018 to comply with the new law. Any resident requiring information or assistance can call 3-1-1.

For more information visit: www.mcfrs.org/mcsafe

Around and About Chevy Chase

CC@ H USHERS in March with Informative Program

On the evening of **Tuesday, March 4**, Babby Landon, a licensed loan officer, will be at the Chevy Chase Village Hall at 7:30 p.m. to address the subject of **Reverse Mortgages: What You Need to Know**. She'll be talking about what they are, who is eligible, the costs involved, the options available, and understanding the practical applications.

On **Saturday, March 8** from 11 am to 12:30 p.m. at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, we have re-scheduled a fascinating presentation by CC@ H volunteer and intrepid traveler Jan Augustine about her recent Road Scholar trip along the Silk Road in Central Asia. Come learn about the customs, history and current affairs of this relatively un-traveled part of the world.

The Brunch Bunch will get together on **Thursday, March 13** from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road. Just drop by, buy a cup of coffee, and join the CC@ H table for some good conversation with neighbors.

And on **Tuesday, March 18**, we'll have our annual M&M St. Patrick's Day celebration with a party, complete with tasty Irish treats, at the CC Village Hall from 2 to 4 p.m.

For those of you who may feel technologically challenged, CC@ H and Chevy Chase Village are jointly offering several tech courses, taught by TechMoxie, a local firm specializing in technology classes for older adults: **Social Media - March 13, Starting Online Genealogy Research - March 20**, and **Digital Photos** - a two-part course meeting **March 27 and April 3**, all at the Chevy Chase Village Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. To learn more go to www.chevychaseathome.org or call 301-657-3115.

Chevy Chase Historical Society Presents

"Memories and Melodies: Peggy Seeger in Conversation with Mary Cliff,"



CHEVY CHASE
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Folksinger Peggy Seeger will reminisce about growing up in Chevy Chase and sing a few tunes in a Chevy Chase Historical Society program for the community on **Saturday, March 15** at 4 p.m. The program, "Memories and Melodies: Peggy Seeger in Conversation with Mary Cliff," will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue, across the street from the Queen Anne house where Peggy Seeger lived in the 1940s and '50s.

Her father, folklorist and musicologist Charles Seeger; her mother, modernist composer Ruth Crawford Seeger; her brother, Mike Seeger, and her half-brother, Pete Seeger, helped spark the folksong revival in mid-20th century America. Peggy Seeger has lived in Britain for more than 30 years and was married to singer and songwriter Ewan MacColl before his death. MacColl wrote "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" about her. Mary Cliff, friend of the Seegers and longtime radio host of the "Traditions" folk music show now heard on WAMU's Bluegrass Country program, will talk with Peggy Seeger about her years in Chevy Chase and her subsequent music career.

Admission to the March 15 program is free, and no reservations are required. But space is limited so it will be a first-come, first-seated event. Questions may be directed to 301-652-5726.

8th Annual "Wine, Chocolate, and Cheese" Sponsored by the B-CC HS Educational Foundation

You are invited to join the community at this popular event for neighbors, alumni, staff, parents, and supporters of Bethesda - Chevy Chase High School on **Thursday, March 13** from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Woman's Club of Chevy Chase, 7931 Connecticut Avenue. Join us to support academic excellence at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School and for a fun community event, with delicious food and drink. Visit www.bccedfoundation.org to learn more, to buy a ticket, and/or to donate to the Foundation. Hope to see you at the event!

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL
Patricia Burda, Mayor
Kathy Strom, Vice Mayor
Al Lang, Secretary
David Lublin, Treasurer
John Bickerman, Community Liaison

Maryland Resident Tax Return 2013 - Form 502

**MARYLAND RESIDENT INCOME
FORM
502 TAX RETURN**



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.

OR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING _____ 2013, ENDING _____

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 ChCh

The FORECAST is published monthly by the Town of Chevy Chase, 4301 Willow Lane, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; townoffice@townofchevychase.org; 301-654-7144; Kathy Strom, Editor. Copies are mailed to each address in the Town and posted on the Town website, www.townofchevychase.org.
