



Town Bulletin

www.washingtongrovemd.org

301-926-2256

April 1, 2023

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Town Council News

Next meeting: Monday, April 10, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom meeting](#) (or dial in to 301-715-8592 using meeting ID: 869 5847 3699).

Actions at the March 13, 2023 Town Council Meeting

- Deferred awarding of landscape and maintenance contract to the March 27th Special Town Council Meeting or March 29th Town Council Budget Work Session.
- Deferred awarding of the stormwater management contract until April 10th Town Council meeting.

Actions at the March 27, 2023 Special Town Council Meeting

- Awarded the Landscape and Maintenance Contract to RJ Landscapers for April 1, 2023 - June 30, 2025.

Mayor's Kudos

- Thanks to Tom Land and Peter Nagrod for installing fallen signposts.
 - **Major** kudos to Emily Cavey for running Summer in the Parks for 15 years!!
-

A Celebration of Darrell Anderson's Life

Sadly for his family, friends and the entire Town, former Town Councilor and Mayor Darrell Anderson passed away on March 2.

From Paula Puglisi and Merida Anderson:

A Celebration of Darrell's Life will be held at McCathran Hall in Washington Grove from 2pm - 6pm on Saturday, April 29, 2023. Please know that we will not be offended if you cannot attend. We have a lot of support. We just want to give you the option.

In lieu of flowers or gifts, Darrell's family would be grateful for your donations in Darrell's name to [The Good Hearts Foundation](#).

The first part of the celebration will be at McCathran Hall, where we will serve drinks and finger foods. We will be storytelling and sharing photos of Darrell, so be ready to tell a tale or memory if you would like to speak. We will have a guest book if you want to share in writing.

After we finish at the Hall, we will head down the road a couple of blocks to our house for the party that Darrell wanted. The party is potluck; please bring a salad or a side dish. We will arrange music and drinks and some food.

We would be grateful for people who would be willing to help set up and clean up at the Hall and at our house. If you want to help, please email washingtongrovecares@gmail.com.

Please dress comfortably, preferably not in black (per Darrell's wishes), and bring your dancing shoes. We are celebrating his life with love, tears, and laughter.

Planning Commission in Need of a New Member

The Town's Planning Commission plays a vital role in maintaining and protecting and enhancing the quality of life in Washington Grove. As a Commissioner, you continue the Town tradition of residents volunteering their time, energy and judgement to insure that the important business of the Planning Commission is carried out to the benefit of our community.

The Planning Commission is looking for a volunteer to serve as the alternate member on the Commission. The alternate participates in all meetings and discussions and votes when a regular Commission member is unable to be present. Interested individuals should contact Mayor Compton for more information at 240-432-5700 or johncompton@me.com.

Elections News

Saturday, May 13 is Election Day in Washington Grove. In-person voting will be at McCathran Hall from 4-7 pm, with results announced at the annual Town Meeting that night. We will elect a Mayor to a one-year term, two Town Councilors to three-year terms, and one Town Councilor to a two-year term. For those wishing to vote absentee, ballots will be available after the close of nominations on April 10.

Nominations require the signatures of two residents as nominators as well as a signature of acceptance from the nominee. They can be submitted to the Board of Election Supervisors directly or given to Kathy in the Town Office. Nominations for Council must indicate if they are for the two-year term or one of the three-year terms. If you have questions, the Board members are Mary Blake, Margo Cavenagh, Dave Hicks, and Nick Suzich at nicholassuzich@gmail.com.

Candidates for Mayor must have resided in Town for two years immediately preceding the election. Candidates for Council must have resided in Town for one year immediately preceding the election. A qualified voter is defined as anyone registered to vote in Montgomery County at a Washington Grove address. Newer residents are urged to [check their registration here](#) and update as necessary in order to become eligible.

Nominations in hand so far:

- Mayor: John Compton
- Council (3-year): Peter Nagrod

Maryland State Income Tax Washington Grove Subdivision Code: 1612

Every year the Town of Washington Grove receives a portion of the Maryland State income tax paid by Town residents. Because most residents do not have mail delivered to street addresses, this presents a challenge for the State Comptroller's office when attributing the taxes collected to Washington Grove. It is critical that all Washington Grove residents (including renters) designate "1612" and "Washington Grove" on the tax form. For those filing electronically or using software, there should be a drop-down menu to select Washington Grove. Please share this information with your renters and your tax preparer if appropriate. This DOES NOT increase your taxes but DOES help ensure the Town receives its proper share of income tax revenue. Thanks for your help! Questions? Call Treasurer Jean Moyer at 301-775-1168.



MC DOT Meeting on the Washington Grove Connector Project

The project will evaluate the feasibility of creating a shared use path connecting Crabbs Branch Way and the Grove. This path could potentially connect to Amity Drive, Brown Street, Railroad Street, or other areas based on the results of public input and the study. Join this hybrid (in person and virtual) meeting and learn about project progress and schedule; proposed pedestrian and bicycle improvements; and the cost estimate and other potential impacts. [Learn more \(click on Participate tab\)](#).

Attention Grovers! Please submit your information for the forthcoming Town directory ASAP

[Get the form here](#). Then:

- Mail it to Mimi Bolotin at PO Box 321, or
- Email it to washingtongrovedirectory@gmail.com, or

- Drop it off at the Town Office.

Washington Grove's 150th Celebration

Next Meeting: April 25, 2023, 7:30 pm

In the late summer of 1873, thousands of people turned out for the first official camp convened by the Washington Grove Camp Meeting Association. A massive effort went into the planning for this event, that would over time, evolve into what we know today as our own hometown.

In 2023, plans are underway to celebrate and commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the founding of Washington Grove. Celebratory events will primarily take place in August, but we need your ideas and input *now* in order to understand how townspeople would like to commemorate and participate in this historic occasion. Please take a few minutes to complete a survey that will help us understand your preferences. [Take the survey now](#), or access it from the [home page of the Town website](#).



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News from Grove Boards and Commissions

Historic Preservation Commission News

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 7:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via ZOOM. For a copy of the agenda, email Chair Bob Booher at booherfamily@comcast.net.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

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Planning Commission News

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 5, 2023, 7:30 pm. The public is invited to attend this virtual meeting via ZOOM. As part of the Town's response to the COVID-19 crisis, this Planning Commission meeting will be conducted online, rather than in person. Residents and the public may access these meetings [by Zoom videoconference](#), or dial in to 301-715-8592, meeting ID: 881 3713 5118 and following the audio instructions.

Please make sure your name is associated with your zoom device in order to be admitted from the Waiting Room.

Building Permit Submission Deadline

The deadline to submit a building permit application for approval by the Planning Commission and review by the Historic Preservation Commission is **the 2nd Wednesday of the month** prior to the PC meeting at which the permit will be reviewed (this will be in the following month). This timing ensures the HPC will be able to complete a formal review before the PC meeting as this review is required for the PC to approve the permit in a timely fashion. If you are considering any renovation or building project at your house, be sure to get a copy of the procedures to apply for a Town Building Permit which will help you through the Town's process.

Building Permits Approved in March

- 405 Brown Street - Addition
- 103 Brown Street - Pool

Public Ways & Property Permits (PW&PP) Approved in March

- None

PC Work Session

The Planning Commission will hold a work session at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 19, 2023. The meeting will take place on ZOOM. The agenda will be available off of the website home page.

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News from Grove Committees

Emergency Preparedness and Safety Committee News

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 27, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

By Phone: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 880 7248 2408

Passcode: 066340

The EPSC continues to work on town safety issues to include pedestrian crossing and motor vehicle speed along Washington Grove Lane and Railroad Street; storm water flooding along public road and town parks due to obstructed culverts; and emergency preparedness for our town and its residents. The EPSC is currently reviewing and providing comments on the Montgomery County Hazard Mitigation Plan (2018) for County updates. The EPSC is interested to know from town residents of any emergency preparedness and safety issues of your concern. We appreciate your attendance at our monthly meetings to share your ideas and concerns. New members are always welcome, too!

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Forestry & Beautification News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 12, 2023, 7:30 p.m.

[Join ZOOM Meeting](#)

The Forestry & Beautification Committee had our first walk to choose spring tree planting sites on March 21. Our agenda will be available from the F&B page on the Town web site by Monday April 10. If you have a suggestion for where a new tree is needed, please contact one of the F&B Co-Chairs Georgette Cole (georgettewg@gmail.com) or Audrey Maskery (trees.beautification@gmail.com), or our Council Liaison Barbara Raimondo (councilorbarb@gmail.com).

Free Trees for Your Property

Tree Montgomery is a FREE program to plant shade trees across Montgomery County, Maryland. Its goal is simple – to plant shade trees and increase our tree canopy, which will provide an array of benefits for you and for our community. Many of the large old trees that have died in town in recent years were on private property. This is an opportunity to help replace them without cost to the homeowner. Tree Montgomery's trees are more than 10 feet tall when planted and will eventually grow to more than 50 feet tall, providing benefits for you and for town. Over 3 dozen species of trees are available for planting. Full information is at treemontgomery.org.

Several town residents have successfully used this program. If you are interested but feel a little overwhelmed by the process, please know that the Forestry & Beautification Committee is ready to help. Contact Georgette Cole georgettewg@gmail.com, Audrey Maskery trees.beautification@gmail.com, Jay Everhart j54ay@icloud.com, or Deb Mehlferber dkmehlferber@gmail.com to get started.

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Gateway Committee News

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 20, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

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Lake Committee News

Lake Committee meetings are the second Tuesday of every month.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 11, 2023, 7:30 pm

This will be a hybrid meeting (both in person, in the Council Room, and by [Zoom](#)). New members welcome and encouraged! Call John Hutchinson or Tom Land if you have any questions or suggestions.

Maple Lake Cleanup

The annual cleanup will be on **Saturday, April 15th at 10 am**. Please join and bring your leaf rake, shovel, and wheelbarrow if you have one. Rain date is Sunday, April 16th at noon. Call Tom Land at 240-801-0646 for details or questions.

Looking for Lifeguards and Lake Guards for Summer 2023

Lifeguards are needed for Maple Lake this summer. Hours are from 12-6pm, seven days a week (including ½ hour break). Lifeguard pay is \$17/hour. Lifeguards must be certified in lifesaving, CPR, and first aid (we can help pay for the training.) Call Tom Land or John Hutchinson for details. Lake guards are also needed, and hours are the same as for lifeguards. The lake guards will assist the lifeguards. Pay is \$15/hour. Call Tom Land or John Hutchinson for details.

Looking for a Swim Instructor for Summer 2023

Swim instructor needed for the month of July in afternoons. Pay is \$20/hour. Call Sung Chang.

Geese at Maple Lake

We use the Humane Society's protocol to humanely prevent eggs from hatching in the spring. A pair of geese has nested in an area easily accessible to our egg-oiling team in past years. They drive away the other geese during nesting season and then leave when their eggs do not hatch. Please do not feed or harass the nesting pair or disturb the nest. If you see a nest built, please call John Hutchinson. We encourage visitors to the lake to take along a plastic bag and scoop droppings. THANKS!

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Lighting Committee News

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 26, 2023 at 7:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 961 798 0177

The Lighting Committee is working with other Maryland municipalities to work out a process to allow the option of municipal streetlight ownership.

Mayor John Compton and many others testified in support of Maryland Assembly HB 459, enabling legislation for municipal streetlight ownership. Municipalities around the U.S.A. that have switched to street light ownership have saved money and improved service. Cities and towns are motivated to save energy while utilities derive their income by selling electricity, so the motivation is different.

Last week the House of Delegates overwhelmingly passed HB459 on a bipartisan vote. HB459 is also supported by the climate change and sustainability communities in Maryland.

The bill is now being presented to the Maryland Senate. Due to the speed of crossover bills the window to send support letters is very tight. The next step is a hybrid public hearing in the Senate's Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, at 1 pm on Tuesday, March 28th.

Much will have happened by the time this bulletin is published, but we are keeping our fingers crossed and we will continue to update the Town.

Questions, ideas or concerns? Please contact Virginia Quesada at 301 706-7933 (cell) or vq@qmediainc.com, or Robert N. Johnson at rnj@elecdev.com.

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Racial and Social Equity Committee News

Next meeting: Sunday, April 23, 2023, 2:00 pm.

[Join ZOOM Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 874 1892 4038

Passcode: 228324

Due to holidays and spring breaks, our meeting is on Sunday, April 23, 2:00- 3:30 pm. All are welcome. There will be no meeting in May. The *Deconstructing Karen* documentary and discussion groups have been postponed until June.

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Recreation Committee News

Summer in the Parks - Washington Grove's Summer Camp for Kids

Washington Grove's popular day camp, Summer in the Parks, will be held this year on Monday through Friday, **June 27-July 21**, with no camp on July 4. Camp will likely run from 9am to 1:30pm.

This fun and affordable camp is open to **rising kindergarteners through rising seventh graders, both residents and non-residents**, and financial assistance is available for those who need it. Camper applications will be available on the town website by the end of April. Summer in the Parks is a great way for kids in the Grove to make lifelong bonds with their neighbors! We are looking to hire for **a few paying staff positions for camp**. Please find links to the job descriptions below:

- [Camp Director](#)
- [Senior Counselor](#)
- [Junior Counselor](#)

The Camp Director position is perfect for an energetic, organized college student or recent college graduate with experience working with kids. Counselors should be high school age or older. Know someone who is interested in applying? Please have them contact the **Camp**

Moderator, Eva Patrone, at counciloreva@gmail.com. We will be taking high school volunteers for camp as well.

Are you interested in helping out with SITP? Contact Eva at counciloreva@gmail.com. A planning meeting will be held soon via Zoom, and we can also use volunteers any time during the weeks of camp.

Yoga in the Grove Continues!

Town resident and certified yoga instructor Rachel Schwartz will continue to offer a **free yoga class on Tuesday evenings from 6-7pm in McCathran Hall**. Rachel practices Ashtanga and teaches a vinyasa (flow) class with modifications for all levels. Please bring your own mat and feel free to bring blocks if you use them. The class ends on our backs with a cooling relaxation, so consider bringing a sweatshirt or fleece.

Yoga is free for Washington Grove residents. Non-residents may attend for \$10 a class (cash only, please).

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Sustainability Committee News

Next Meetings: Tuesday, April 4, 2023, 7:30 pm and Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 7:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 344 019 9688

“Earth Day in Washington Grove” — Saturday, April 22

Washington Grove is celebrating its 150th anniversary this year. As part of the commemoration, the Sustainability Committee is sponsoring “Earth Day 2023”— a day to appreciate all that our Town offers for living in the “Town Within the Forest” and to learn more about how to secure the future of this unique community. Several activities are planned. We hope you can come.

Kids’ Scavenger Hunt

Starting at McCathran Hall at 3:30 pm.

Composting Displays

Outside the Hall 3:30 - 5:30 pm

- Ask your questions about best composting practices.
- Montgomery County will give you a free compost bin at several [convenient locations \(PDF\)](#).
- And, prior to Earth Day, [please join us Wednesday, April 19, 7:30 pm, for a Zoom presentation](#) (Meeting ID: 890 4592 5805; Passcode: 854030) on composting and recycling by Alan Pultyniewicz, Montgomery County’s Recycling Coordinator.

Community Garden

Open for touring and working in the garden from 3:30 - 5:00 PM.

Earth Day-Related Vendor Information Tables

- Outside the Hall 3:30 - 5:30 pm
- Learn about community solar electricity and organic lawn care, robot mowing, and sustainable landscaping service.

Meatless Potluck Dinner

- 5:30 - 6:45 pm in the Hall
- Meat accounts for over 40% of the greenhouse gases from food consumption, so we're hosting a non-meat potluck.
- To make this a low-impact event, we are asking you to bring:
 - A favorite meatless main dish, salad, or dessert to share. [Sign up here to bring something.](#)
 - Place settings, including utensils, for your family; and
 - If you like, a copy of your favorite meatless recipe to leave in a basket in the hall to be shared later.
- We'll have cold water, low-sugar lemonade, and beer available; please bring anything else you'd like to drink.
- A goal of this sustainability event is to generate as little trash as possible; reusable products are encouraged.

Stay for the Film and Discussion

- 7:00 - 9:00 pm
- We'll be showing [No Impact Man](#), a documentary about a man who took drastic steps to curb his environmental impact, with a discussion afterward for those who can stay.

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Woods Committee News

Next meeting: Monday, April 3, 2023, 7:30 pm.

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

By Phone: 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 818 5176 8943

Passcode: 463384

Stormwater management contract. The Woods Committee will be submitting to the Town Council a comparison of three proposal bids submitted for stormwater mitigation in sections of Town west of Grove Avenue that experience flooding and channel high volumes of water in the West Woods resulting in significant soil erosion and tree damage.

Fallen trees. A reminder to please use caution when entering the Woods, especially on windy days. If you discover fallen trees blocking trails, please contact Joan Mahaffey or Patty Klein, Woods Committee Co-chairs. Please do NOT try to remove or cut back fallen trees on your own without first contacting the Mayor or Woods Committee co-chairs. Your safety comes first!

Trail markers. All the East and West Woods trail marker signs have been placed to help everyone stay on the walking trails to protect understory native plant vegetation. Please do not walk or bike on trails that are too wet and muddy to avoid rutting and soil erosion. We hope these precautions allow you to experience our Woods Preserves in a safer and more enjoyable way.

Calling Town Artists! The Woods Committee has requested Town Council approval to restore Whetstone Spring in the West Woods to mark the 150th Anniversary of Washington Grove. The Mayor is requiring a diagram rendition of the restoration plan before we can proceed. Please contact us ASAP if you can help prepare this rendition so we can begin project work in April.

Arbor Day. A work session celebrating Arbor Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th from 9:30 to 12:00 to protect trees from over-browsing, remove invasive plants and pick up trash. Please hold the date. Further information will be provided as the date approaches. Enjoy and protect our Forest Preserves.

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News from Other Grove Organizations

Film Society News

The small group that selects and screen the movies for the Washington Grove Film Society would be pleased welcome new people. If you have any interest in being part of the team, please contact Bob Christin at 202-361-5514 or bob_christin@hotmail.com.

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WG United Methodist Church News



Please join us at 11:00 AM Sundays

[Join our Zoom meetings](#)

Meeting ID: 964 361 1456; the password, if requested, is **Church**

You are invited to join us on **Sunday April 9th** for Easter Sunrise Service at 6:15 am in the field off Ridge Road, then breakfast, followed by a 10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt at the Church and the 11:00 am service.

WGUMC is a reconciling congregation. We believe that each person is a precious creation of God and is of sacred worth. We welcome persons of every gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, and physical or mental ability into full participation in the life of this faith community. We celebrate the gift of love and affirm all loving relationships and marriages.

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Woman's Club News

First Saturday Coffee and Donuts Series Begins April 1

Join us on each first Saturday of the month this Spring for a casual donut and coffee 'meet and greet.' That's April 1, May 6, and June 3. We'll be announcing the theme of each month's event in this newsletter and via the WG email listserv. On April Fool's Day, we're hosting a Flea Sale at the Clubhouse.



For the May 6 Coffee and Donuts, we're asking you to help us support Archways families in the community, to ensure that their children still get a good breakfast each day, even though schools are closed for the summer. Please consider bringing breakfast cereal, pancake mix and syrup, granola bars and other wholesome breakfast items for the kids.

Bringing Comfort through Home-Cooked Meals

In a few more weeks, we'll be sending out a Signup Genius link for [Interfaith Works](#) Priscilla's House dinners for May, June and July. The women at Priscilla's house look forward to this home-cooked meal each month, and we hope we'll continue to get great support from our volunteers for the next quarter.

Clothing Collection Continues

For our partnership with Emory Grove United Methodist Church, we're continuing to collect used clothing in good condition. The church picks up and distributes the clothing to people in the community on the third weekend of each month. Drop off your donations at the Clubhouse porch or on Wendy's porch at 119 Grove Avenue.

Ongoing Charitable Outreach

The needs are ongoing throughout the year, particularly for the monthly boxes of Non-SNAP items. Drop off your donations at the Clubhouse or on the porch at 119 Grove Road. Checks may be made out-to the Woman's Club (WCWG). Designate on the check if you want the money to go towards a specific effort. Send checks to Cynthia Werts at 410 Oak Street, PO Box 354.

Membership Dues

Not a member of the Woman's Club yet? We welcome all Grovers to join and support the social, civic, cultural and philanthropic work of the WGWC. See how to join the club on [our web page](#).

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Other Notices

Gaithersburg Farmers Market

Come visit us at the Casey Community Center Farmers Market to enjoy some fresh locally grown fruits and vegetables. Come get some eggs, beef or pork ready to put on the grill. Bring home

some savory homemade breads or artisan sweets. Get some fresh ground coffee. How about some made to order, bags of Trail Mix. A different food truck vendor is there to serve lunch when open. Or, just come by and chat with all the friendly vendors and neighbors that are visiting that day. FMNP, eWIC and SNAP are accepted at the Casey Farmers Market through the Market Money Match Program. The Market is open every 3rd Thursday in December through April and every Thursday from May through November. We are there from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm. Casey Community Center, 810 South Frederick Avenue. [Learn more here.](#)

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Coming Events Calendar

April 3	Woods Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 4	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
April 5	Planning Commission	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 9	Town Hall Private Rental	All Day	
April 10	Town Council	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 11	Lake Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 11	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
April 12	Forestry & Beautification	7:30 pm	ZOOM
APRIL 12	BUILDING PERMIT SUBMISSION DEADLINE		
April 13	Montgomery Parks Presentation	6:30 pm	9:00 pm
April 15	Lake Clean Up	10:00 am	Maple Lake
April 18	Historic Preservation Commission	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 18	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
April 20	Gateway Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 20	Swing Time Big Band Rehearsal	6:30 pm	Town Hall
April 22	Earth Day Activities		Town Hall
April 23	RASEC	2:00 pm	ZOOM
April 25	Yoga	6:00 pm	Town Hall
April 26	Lighting Committee	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 27	Emergency Preparedness Safety Cmte.	7:30 pm	ZOOM
April 29	Celebration of Life for Darrell Anderson	2:00 pm	Town Hall

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