



**Winter
Edition
Newsletter**

Message From The Mayor's Desk

I hope everyone enjoyed a very happy Holiday Season with family and friends. As we begin 2024, I challenge all of us to focus on improving the quality of life in Laurel for residents of all ages. We have all heard the saying "It takes a village". Those are very true words. Town government, State government, Federal government, non-profit service organizations, churches, businesses, and our residents need to work together to accomplish the objective.

General Colin Powell, born of immigrant parents, grew up in the Harlem section of New York City. He rose to become a well respected decorated Army General, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and first black Secretary of State. Later in life he founded a non-profit organization named "America's Promise". As leader of that organization General Powell said "There are five things kids need to have in life; responsible caring adults in their lives; safe places to learn and grow; a healthy start in life; a marketable skill, and an opportunity to serve".

Our "Village Team" must work together to make General Powell's vision reality in the Laurel community: We must

- help our community's youth see the promise of a good education and a rewarding career,
- promote economic development to provide jobs while adding wealth to our tax base,
- promote the recreational opportunities of our parks, playgrounds, and athletic fields,
- encourage people of all ages that dialogue rather than physical violence is the best way to resolve issues.

The Town has several developments, both commercial and residential, in the pipeline. I hope some of these new projects break ground soon and begin construction. I know many of our citizens are anxiously waiting for the reopening of the Chinese restaurant in the former Walt's Barber Shop building and the reconstructed Britt's restaurant.

I believe in the promise of America as General Powell did. I believe for Laurel and America the best days are yet to come. I hope you will join me in turning these beliefs into reality. Let's make 2024 a memorable year of positive change.

Mayor John J. Shwed

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Disponibilidad de boletines informativos listos para español

Para hogares de habla hispana

Tenga en cuenta que las copias del Boletín de la Ciudad de Laurel estarán disponibles en español en Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street. Los boletines informativos de la ciudad se publican trimestralmente con una edición de invierno, una edición de primavera / verano y una edición de otoño que se envía por correo a los residentes. Copias del Programa de Basura, Reciclaje y Desperdicio de Jardín también están disponibles en español en Laurel Town Hall, 201 Mechanic Street.



**Town of Laurel's
"6th Annual Trunk or Treat"
Trunk Vendors - 2023**

Local Businesses, Organizations, and Charities

- Laurel Public Library
 - A&K Enterprise
- Josh Bailey, State Farm
- Phoenix Physical Therapy
 - Laurel Lions Club
- Laurel Community Foundation
- Laurel Fire Dept & Auxiliary
 - Atkins Agri-Seed
 - The Metal Shop
- **Johnny Janosik (BEST TRUNK)**
- Eastern Shore Veterinary Hospital
 - Peninsula Bath
- Hollybrook (Severn Management)
 - Carey's
- Laurel Women's Civic Club
- A Father's Heart & Vital Church
- Councilwoman Cheryl Martin

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION & COMMITMENT TO OUR COMMUNITY!!!

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



BLOCK GRANT

Community Development Block Grant

Why Hold A Public Hearing?

The Town of Laurel's Mayor & Council held a Public Hearing on Monday, November 20, 2023, pertaining the CDBG Funding. Mr. Mike Jones from Sussex County Development Office was in attendance to present the funding to Mayor & Council and to town citizens. The purpose of holding a public hearing is for Mr. Jones to explain the funding and to allow Mayor & Council and town citizens to ask any questions they may have pertained the funding.

What is CDBG Funding?

CDBG Funding is funding that is funded through the Delaware State Housing Authority where both Kent and Sussex County competitively apply for. The purpose of CDBG Funding is to assist households who are considered low to moderate income levels for housing projects.

CDBG Funding Requirements

- An applicant must own and reside in their own home to receive funding.
- An applicant's taxes both town taxes and county taxes must be current along with insurance.

CDBG Funding Housing Projects

The funding goes towards housing rehabilitation projects that can include roofs, windows, doors, electric, and heating etc.

Town of Laurel's: CDBG Funding

The Town of Laurel has received \$452,000 throughout the years and the town currently has 18 households on the waiting list.

CDBG Funding Applications

Applications are available either at Laurel Town Hall or at the Sussex County Office.



Town of Laurels' Curfew Ordinance Update

Operating West Laurel members attended the October Mayor & Council Meeting to present a proposed amendment to the towns Chapter 69, Juvenile Curfew, Section 69-2 to help deter the youth crime rate.

Operation West Laurel

Operation West Laurel was formed with the purpose to advocate and empower the youth and the residents with the help of partnering with local churches. The main purpose of Operation West Laurel is to inform citizens and residents, stressed the importance of apartment safety measures, and holding weekly community prayer walks. Their goal is to provide a safer, a cleaner, and a drug free community. With holding their weekly community prayer walks they have reached over to 200 people.

Town of Laurel's Former Curfew Ordinance

The towns current code stated that it shall be unlawful for any person 15 years of age or less (under 16) to be or remain in or upon any public place within the Town of Laurel during the period ending at 6:00 a.m. and beginning:

- A. at 12:00 midnight on Friday and Saturday nights and**
- B. eleven p.m. on all other nights.**

Operation West Laurel proposed to amend the curfew days/times for Sunday through Thursday with a 10:00 p.m. curfew and Friday through Saturday with a 11:00 p.m. curfew for with a discussion per the age limit.

Town of Laurel's Updated Curfew Ordinance

Chapter 69, Section 1B, Definitions will be amended to Juvenile- any unemancipated person 17 years or less of age. Chapter 69, Section 2, Curfew for Juveniles will eliminate Subsection A & B and replace with the following:

- A. At eleven p.m. on all evenings (Monday-Sunday)**

The updated ordinance doesn't acquire anyone to remain inside their home and this ordinance is only enforceable in public places excluding private property and common places.

Violations of Updated Curfew Ordinance

- The first violation will be a written response warning given to the juvenile's parents.
- The second violation will be a \$50.00 fine where they must attend the Alderman Court.

1st and 2nd Readings of Ordinance

1st Reading: Monday, November 20, 2023

2nd Reading: Monday, December 18, 2023

Updated Curfew Ordinance Enforceable
Ordinance will be effective beginning
January 1, 2024



Economic Development Update

The Town of Laurel's P&Z Committee met frequently throughout the summer and fall months pertaining a future proposed housing development. In early spring, the Laurel Redevelopment Corporation (LRC) submitted a Concept Plan to P&Z featuring a proposed starter home community known as the LRC Riverfront on West Front Street. The proposed property is owned by the LRC.

LRC Riverfront Proposed Features

- 28 townhomes/semidetached with a cottage style appearance.
- Zoned Marine Resources.
- Units will feature a separation of façade appearing if they were actually separate units, but still attached units.
- The units will be for sale, and be owner occupied.
- Units will feature 3 bedrooms and 2 ½ bathrooms.
- Project was awarded Downtown Development District (DDD) funding.

Submittals & Approvals

Concept Plan: Submitted March 8, 2023

Preliminary Site Plan: Submitted August 9, 2023.

Public Hearing: Held September 13, 2023.

P&Z Meeting Dates

The Town of Laurel's P&Z Committee meet on an as needed basis on the second Wednesday of each month at Laurel Town Hall in the Mayor & Council Chambers beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please note agendas are posted one week prior of the scheduled meeting on the town's website: www.townoflaurel.net.

Know the Code



Snow & Ice Removal

Just a reminder that snow or ice must be removed from the sidewalks and pavements within 24 hours after the falling snow has ceased.

The Town Manager is authorized to remove any accumulated snow and ice from any property located within the corporate limits of the Town of Laurel whose owner fails to remove accumulated snow or ice within 24 hours.

Just A Reminder

If possible, remove vehicles parked on the road to allow for plowing.

Town Reminder Dates



**Mayor & Council Schedule
January - April 2024**

Listed below are the Town of Laurel's Mayor & Council Schedule for January 2024 through April 2024.

January 2024

- Tuesday, January 2, 2024*
- Tuesday, January 16, 2024

February 2024

- Monday, February 5, 2024*
- Tuesday, February 20, 2024

March 2024

- Monday, March 4, 2024*
- Monday, March 18, 2024

April 2024

- Monday, April 1, 2024*
- Monday, April 15, 2024

Mayor & Council Agenda's

Agenda's are posted one week prior at Laurel Town Hall and the town's website at www.townoflaure.net. Please note if you wish to attend virtually a ZOOM Link and a Dial-In number are listed below on the agenda. (1st Meetings of Each Month are Held If Needed.)



**Town Hall Closing Dates
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

- Monday, January 15, 2024

Presidents Day

- Monday, February 19, 2024

RECYCLING IN DELAWARE

ACCEPTED IN BIN
Place only these materials loose, empty, clean and dry in your recycling cart or dumpster.



NOT ACCEPTED IN BIN
Keep these items out of your recycling cart or dumpster.



For More Information Visit: www.dswa.com or call 1-800-404-7080



Republic Service Recycle Change

Please note that your Recycling Pick-Up Day is every other Tuesday. The recycling day change became effective June 6, 2023. Please review your monthly trash, yard waste, and recycle calendar below. If you have any questions, please feel free in reaching out to Laurel Town Hall at 302-875-2277.

NOTE: RECYCLING CAN NOT BE PLACED IN YOUR YARDWASTE CANISTER. IF SO, REPUBLIC SERVICE WILL NOT PICK-UP YOUR YARD WASTE CANITSER.

January 2024				Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	3 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	4	5 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	6
7	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	10 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	11	12 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	13
14	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	17 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	18	19 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	20
21	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	24 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	25	26 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	27
28	29	30 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	31 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	1	2 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

<u>February 2024</u>				<u>Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule</u>		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	3
4	5	6 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	7 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	10
11	12	13 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	14 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	17
18	19	20 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	21 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	24
25	26	27 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	28 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	29	1 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	

<u>March 2024</u>				<u>Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule</u>		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	2
3	4	5 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	6 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	7	8 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	9
10	11	12 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	13 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	14	15 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	16
17	18	19 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	20 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	21	22 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	23
24	25	26 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	27 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	28	29 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	30/31

<u>April 2024</u>				<u>Trash, Recycle, Yard Waste Schedule</u>		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	3 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE	4	5 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	6
7	8	9 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	10 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	11	12 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	13
14	15	16 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	17 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	18	19 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	20
21	22	23 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE WEST SIDE	24 YARD WASTE WEST SIDE OF TOWN	25	26 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	27
28	29	30 TRASH PICK-UP EAST SIDE RECYCLE EAST SIDE	1 YARD WASTE EAST SIDE OF TOWN	2	3 TRASH PICK-UP WEST SIDE OF TOWN	4



National Pie Day

In today's world pies have become clearly versatile and creative no matter what type of pie you order. Bakers have created delicious versions of pies that adorn your tables during the holidays or just simply at your Sunday dinner. Many of us may refer to pies with just a warm fruit filling or a an indulgent custard filling to satisfy our aching sweet tooth. Did you know pies were first introduced as a savory dish before they became a staple dessert in America (National Today, 2023).

History of Pie

The origin of pie dates all the way back to the Ancient Romans where they prepared a rye-crustured goat cheese and honey pie. The Romans developed an array of pies including meat, seafood and fruit. One of their specialty pies they created was called a placenta, which is a dense pie comparable to today's cheesecakes. While today many of us enjoy consuming the flakey buttery crust once the filling and toppings are consumed. During the early years, the crust was known to be the vehicle where the filling was placed to maintain the moisture and to prevent burning. Pie eventually was introduced in England in the 12th century where pies were filled with meat. It was noted that the first American Thanksgiving wasn't affixed with your traditional pumpkin pie, sweet potato pie, or pecan pie that we're a custom to. It's noted that sweet pies didn't become popular until the 1800's. Without a doubt sweet pies easily outsell savories pies today (National Today, 2023)

National Pie Day Originated

National Pie Day originated by Charlie Papazian in the 1970's to encourage everyone to take a break with one of America's most cherished desserts (National Today, 2023).

NATIONAL PIE DAY

Tuesday, January 23, 2024



America's Favorite Pies

America's Favorite Pies Ranked

- (1.) *Cherry***
- (2.) *Pumpkin***
- (3.) *Apple***
- (4.) *Pecan***
- (5.) *Blueberry***
- (6.) *Chocolate***
- (7.) *Key Lime***
- (8.) *Boston Cream***
- (9.) *Banana Cream***
- (10.) *Lemon Meringue***



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Laurel, Delaware 19956