



Forecast



NOVEMBER 2022

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Wednesday, November 2
Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 3
Climate/Environment*, 6 p.m.

Monday, November 7
Land Use*, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 9
Town Council, 7 p.m.

Friday, November 11
Family Movie Night, 5:30 p.m.
see page 3

Veterans Day
Town Office Closed

Monday, November 14
Book Club, 7 p.m.
see page 3

Tuesday, November 15
Public Services*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 17
Long Range Planning*, 7 p.m.

Sunday, November 20
Petting Zoo in the Park, 1 p.m.
see page 3

November 24-25
Thanksgiving Holiday
Town Office Closed

* Town Committee meeting

Please visit the website calendar
for more information on, and
instructions to join, these meetings.

Community Connections & Staying Safe

As we thankfully emerge from the pandemic and enter what is traditionally a cherished time on the calendar for family and friends to gather and celebrate the holidays together, I am reminded of the extraordinary generosity of time and talents by residents who participate on Town committees. All do very important work, and in this message, I would like to spotlight the Community Relations and Public Services Committees. Their efforts continue to keep us more connected and safer in a world that feels more impersonal each day.

This holiday season, the Community Relations Committee, which is co-chaired by Tandra Leonard and Quynh Tran, offers something for everyone young or wise in years. If you want to sing or support local theater along with fellow residents, you can attend our *Holiday Sing-Along Walkabout* or a performance of *The Tempest* at the Roundhouse Theater. If you want to 'pay it forward,' you can donate to the *Holiday Gift Drive for Domestic Violence Victims* or shop at the *Children's Holiday Bazaar*. If you want to meet other young families, you can join an upcoming *Family Movie Night* or *Petting Zoo in the Park*. Finally, if you wish for something more cerebral, you can attend a *Discussion & Desserts* book colloquy.

We encourage all residents to attend at least one event this season and, perhaps more importantly, bring a neighbor that you may have lost touch with over the last couple of years. As the great Ferris Bueller once said, "Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."

Two other important reasons to re-connect are to welcome the dozens of new families who moved into our lovely neighborhood during the pandemic and to share any safety suggestions or concerns whether they be about traffic, speeding, parking, crosswalks, or another interest. These salient topics are taken up by our Public Services Committee, which is chaired by Howard Berkof. As we all recalibrate given the new state of work, the committee is focused on preparing for 5G infrastructure installations (while preserving our canopy tree and maintaining neighborhood aesthetics) and implementing recommendations from our latest traffic study. To say that committee members put in many hours of work to ensure that no detail is overlooked would be an understatement. We owe these and all the other committees a debt of gratitude for their commitment.

Neighbors who know each other will care about each other. I look forward to seeing you all this season.

– Councilmember Irene Lane

Public Hearings Scheduled for November Council Meeting

The following public hearings are scheduled for the November 9 Town Council meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall and via Zoom video conference, you may submit comments to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Amending the Town's Telecommunications Law

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to amend the Town's Telecommunications law related to small cell (5G) deployments. In 2019, the Town adopted an ordinance to regulate small cell/5G infrastructure in the Town's rights-of-way. Recently, the Town's Public Services Committee reviewed the ordinance, along with telecommunications counsel, to make recommendations for amendments. Among other things, the amendments include restrictions on the sizing of equipment boxes, the number of antennae that may be installed on a single pole, and the trimming of trees. A complete copy of the ordinance is available for review on the Town website.

Speed Hump Request -- 3900 Block of Blackthorn Street

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on a request for speed humps on the 3900 block of Blackthorn Street. The Town performed a traffic speed and volume study, and while the results do not meet the Town's qualifying thresholds for speed humps in this location, the Town Council has agreed to hold a public hearing on the request. For more information, please call 301-654-7144.

Leaf Collection Continues Until December 23

Leaf vacuuming began on October 23 and will continue through December 23. Please rake leaves to the edge of the curb for collection. If you or your landscape company plan to use gas-powered leaf blowers this fall (allowed from October 15 to December 31), please refrain from using them before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on weekdays and before 12 p.m. or after 6 p.m. on weekends.

Holiday Gift Drive for Domestic Violence Victims

It's time for the TOCC Holiday Gift Drive when Town residents help Montgomery County families who are victims of domestic violence. The adult beneficiaries are clients of the Montgomery County Family Justice Center, and the children are clients of Chesapeake Counseling's Safe Start program. One hundred percent of the donations are applied to direct service. There are no administrative costs.



There are two donation options: 1) gift cards in denominations from \$10 to \$50 for stores such as Target, Marshalls, Kohl's, Ross, Safeway, and Giant or 2) checks made out to MCFJC Foundation. Please reference TOCC holiday drive on your check. Donations can be delivered to the Town Office (open on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday) or dropped off at 7624 Lynn Drive (basket in carport) or at 7203 Ridgewood Avenue. (To receive an acknowledgment for tax purposes, be sure to include your name and e-mail address.)

This year the need to support families suffering from domestic violence is even more critical. As an aftereffect of the pandemic, caseloads at the Montgomery County Family Justice Center have increased substantially, and the demand for mental health services has skyrocketed. Counseling services for children exposed to domestic violence is crucial as both an intervention for their trauma and for breaking the cycle of abuse. Annual donations from the Town of Chevy Chase have had a substantial impact on our County's ability to offer direct services to clients. As in past years, we ask you to consider extending a helping hand to these needy families. This drive is coordinated by the Community Relations Committee. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Gift cards and checks for the Holiday Gift Drive will be collected through Friday, December 23 but will be accepted gratefully at any time of year. Checks received before December 9 will be deposited by December 23. Checks received from December 10-23 will be deposited by January 15. If you have questions, contact Cathy Wolf at cathrynwolf2@gmail.com.

Winter Clothing Drive Begins November 1



Every year, from November to February, the Town's Community Relations Committee sponsors a Winter Clothing Drive for those in need. We donate to Interfaith Works that distributes to 13,000 income-qualified county residents, including nearly 6,000 children. Please donate clean, gently used, or never worn items: coats, gloves, mittens, scarves, hats, sweaters, pants, and socks. Also needed is waterproof warm winter wear for those who are outside in the cold rain or snow. Since the Town Hall is still open only part time, the clothing box will be located on the front porch of Marjorie Shaw and Barney Rush, at **6917 Maple Avenue** (between Stanford and Pine Place).

Family Movie Night, November 11



Join us as we watch *Luca* in the Town Hall on Friday, November 11 at 6 p.m. *Luca* is a PG-rated animated film released by Pixar in 2021. Set on the Italian Riviera, the film centers on the adventures of a sea monster boy who can assume human form while on land. The movie has a runtime of 95 minutes. Come at 6 p.m. for pizza, snacks, and juice; the movie will start at 6:30 p.m. A responsible adult must accompany children. RSVP to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or 301-654-7144 by November 7.

TOCC Book Club, November 14

The TOCC Book Club will meet on November 14 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall to discuss *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* by Taylor Reid. The historical novel follows Hollywood starlet Evelyn Hugo as she sits down for a tell-all interview with a struggling journalist. The Cuban American actress pulls back the curtain on her seven marriages, Hollywood scandals, betrayals, and woe. All are welcome.

Petting Zoo in the Park, November 20

Squeals on Wheels is bringing bunnies, guinea pigs, ducks, chickens, and other animals to the Lawton Center grounds on Sunday, November 20 from 1 to 3 p.m.! Kids and adults are welcome to meet and pet the animals. We will have coffee, juice, and snacks for all to enjoy. You will find us on the grassy area adjacent to the playground.



Theater Night, December 9

The Community Relations Committee has secured 25 tickets for a front-row balcony performance of *The Tempest* on Friday, December 9 at 8 p.m. at a reduced price of \$55.50 per ticket.



The Tempest is playing at the Round House Theater, in collaboration with Folger Theater. Adapted and directed by Aaron Posner and Teller (of Penn & Teller fame), an unforgettable reimagining of Shakespeare's most enchanting romance. The dazzling production -- a smash hit in Boston, Chicago, and Las Vegas -- "awakens in the audience a sense of pleasurable, almost childlike wonder," says *The New York Times*. "Enormously entertaining," raves the *Chicago Tribune*.

Tickets are limited to 25 and are selling out for the performance. Tickets will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis with payment via check or Venmo. Teens are welcome. For payment details, email townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org with your name and desired number of tickets.

Children's Holiday Bazaar, December 11

On December 11 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Town Hall, support young entrepreneurs (ages 6-14) by shopping at the holiday bazaar featuring artwork, jewelry, treats, and more. Gift wrapping will be offered at this event organized by Town teen Piya Scielzo with the support of the Community Relations Committee. Admission is free.

Town of Chevy Chase

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Climate & Environment Tip of the Month

Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers (GPLBs) are banned in Town from January 1 to October 14 but are allowed between October 15 and December 31 for the fall leaf cleanup. Residents also are reminded that use is only permitted from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday thru Friday and from 12 to 6 p.m. on weekends and holidays. These rules apply to both residents and landscapers. Violations can be reported to townoffice@townofchevychase.org or by calling 301-654-7144.

Town residents are encouraged to support alternatives to GPLBs, such as electric or battery-powered blowers, the time-honored raking method, or just leaving the leaves in your yard. Natural mulching of leaves (or with the help of a lawnmower) is more aesthetically acceptable, and the leaf debris will nourish your lawn and the critters that live in it.

GPLB exhaust can contain pollen, mold, animal feces, heavy metals, and chemicals from herbicides and pesticides. Scientific articles address the loud, low-frequency rumble generated by GPLBs, which poses risks to workers' hearing, while it disturbs the community. Health researchers increasingly warn that noise is more than just a nuisance -- it can contribute to a range of health problems.

Neighboring communities have completely banned the use of GPLBs including the District of Columbia, Chevy Chase Village, and the Town of Somerset. Montgomery County is currently considering a ban of its own. For our health and the health of our environment, the writing is on the wall: we need to learn to live without GPLBs.