



# Forecast

NOVEMBER 2023

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



**Wednesday, November 1**  
Community Relations\*, 7 p.m.

**Thursday, November 2**  
Climate/Environment\*, 6 p.m.

**Monday, November 6**  
Land Use\*, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, November 8**  
Town Council, 7 p.m.

**Friday, November 10**  
Veterans Day (Observed)  
*Town office closed*

**Sunday, November 12**  
LEGO Fair, 2 p.m.  
*see page 3*

**Thursday, November 16**  
Long Range Planning\*, 7 p.m.

**Sunday, November 19**  
Coffee & Playdate, 3:30 p.m.  
*see page 3*

**Tuesday, November 21**  
Public Services\*, 7 p.m.

**November 23-24**  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
*Town Office Closed*

\* Town Committee meeting

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

## The Power of Giving in Times of Adversity

As we gather around our tables to celebrate Thanksgiving, we will not only partake in a delicious feast but reaffirm our connections with our loved ones, our communities, and our shared humanity.

Thanksgiving, rooted in the historical tradition of gratitude for the harvest, is a time to pause, reflect, and give thanks. However, it's not just a day to count our blessings; it's a chance to make a difference and a reminder of our potential to be kind, compassionate, and resilient, particularly as we face troubling times.

When we think about it more, Thanksgiving offers us a three-ingredient recipe for strength and hope:

- **Gratitude:** While it may be easy right now to lose sight of the positive aspects of life, appreciating people and counting our blessings helps us maintain a positive outlook and face challenges with a stronger spirit.
- **Community and Family:** By offering a helping hand, we can strengthen the bonds that hold us together. Further, by caring for one another, we can navigate adversity with greater resilience and a sense of unity.
- **Generosity:** As we are encouraged to give, not only in the form of material things, but also through acts of kindness and compassion, we can make a positive impact on someone's life.

So, as we gather to celebrate Thanksgiving, let us be inspired to carry this spirit forward beyond the day by contributing to worthy causes such as the Town's *Winter Clothing Drive* and *Holiday Gift Drive for Domestic Violence Victims*. By lending a hand to those in need, we can create a brighter, more empathetic, and resilient world.

Let us be thankful not just for the abundance on our plates but for the love in our hearts and the strength we find in one another. May your Thanksgiving be filled with love and the spirit of giving and caring.

– Mayor Irene Lane



**Winter Clothing Drive &  
Holiday Gift Drive for  
Domestic Violence Victims**  
*see page 3*

## Corso Chevy Chase Development Update

Corso Chevy Chase's development application is now under review by numerous regulatory agencies, including the Planning Department, the County's Department of Permitting Services, the State Highway Administration, utility companies, and the Town. The application includes the Preliminary Plan (which reviews the lot/subdivision), the Site Plan (which reviews the project for zoning conformance and design), and the Forest Conservation Plan. These documents are available at [bit.ly/CorsoCC](https://bit.ly/CorsoCC).

The date of official acceptance of the application was October 4, which marked the start of the mandatory 120-day review period. The Development Review Committee, comprised of all regulatory agencies, met on October 24 to provide comments to the applicant for consideration and incorporation into a revised application. The first resubmittal from Corso is scheduled for November 8, 2023, and the final resubmittal is scheduled for November 28, 2023. Following the final resubmittal, the Planning staff will post its report on the application on January 22, 2024, and the Planning Board is tentatively scheduled to hold a public hearing on the application on February 1, 2024. This timeline may be adjusted if the applicant needs more time to address comments by the regulatory agencies.

On October 20, the Town submitted initial comments on the application to the County Planning Department. The comments are available at [bit.ly/CorsoCC](https://bit.ly/CorsoCC) and were transmitted to Corso along with those from all other regulatory agencies. The Town will continue to review the application, especially the plan elements related to site access, stormwater management, tree protection, exterior lighting, etc. Residents may review the application and provide comments to [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org). The Town will continue to keep residents informed as this project proceeds.

## Town Council Meets November 8

The Town Council will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 8 in the Town Hall and by Zoom. At this meeting, the Council will discuss the status of the Corso Chevy Chase development and the Bethesda Market Park project. The Council also will discuss amending the Town Code to clarify the applicability of certain chapters of the Town Code to institutional uses, including the Corso Chevy Chase development. The agenda for this meeting will be published on the Town website and distributed via Town Crier on November 3.

## November 8 Public Forum on Gas Leaf Blower Ban

The Town Council will hold a public forum on November 8 at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall and via Zoom to hear from residents about the possibility of enacting a full year ban on gas powered leaf blowers (GPLBs) beginning in 2024. Residents are encouraged to attend this forum to understand the proposal and to provide feedback to the Town Council. In September, the Montgomery County Council enacted a full ban on GPLBs. The ban on sales of GPLBs will be effective on July 1, 2024, and the ban on the use of GPLBs will be effective on July 1, 2025. The Town's Climate and Environment Committee has recommended instituting a full ban on gas-powered leaf blowers in 2024, a year earlier than the County.

## Leaf Collection Continues Through December 22

Leaf vacuuming began on October 16 and will continue through December 22. Please rake leaves to the edge of the curb for collection and ensure that your leaves are not contaminated by cans, sticks, bottles, or rocks. After collection ends, leaves should be placed in paper bags or in reusable containers for yard trash recycling. A leaf collection map is available at [bit.ly/TOCCLeafMap](https://bit.ly/TOCCLeafMap).

## Restricted Hours for Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

If you or your landscape company plan to use gas leaf blowers this fall (allowed from October 15 to December 31), **please follow the Town's quiet hours and 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.** Better yet, encourage your landscapers to continue using the electric-powered leaf blowers they have been using over the last two years that the Town has had a partial ban on gas leaf blowers in place.

## 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 who distribute 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. The clothing box will be located on the front porch of Marjorie Shaw and Barney Rush, at **6917 Maple Avenue** (between Stanford Street and Pine Place).

## LEGO Fair, November 12

Do you love LEGO? Do you like seeing what other people have created with LEGO? Join us for the inaugural TOCC LEGO fair at the Town Hall on Sunday, November 12 from 2 to 4 p.m.! Prizes will be awarded across three age groups (8 & under, 9-15, and 16 & over) in categories of best structure, vehicle, landscape (coloring), still scene, and most creative! You may submit a custom build for display or, for a larger build/multiple items, entrants may reserve half of a 6-foot table. To register by November 9, please email [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) with entrant's name, age, address, and a brief description of the submission. All ages welcome! Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee. Questions, contact Howard Berkof at [hberkof@yahoo.com](mailto:hberkof@yahoo.com).

## Coffee & Playdate in the Park, November 19

Meet old and new neighbors (with or without kids) for coffee & snacks while the kids burn off energy at the Lawton Center playground (4301 Willow Lane) on Sunday, November 19, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. All are welcome! Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee.

## Holiday Gift Drive for Domestic Violence Victims

The Town's Community Relations Committee is again coordinating a Holiday Gift Drive to benefit 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 (preferred) or 2) checks made out to MCFJC Foundation. Please reference TOCC holiday drive on your check. Donations can be delivered to the Town Office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday or dropped off at 7624 Lynn Drive (basket in carport) or 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 while 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. Let's set a record for the percentage of Town residents who contribute to this drive! Thanks in advance for your generosity.

Gift cards and checks for the Holiday Gift Drive will be collected through Friday, December 22 but will be accepted gratefully at any time of year. Checks received before December 8 will be deposited by December 22. Checks received from December 9 to 22 will be deposited by January 15. If you have questions, contact Cathy Wolf at [cathrynwolf2@gmail.com](mailto:cathrynwolf2@gmail.com).

## Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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### TOWN COUNCIL

*Irene Lane, Mayor*

*Barney Rush, Vice Mayor*

*Stephanie Martz, Secretary*

*Rich Brancato, Treasurer*

*Joy White, Community Liaison*



This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

## Safe Streets Community Project

### *“Slow Down and Stop” -- Let’s Encourage Biking in the Town!*

Town of Chevy Chase residents are fortunate to live within easy biking distance of so many destinations that offer dining, entertainment, shopping, and outdoor activities.

There’s the Georgetown trail, the old Bethesda Trolley trail, Rock Creek Park trails, and soon, the Purple Line trail. Every day it seems, a new urban bikeway is popping up in Bethesda. Even the Town’s own tree-lined streets, with our rolling hills, provide great exercise for biking! And if you want to bike with friends, there’s always the convenient Capital Bikeshare location at Elm Street Park to get a bike on-the-go.



Biking is great exercise and fun for the whole family. With reduced speed limits in Town, actuated stop signs, and enhanced markings on crosswalks, we’ve added traffic safety features that help protect bikers on Town streets. Bikers can do their part as well by wearing reflective clothing and sturdy helmets. More importantly, please observe all safety features on Town and city streets, like stop signs and streetlights.

So, hop on your bike and, if you’re passionate about promoting urban bicycling, consider joining the Public Services Committee -- we would love to hear your ideas!