



January 1-2
 New Years Holiday
 Town office closed

Wednesday, January 3
 Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 4
 Climate/Environment*, 6 p.m.

Friday, January 5
 Family Movie Night, 6 p.m.
 see page 3

Saturday, January 6
 The Great Zucchini, 3:30 p.m.
 see page 3

Wednesday, January 10
 Town Council, 7 p.m.

Monday, January 15
 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 Town office closed

Tuesday, January 16
 Public Services*, 7 p.m.

 Antisemitism Workshop
 see page 3

Wednesday, January 17
 Land Use*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 18
 Long Range Planning*, 7 p.m.

 Book Club, 7 p.m.
 see page 3

* Town Committee meeting

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

Imagining Our Town: A Glimpse Into 2024

January brings with it a sense of anticipation and fresh beginnings. As we think through resolutions and delight in the promises of a new year, I wanted to provide an update about the exciting projects that will shape the future of our wonderful town.

- **Corso Chevy Chase Senior Living Community:** The site plan for this 507-unit community is scheduled for presentation to (and possible approval by) the Planning Board on February 1, 2024. Encompassing independent living, assisted living, and memory care units, along with a 3-acre forest conservation area and small retail establishments, this project is poised to commence construction in late 2024. Visit bit.ly/CorsoCC for more details.
- **Bethesda Market Park:** This multifaceted project includes a mixed-use (residential and retail) building, an enhanced Farm Women’s Market, a 200-space underground garage, and the transformation of two existing surface parking lots to urban parks. A Public/Private Partnership of the Parks Department, the County Department of Transportation, EYA/Bernstein Management (the developer), and the Town is driving the development of the underground garage and the two urban parks. We anticipate that a second round of community meetings will occur in 2024 to refine park amenities with the full site plan expected by year-end. Visit bit.ly/BMPark for more details.
- **Town Committee Projects:** Members of the Public Services and Land Use Committees are gearing up to present recommendations to the Town Council in early 2024. Proposals will include enhancements to problematic intersections for increased public safety; adoption of specific chapters of the County code to be applicable in the Town; and improvements to the Town’s water drainage regulations to address heightened rainstorm intensity and frequency. Stay tuned for detailed updates in future Forecast newsletters.

As we collectively navigate the path ahead, we invite you to stay informed through our monthly Forecast newsletters, weekly Town Criers, and the Town Council Meeting Reporter. As always, we encourage you to share your thoughts, questions, and ideas with us. Your engagement and feedback are invaluable, ensuring that these transformative initiatives align seamlessly with our shared values and vision for the Town.

Thank you for being an integral part of our community. Here’s to a prosperous and fulfilling year ahead!

– Mayor Irene Lane

Public Hearings Scheduled for January Council Meeting

The following public hearings are scheduled for the January 10 Town Council meeting. If you are unable to attend the meeting, which begins at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall and by Zoom videoconference, you may submit comments to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org. Please visit the Town website for complete copies of the proposed ordinances and resolutions referenced below.

Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on an ordinance to enact a full year ban of gas-powered leaf blowers (GPLBs) beginning in 2024, a year earlier than the County's recently enacted ban. The Town's leaf collection contractor would be exempt from this ordinance during the 2024 leaf collection season.

Amendments to Town Election Regulations

The Town Council will hold a public hearing on proposed amendments to the Town Code and Town Charter to update Town election regulations. The amendments codify current election practices, provide flexibility for the form of future elections, and clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Town's Elections Board.

Leaf Collection Has Ended

Leaves should now be placed in paper bags or in reusable containers for yard waste collection on Mondays.

Notes & Reminders

Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

The Town offers curbside collection of Christmas trees. All wire, ornaments and tinsel must be removed. Please place the tree at the curb for yard waste collection on Mondays.

Preparations for Winter Weather

The Town's *Preparations for Winter Weather* flyer is available on the homepage of the Town website under "Quick Links." This flyer provides important information on winter weather preparedness plans.

Please Shovel Your Sidewalk

Following inclement weather, it is important to ensure that the sidewalk adjacent to your home is cleared of snow and ice. The Town will clear public sidewalks when snow accumulates to 6 inches or more or when icy conditions warrant. If snow accumulation is less than 6 inches, you are responsible for clearing the sidewalk. If you are away from Town or unable to clear your walks, please arrange for the sidewalk adjacent to your home to be cleared. And please be sure to monitor and treat sidewalks for icy conditions caused by thawing/freezing precipitation in the days following winter storms. If you need assistance clearing snow from sidewalks and private property, please visit bit.ly/TOCCSnowRemoval.

CCES Children's Little Birdhouse Library

The purpose of the free library, located on the corner of Hillcrest Place and Rosemary Circle, is to take a children's book for something new to read and to leave a children's book to share with others. Recently, some people have been putting inappropriate adult-themed books in the library and others are taking books and not leaving books. Please remember that this library is only for children's books and to leave a book each time you take one.

Please Clean Up After Your Pet and Obey County Leash Laws

The Town office receives ongoing complaints about the improper disposal of dog waste and unleashed dogs. The Town has installed numerous dog waste stations around the Town, and a map can be found on the Town website. Also, please remember that your dog should always be on a leash being held by a person when not in a fenced portion of your yard.



Connect with the Town & Neighbors

Residents are encouraged to connect with the Town and fellow residents by signing up on the Town website for the Town Crier email alert system (bit.ly/Crier) and the private Town Neighbors listserv (bit.ly/TNeighbors). Both resources offer an important way to stay informed and in touch.

The following events are sponsored or supported by the Town's Community Relations Committee.



Family Movie Night, January 5

Join us as we watch *The Super Mario Brothers Movie* in the Town Hall on Friday, January 5 at 6 p.m. *The Super Mario Brothers Movie* is a PG-rated movie released by Universal in 2023. Based on Nintendo's Mario video game, the story follows Brooklyn plumbers and brothers Mario and Luigi who, while working underground to fix a water main, are transported to a magical world for an epic adventure. It has a run time of 92 minutes. Please come at 6 p.m. for pizza, snacks, and juice. The movie will start at 6:15 p.m. An adult must accompany children. Please RSVP by January 4 to bit.ly/TOCCMovie.

The Great Zucchini, January 6

Join us on Saturday January 6 at 3:30 p.m. in the Lawton Center Social Hall for *The Great Zucchini*, Washington's funniest, and most magical, preschool and kindergarten entertainer. *The Great Zucchini* will perform a colorful magic show where every child is a star and guaranteed to laugh! Space is limited. Please RSVP by January 5 to bit.ly/TOCCZucchini.



Antisemitism Workshop, January 16

If you would like to learn how to address the recent barrage of antisemitism in America, please join the Town of Chevy Chase and the Village of Martin's Additions on January 16 from 7 to 8 p.m. for a special Zoom webinar presented by the American Jewish Committee. Participants in this program will develop an understanding of the Jewish community and its diversity; learn how to recognize antisemitism and how it manifests today; examine how it differs from other forms of bigotry; discuss when criticism of Israel crosses the line into antisemitism; understand how antisemitism impacts democracy; and discuss what we as individuals and as a neighborhood can do about it. To join this robust conversation, register at www.ajc.org/washington/neighborhood.

TOCC Book Club, January 22

Our Town of Chevy Chase Book Club will meet January 22 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. By the time you receive this newsletter, our book title will have been announced by Town Crier, on the Town Neighbors listserv, and on Facebook and Instagram. Come check out the new chairs, new friends, and lively discussions.

RSVP for February 25 Chili Dinner & Sign Up to Help!

The Town will hold its popular Chili Dinner on Sunday, February 25 at 5 p.m. in the Social Hall of the Lawton Community Center. Dinner will include chili and hot dogs (including vegan options), sides, and desserts. Also, the Town will continue its support of the Manna Food Center, so please don't forget your checks or cash to help feed families in Montgomery County. As always, chili will be served by Community Relations Committee members, but we need additional volunteers. If you can help, please let us know when you RSVP by February 16 to bit.ly/tocccchili.



Winter Clothing Drive Continues Thru February



Did you get a nice warm coat or sweater as a holiday gift? There are people who could use your last year's clothes. Interfaith Works provides free clothing to thousands of Montgomery County families. Please donate clean, gently used or never used warm coats, gloves, mittens, scarves, hats, sweaters, pants, and socks to those in need. Also needed are waterproof warm winter wear, for those who are outside in the cold rain or snow. The clothing box is located on the front porch of Marjorie Shaw and Barney Rush, at **6917 Maple Avenue** (between Maple and Pine Place).

Public Services Committee Tip of the Month

Unleash the Power of a Clear Path!

Over the past few months, the Town Office has received several complaints about overgrown shrubs that are turning some of our roughly 10 miles of public sidewalks into obstacle courses. This creates potential safety concerns, especially on heavily trafficked streets.

The Town's sidewalk policy requires a minimum vertical clearance of seven feet from edge to edge, which means that vegetation should be trimmed so that it does not interfere with pedestrians at either the inner or outer edge of any sidewalk up to a height of seven feet. **Please take a walk around your property, identify any overgrown shrubs encroaching on the sidewalk, and trim them down to meet the seven-foot clearance requirement.**

Let's make our walkways accessible and encourage your neighbors to do the same! We're in this together, and every trimmed shrub contributes to a safer, more walkable community.



Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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