



Forecast

NOVEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



Sunday, November 2

Fall Festival, 12 p.m.

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Monday, November 3

Land Use*, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, November 5

Community Relations*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 6

Climate/Environment*, 7 p.m.

Monday, November 10

Town Book Club, 7 p.m.

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Tuesday, November 11

Veterans Day

Town office closed

Tuesday, November 18

Public Services*, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 19

Town Council*, 7 p.m.

Thursday, November 20

Long Range Planning*, 7 p.m.

November 27-28

Thanksgiving Holiday

Town Office Closed

Friday, November 28

Author Talk, 5 p.m.

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* Town Committee meeting

*Please visit the website calendar
for more information*

New MCPS Boundary Options Leave Town Students in Same Schools

To accommodate the opening of a new high school for the mid-County area, Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) had proposed an initial set of four options earlier this year that could have substantially changed the schools attended by Town students. All of these options would have caused changes for our middle school children, and one would have sent our high school students to Montgomery Blair High School. The Town opposed these changes in a letter we sent to MCPS.

At the time that these initial options were presented, MCPS stated that they would review the comments and develop further options in the fall. MCPS followed through on this promise, presenting four new options at the beginning of October. We are very pleased that **none of these options cause any change to the articulation of Town students.** All will continue to attend Rosemary Hills and CCES for elementary school; Silver Creek for middle school, and B-CC for high school. The Council has sent a letter to MCPS, stating our support for any of these new options, and asking that none of the initial four options be considered further.

Workforce Housing Legislation Finalized

The County Council has completed its work on the Workforce Housing initiative that will permit the development of multi-family housing along East West Highway and Connecticut Avenue in the Town. The final issue, taken up last month, involved the number of lots a developer could consolidate to build multi-family housing. The Town, working closely with neighboring municipalities, pushed to limit the ultimate size of consolidated lots in order to ensure that any multi-family project would be compatible with our neighborhoods. The final result -- a maximum lot size of 23,400 square feet -- is somewhat larger than the proposal from the municipalities but still serves as an effective means to achieve our goal.

Please Be Generous!

We are grateful to all who supported the Thanksgiving dinner drive, and this issue of the Forecast provides information on further opportunities to extend help to causes traditionally supported by our Town: **the Holiday Gift Drive & Winter Clothing Drive.** Also, to date, approximately \$2,500 has been contributed to support the development of a new outdoor classroom at Rosemary Hills Elementary School, which, in turn, unlocks an equal amount of additional contribution from the Town. Please consider adding to this cause, so that the full amount of the Town's matching gift of \$10,000 will be contributed.

– Mayor Barney Rush

Town Council Meets on November 19

The Town Council will hold its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 19 in the Town Hall and by Zoom. At this meeting, the Council will hold a [public hearing on a Town speed camera program](#) and will consider [a resolution to deploy speed cameras on Bradley Lane, initially](#). The meeting agenda will be published on the Town website and distributed by Town Crier on November 14.

Leaf Collection Continues Through December 22



Leaf vacuuming began on October 20 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.

REMINDER: Gas-powered leaf blowers (GPLBs) are prohibited year-round in the Town. Residents can report violations to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org or 301-654-7144.

Climate and Environment *Tips of the Month*

Leave Your Leaves: Help the Pollinators, Birds and Your Soil

Want to help pollinators, birds, and fireflies, while improving your soil? We have a low-cost way to achieve these goals!

With fall here and the leaves dropping, the Climate and Environment Committee urges you to consider leaving your leaves in place, or if you can't do that, please rake or blow them into your beds.



Why? It is much better for your soil if the leaves decompose in place. This small action protects all the small critters and future moths and butterflies that depend on leaves for wintering habitat and helps the birds that rely on them for food. The critters won't survive the leaf collection, and by removing the leaves, fewer and fewer birds, butterflies, and native bees will come in the spring, summer, and fall.

For more details on the benefits and beauty of native plants, leaving the leaves, and ways to help the environment, while combating climate change, visit the Homegrown National Park website (bit.ly/HomeGrownNP).

The Time is Now To Consider an HVAC Heat Pump

If you plan to replace your central air conditioning units in the next few years, you should consider an Air Source Heat Pump now. If installed before December 31, 2025, you can still claim a \$2,000 federal tax credit.

Heat pumps can meet both your heating and cooling needs. They can be installed as a drop-in unit, replacing your existing HVAC system using your existing ducts. All major HVAC manufacturers offer heat pumps, and local installers typically do as well.

During the summer months, the heat pump functions as a central air conditioner, resulting in lower cooling costs compared to a conventional air conditioner. In the winter months, it can replace your natural gas furnace or electric resistance heaters at a lower monthly cost. Maryland is an excellent area for heat pumps. Heat pumps can significantly reduce your greenhouse gas emissions and lead to cost savings.

Additional information on Air Source Heat Pumps can be found on PEPCO's website (bit.ly/CECHVAC) and at Rewiring America (bit.ly/CECRewire).

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. Two collection boxes will be available this year -- in the Town Hall and on the front porch of Marjorie Shaw and Barney Rush at 6917 Maple Avenue (between Stanford Street and Pine Place).

Fall Festival, November 2



The Town's Community Relations Committee is partnering with the Lawton Center to host the 2025 Fall Fest. The family friendly event will take place on Sunday, November 2 from 12 to 2:30 p.m. at the Lawton Center parking lot. This year The Great Zucchini will be joining us! There will also be moon bounces, a music performance by the BCC Jazz Band, food trucks, face paint, arts and crafts, and so much more! All ages welcome!

TOCC Book Club, November 10

The Town Book Club will meet on November 10 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall to discuss *The Plot* by Jean Hanff Korelitz. A campus novel that is also a thriller and wickedly funny. All residents are welcome.

Author Talk & Happy Hour, November 28

On Friday, November 28 from 5 to 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall, British broadcaster and journalist Peter Cardwell (bit.ly/PCardwell) will discuss his newly released book *Political Animals: The Secret Life of the Political Pets of Westminster and Washington*. Expect sharp insights on British and American political history delivered with dry British wit. Peter's relationship with the Town of Chevy Chase began in the summer of 2006, when he stayed with a Town family while participating in the Washington-Ireland Program for Service and Leadership.

Wine and cheese will be served, and a limited number of hardcover books will be available for \$15. RSVP to cathrynwolf2@gmail.com with number of attendees.

Holiday Gift Card Drive for Domestic Violence Survivors

Donate by December 19 -- Support Montgomery County domestic violence survivors and their children through our 15th annual holiday gift drive organized by the Community Relations Committee.

HOW TO GIVE:

1. Online: bit.ly/MCFJCTOCC
2. Gift cards (Target, Marshall's, Kohl's, Safeway, Giant) OR checks payable to "FJC Foundation" (memo: "TOCC fundraising drive")
3. Drop off: Town Office (4301 Willow Lane, M-F 9-5), OR at Cathy's house: (7624 Lynn Drive -- basket in carport), OR at Quynh's house: (7203 Ridgewood Ave -- in black mailbox). For a tax receipt, provide your name & email.



WHY IT MATTERS:

Financial abuse occurs in 99% of domestic violence cases. Your donation provides direct aid -- 100% goes to gift cards for survivors through the Montgomery County Family Justice Center and gifts for children receiving trauma counseling at Chesapeake Counseling. In past years, Town donations have ensured every child in the program received holiday gifts. Questions? Contact Cathy Wolf (cathrynwolf2@gmail.com) or Quynh Tran (vanstinger2205@gmail.com).

Town of Chevy Chase

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Irene Lane, Vice Mayor
Rich Brancato, Secretary
Carlo Colella, Treasurer
Tambra Leonard, Community Liaison



**Winter Clothing Drive &
Holiday Gift Card Drive for
Domestic Violence Survivors**

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This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Keep Your Holidays Safe

November brings cooler weather, holiday gatherings, and more time spent in the kitchen. The Public Services Committee would like to remind residents of some important seasonal safety tips to help prevent fires and accidents during the holidays.



• **Cooking Safety**

- Thanksgiving is the leading day for home cooking fires -- stay in the kitchen when cooking and never leave food unattended on the stove.
- Keep flammable materials like dish towels, potholders, and packaging away from burners.
- Avoid deep-frying turkeys, or other foods, near homes, decks, or garages.

• **Home Heating Safety**

- Have chimneys and fireplaces cleaned and inspected before use. Check the town listserv (<https://groups.io/g/townneighbors/>) for thoughts on reputable companies.
- Keep space heaters at least three feet from anything that can burn and turn them off when leaving the room.
- Never use ovens or stoves for home heating.

• **General Holiday Safety**

- Check smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to make sure they are working.
- If using candles, keep them on stable surfaces and away from decorations.
- In case of an emergency, always call 911. For non-emergencies, contact MCPD at 301-279-8000 and the Town.

Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!