



Landover Hills Chronicle

L A N D O V E R H I L L S N E W S L E T T E R

LETTER FROM THE MAYOR

A Monthly Publication

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The Annual Veterans Day Ceremony held on Sunday, November 11, 2018, at Henry Rinck Park marks the sixth ceremony since the construction and dedication of the Landover Hills Veterans Memorial. All of the U.S. Armed Forces units have participated in the great event by providing keynote speakers representing each of the Armed Forces. This year, the Town of Landover Hills hosted the U.S. Coast Guard. The Keynote Speaker was Captain Peter Melnick, who gave an outstanding speech. Captain Melnick also

brought his children to the ceremony. The weather conditions could not have been better. It was a wonderful sunny day. Remarks by invited guests were given by Senator-Elect Malcolm Augustine, Delegate Diana Fennell and Sheriff Melvin C. High. Thanks to Rev. Evelio Menjivar of St. Mary's Church who gave the invocation and benediction, Councilman Joe William, Master of Ceremonies, Members of the Town Council for their participation, Vice Mayor Jeannette Ripley, Councilwoman Kathleen Walker, Councilman Jeffrey Schomisch, Town Manager Kathleen Tavel, Code Enforce-

ment Officer Mike Thompson, Police Chief Robert V. Liberati and the Landover Hills Police Department who served as Color Guard, Jim and Paul Schad of Public Works, family members of Councilmembers, and each and everyone who participated in the great event. Thanks to all!

Mayor Lee P. Walker

UPCOMING TOWN MEETINGS

Council Workshop

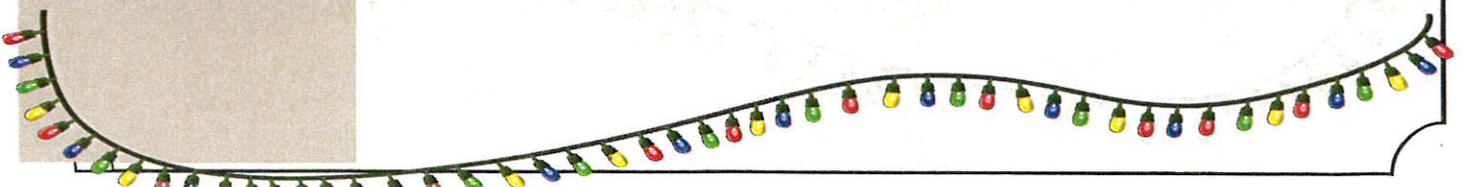
Monday, December 3, 2018 @ 7 p.m.

Monday, January 7, 2019 @ 7 p.m.

Council Meeting

Monday, December 17, 2018 @ 7:30 p.m.

TBD



UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual House Decorating Contest This year, the Holiday House Decorating Contest will be held the week before Christmas. Judges will drive through Town that week looking for the winners in each category, Most Creative, Most Traditional and Best Overall. The winner of Best overall will receive \$50 while the other two categories will receive \$25. Let's make this the brightest holiday season ever!



Winter Festival of Lights, Watkins Regional Park, 301 Watkins Park Dr. Upper Marlboro. Friday, November 23 thru Tuesday, January 1, 2019, 5-9:30 p.m. nightly. Admission Fees \$10 car/ or van; \$20 multi-visit. This spectacular holiday drive-through events features more than one million twinkling lights!

Make a difference this season! Please bring canned goods for donation to local food banks.



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Send in your Neighborhood News!

We are looking for Neighborhood News to put in the newsletter and on our cable stations. Graduations, birthday, get well wishes, birth announcements, family members in the military or other notable events. Call Town Hall at 301-773-6401 or e-mail the town at Townhall@landoverhills.us.

Keep up on the latest news and announcements! Tune in to Channel 71 (Comcast) or Channel 28 (Verizon). Find the Town of Landover Hills and "Like" us on Facebook!



Books Wanted!!!!!!

Our Little Free Libraries have proven to be very popular. If you have any books that you would like to donate, please drop them off at Town Hall! Children's books, popular fiction or non-fiction, all books are welcome!



Electric Car Charging Station

An electric car charging station was recently installed in the Town Hall Parking lot. The Town obtained the charging station through a grant offered by the Electric Vehicle Institute.



BREAKFAST
WITH SANTA
SATURDAY. DECEMBER 8, 2018
10 a.m.

Doors open at 9:50 a.m.- No one admitted after 10:20 a.m.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!!

CONTINENTAL
BREAKFAST

A SURPRISE
ACTIVITY

VISIT WITH SANTA



ADMISSION: \$2.00/ADULTS \$1.00 CHILDREN 12 & UNDER

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED CALL: 301-773-6401

LIMITED TO FIRST 60 PERSONS

A Long Winter's Night

Leaves- As the leaves continue to fall please remember that county code requires that all yard waste be placed in paper bags. No plastic bags will be accepted. If items are placed for collection in paper bags, citations will be issued. In addition, do not rake leaves into the gutters. For those who have already done so please have those leaves bagged as soon as possible. Also, I have received complaints regarding residents who don't rake their leaves allowing them to blow onto their neighbors yard. Now that the trees will soon be bare please show some courtesy and rake your leaves. It will also keep the town looking well maintained during the winter.

Dogs, and Cats, A plea for your help- In the last newsletter I discussed the enormous number of cats and kittens in town and it's only getting worse. If these cats are not spayed or neutered the population will continue to grow exponentially. Many of these cats and kittens will never know what it's like to have a good life, and that's a shame. At this time of year, have a heart and have your pets spayed and neutered. There are agencies that will provide no cost spay and neuter services for town residents. If you wish further information please contact me at Town Hall at 301-773-6401. Also, please provide food and shelter during these upcoming winter months. Think about it, would you want to spend a night outside in sub freezing temperatures? Then why do think that your pets should? Be humane.

Snow- Remember that Town Code section 7402-A requires that sidewalks be shoveled or treated within 48 hours after the end of the event. Citations will be issued for non-compliance. Unfortunately, I have no students or volunteers that have signed up for the volunteer list and the town does not have the manpower to clear residents walks. If you are elderly or disabled you should line up a professional landscaper that can assist you. My advice is don't wait until the storm strikes to deal with the situation. You may find yourself out in the cold. (No pun intended) While we are on the subject of snow, please remember to get as many cars off the street as possible when the forecast calls for inclement weather. This makes Public Works job significantly easier and allows for more efficient clearing.

Mike Thompson
Code Enforcement Officer



The Talking Badge

The Landover Hills Police Department, would like to wish everyone a very Happy Holiday Season. Please read the following reminders. In this busy time of year, we sometimes forget that there are people out there who like to take advantage of busy people. Please stay safe!

Shopping Safety - 1. While shopping, try to park your car in the most lighted area of the shopping center, lock your car, and try to only make one trip so you will not have to leave packages in your vehicle. If you must make more than one trip, make sure you lock any packages in your trunk. Pay very close to your surroundings when going to your car and if anything or anyone looks suspicious, try to have someone from either security or the store walk you to your car.

2. While shopping in stores, minimize the appearance of carrying a lot of cash. Suspects will be looking for persons displaying a lot of cash. If you must carry a purse, keep it secured around your body. If you are wearing a jacket, put it over your shoulder under your jacket. If at all possible, shop with others as there is safety in numbers.

3. Finally, be aware of persons and things around you. Be confident and alert about your surroundings. Above all, don't let fear replace the joy of the Holiday season....AS IT IS A WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR.

Theft from Auto - We cannot stress enough, do not leave important items in your car or truck for other people to see and to decide they want those items to use, sell or pawn. Do not leave tools in the back of your truck or unlocked compartments. Never leave a purse, wallet, book bag, laptop, phone, etc. inside of your car. If you see someone walking around looking in vehicles, call 911.

Cold Mornings - **-The cold weather is here. REMEMBER,** you cannot start your car and leave it unattended. It is against the law and your vehicle may drive away with someone else behind the wheel.

Gas station safety reminder - Whenever you stop at the gas station, follow these safety tips.

- 1) make sure you keep your doors locked,
- 2) keep all of your valuables, purse, laptop, briefcase, wallet, etc. down on the floorboard or out of sight, 3) do not leave your windows down,
- 4) do not leave your keys in the ignition (even if you are not going in to pay),
- 5) pay attention to your surroundings.

There are people that drive around looking for someone who does not take any safety precautions. They get close to your vehicle, open the door or reach through the window and take your belongings or your vehicle.

Telephone and Email Scams - The Federal Trade Commission has excellent information concerning telephone and email scams. Their website is (www.ftc.gov). The following is an excerpt from the Federal Trade Commission's site:

Know how NOT to pay.

Is someone asking you to pay with an iTunes or Amazon gift card? Or telling you to wire money through services like Western Union or MoneyGram? Don't do it. Scammers ask you to pay in ways that let them get the money fast — and make it nearly impossible for you to get it back. If you're doing any holiday shopping online, know that credit cards have a lot of fraud protection built in.

Spot imposters.

Imposters pretend to be someone you trust to convince you to send money or personal information. They might say you qualified for a free government grant, but you have to pay a fee to get it. Or they might send phishing emails that seem to be from your bank asking you to "verify" your credit card or checking account number.

The following unfortunate incidents happened to a couple of our residents. Both scams have been going on for quite some time. The first involves a call from what appears to be a law enforcement agency.

They state that you have an open warrant and you need to call a number to clear it up. The phone number on your caller ID appears to be legitimate but the number that they give you to call is an out of state phone number or a cell number. Scammers are entering numbers that are law enforcement or IRS numbers to make it appear that is where the call is coming from. Law enforcement agencies or the IRS are not going to call you about unpaid tickets or warrants. Instead, you would receive correspondence through the mail and a phone number that you can call. Do not make an over the phone payment for this type of call. They will usually ask you to pay with Western Union or Money Gram. Again, do not pay anyone on this type of call. You can read more about this on the FTC website.

The second scam involves telephone calls stating that you have won a lottery or contest. They will ask you for a tax payment or processing fee for your winnings. They will ask you for personal information to verify you are the person who won. Never, never give your social security number, birth date, banking information, etc. to someone who calls you. They will then ask you to send the money to them by Money Gram or Western Union. If you send the money, it may be to another state or out of the country. This won't be the end of it. They will call you again and again requesting more money for various reasons. **NEVER GIVE PERSONAL INFORMATION OVER THE PHONE OR TO WHAT APPEARS TO BE A STRANGE EMAIL** . If it sounds too good to be true, it is. This type of scam is also on the FTC website.

If you have any questions, please call our office at 301-773-6400. We will be happy to speak to you if you receive this type of questionable call.

Parties - If you are planning to have a party, please remember the parking rules and rules regarding loud music. If an officer asks you to turn down the music, please do so because if they have to return and they determine that the music is too loud, you will be told to shut down the party. Keep your guests inside your home and please make sure that they are parked correctly. We want everyone to have a wonderful New Year and not have to pay fines and impound charges.

Holiday Celebrations - What goes up, must come down. This is a very true statement. New Year's Eve is a very exciting time, watching the New Year come in. Some people like to celebrate by shooting a gun into the air. I am sure that you have heard a lot of gun fire on previous New Year's Eve. If you were one that shot a gun into the air, did you stop to think what happens to the bullet? A few years ago, there was a young person killed by a bullet that went up and then came down and landed in his head. Not to mention it's illegal to discharge a gun in a residential area.

Fireworks - Remember in Prince George's County, you cannot have any type of fireworks. Please do not shoot fireworks during your celebration.

House Checks. If you are going away for the holiday season, please call or come by the Landover Hills Town Hall and fill out a house check form. Please make sure that you give us a phone number that you can be reached at in case there is a problem or a question that needs to be answered. If you do go away, leave a light on inside and outside your home, or install motion detector lights outside the house and timer lights inside the house. Do not let your house remain dark while you are gone, this is an open invitation to the bad guys.

When leaving your home, be sure to lock all doors and windows. (Don't leave holiday gifts or packages where they can be seen from a window) If you plan to be out of town for the holidays, arrange for someone to pick up your mail and newspapers. Take steps to make your home "lived in" while you are away, and make sure you contact your police department to keep a check on your house while out of town.

Watching out for each other - We have all been in a situation where we think something is out of the ordinary and that is what I would like to address, those situations. What would you do if you saw a person wandering from house to house, or a person at your neighbors house and your neighbor's car is not there or you see a vehicle that keeps driving around and you just don't get a good feeling about it. What would you do? Would you talk yourself out of calling the police because you don't want to be nosey or would you call the police just to be safe. **If you see something that just doesn't seem right, call the police at 301-352-1200 or call 911 if you think a crime is happening.**

TRASH PICK-UP SCHEDULES

Mondays

Yard Waste Pick-up

Tuesdays

Regular Household Trash Pick-Up

Recycling Collection

Wednesdays

Bulk Trash Pick-Up

Fridays

Regular Household Trash Pick-Up

Garbage Can Reminder

All household trash needs to be put curbside in the new **BLUE TRASH CANS** or in a trash can with a lid. Trash is being put out in plastic bags and making a mess when the bags break open or rip. Please help keep Landover Hills clean by putting out your trash properly.

Do not block sidewalks with trash or trash cans!

Recycling

The large **BLACK** recycling bins are for **RECYCLING ONLY!** These containers will not be picked up if trash is put in them or trash is commingled with the recyclables. Any questions or concerns regarding recycling pick-ups in Town should be directed to 301-952-7630.

YARD WASTE

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, small branches, brush and Christmas trees.

Yard waste must be placed in heavy duty paper bags, or heavy-duty trash cans (marked **YARD WASTE** with handles and a secure lid. Cardboard boxes are not acceptable containers.

Limbs collected curbside must not exceed four (4) feet in length and three (3) inches in diameter and must be securely tied in bundles. Bundles of limbs and bags of dry grass and leaves must weigh less than 60 pounds. Wet grass and

leaves must weigh less than 25 pounds.

Once the yard waste is collected, it is taken to the Prince George's County Yard Waste Composting Facility. This County owned and operated composting facility processes over 50,000 tons of yard waste annually.

For more information about yard waste collection, call 301-773-2069.

DO NOT RAKE LEAVES INTO STREET!



Tires

If you have old tires that you need to get rid of, please call the Town Hall at 301-773-6401 to arrange a pick-up.

Curbs, Gutters, Litter and Leaves

Now that mowing season is upon us, please take the time after you mow to rake or sweep out the gutters along the curb in front of your house. Leaves and litter make the streets look messy. Let's all do our part to make Landover Hills look good!



Old Flags

If you have an old flag that you would like to properly dispose of, please drop it off at Town Hall. We will be collecting flags and turning them over to a Veterans organization for disposal. Any questions, please call Town Hall at 301-773-6401

