



**January 1-2**

New Year's Holiday  
*Town office closed*

**Monday, January 2**

Land Use\*, 7 p.m.

**Wednesday, January 4**

Community Relations\*, 7 p.m.

**Monday, January 5**

Climate/Environment\*, 6 p.m.

**Monday, January 9**

TOCC Book Club, 7 p.m.  
*see page 3*

**Tuesday, January 10**

Town Coffee, 10 a.m.  
*see page 3*

**Thursday, January 12**

Discussion and Desserts, 7 p.m.  
*see page 3*

**Monday, January 16**

Martin Luther King Day  
*Town office closed.*

**Thursday, January 19**

Town Council, 7 p.m.

**Friday, January 20**

Family Movie Night, 6 p.m.  
*see page 3*

**Thursday, January 26**

Long Range Planning\*, 6:30 p.m.

\* Town Committee meeting

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

## Funding Set for New Parks

As we reported in a Town Crier, the County Council approved funding on November 29 for the development of two new parks connected to the refurbishment and expansion of the Farm Women's Market. Please see the rendering on p. 2, which shows the project as envisioned at the time of initial review by the Planning Board in 2019. The surface parking lots will be replaced with 200 public parking spaces in a garage under the park immediately behind the Farm Women's Market.

This is a significant milestone for this transformative project. Until that vote, our vision of creating these parks was aspirational, with great uncertainty as to the means of securing financing. Now, financial commitments totaling \$27.7 million have been made, and we can begin turning the vision into reality.

### Next Steps: Documentation & Public Charette Process

The parties are now at work drafting the necessary legal documents. The Town will be entering into two agreements regarding our \$4.5 million contribution: one with the Parks Department, which will use \$3.4 million of our funding to help construct the parks and associated utility work; the other with the County, which will use \$1.1 million of our funds for garage construction and associated utility work. Other agreements will allow the Parks Department to ultimately own the land for both parks. We expect that the negotiation of these agreements will take several months.

In the meantime, the developers are working to finalize plans for an entrance into the garage off Willow St. and to guide the flow of pedestrians from the Market into the park. They have also engaged a landscape architect to propose an initial set of features for both new parks. We expect these plans will be ready in February for review by residents of the Town and neighboring communities. Our involvement will be vital to ensure a package of park features that will be truly enjoyed.

The developers want to submit the Site Plan to the Planning Department by next fall and break ground in the fall of 2024 after all permits are obtained. Completion of all work on the FWM and the park behind it is scheduled for 2027, with the park on the lot between Leland St. and Walsh St. to be ready in late 2027 or in early 2028. No doubt, many challenges will arise over the coming years, including managing costs in these times of inflation, but this project is now moving ahead.

**– Mayor Barney Rush**

## Farm Women's Market Rendering



## Corso Chevy Chase

On December 5, the developers of Corso Chevy Chase resubmitted their application to rezone the former 4-H property to construct a senior living facility. The Town reviewed the resubmission and submitted comments, noting that the developers continue to seek to build five-story buildings around the three sides of the property adjacent to Town residences and have not accommodated the Town's position that these buildings be reduced to four stories. Corso's amended application and the Town's comments are available on the Town website.

On December 16, the Planning staff submitted its final comments on the application, which support the Town's position on the reduced perimeter building heights. The developers will submit a final application on December 23, and we will distribute these plans via Town Crier. The Planning staff will then prepare its staff report in preparation for a public hearing by the Planning Board in early February.

## Zimmerman Park

Last March, the Town Council approved a final redevelopment plan for Zimmerman Park. The plan, which is available on the Town website, includes grading and drainage improvements, landscaping, fencing, and amenities such as benches and bike racks. Since March, the Town's civil engineer and landscape architect have been developing construction drawings and pulling permits. We anticipate bidding the project in late spring and beginning construction in early or late summer. Additional updates will be provided in future editions of this newsletter.

## Leaf Vacuuming Ended on 12/23

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

## Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ban

Residents are reminded that the use of gas-powered blowers is prohibited from January 1 through October 14. The regulations exempt gas-powered snow blowers and sprayers.

## Recycle Your Christmas Tree!

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



## Preparations for Winter Weather

The Town's *Preparations for Winter Weather* flyer is available on the homepage of the Town website. This flyer provides an overview of the Town's 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 the *Snow Removal* page of the Town website.

## Connect with the Town

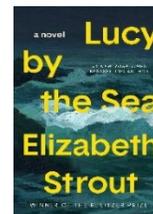
Residents may sign up on the Town website to receive Town Crier emails, Alert TOCC voice messages, and an electronic copy of the FORECAST newsletter. Information on how to connect with the Town using Facebook and Twitter also is posted on the Town website.

## Free COVID Test Kits & Masks

The Town has COVID test kits and N95 masks available for pick up at the Town office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., while supplies last.

## TOCC Book Club, January 9

Our Town of Chevy Chase Book Club will meet January 9 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall to discuss *Lucy by the Sea* by Elizabeth Strout. It is a beautiful, beautiful book, touching on the pandemic, grief, grown children, forgiveness, and the messiness of being human. Please join us! Sponsored by the Community Relations Committee; all are welcome.

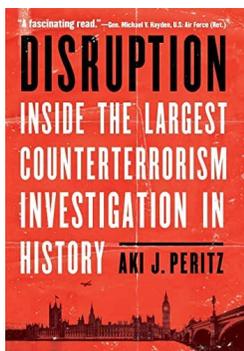


## Monthly Town Coffee, January 10

The Monthly Town coffee will be held on Tuesday, January 10 from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Town Hall. Please join neighbors -- newcomers, longtime residents, and everyone in between for conversation and refreshments. Please RSVP to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) if possible, not required. This event is sponsored by the Community Relations Committee.

## Discussion & Desserts, January 12

Aki Peritz, former counterterrorism analyst, will discuss his latest book, *Disruption*, at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. *Disruption* an account of the race to stop a terrorist conspiracy set in motion by an Al Qaeda operative following 9/11 that would have remade our world — forever. *Disruption* brings the story of that conspiracy and the heroic efforts by the intelligence services of the United States, Great Britain, and Pakistan to life with vivid imagery, interviews with top intelligence officials, and never-before-seen declassified documents. From the streets of London to the training camps of Pakistan to the corridors of power in Washington DC, the real-life story unfolds with murders, double-crosses, probes, jailbreaks, and explosions. And desserts will be served! This event is brought to you by the Community Relations Committee. Please RSVP to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) or 301-654-7144 by January 11.



## Family Movie Night, January 20

Join us as we watch *Coco* in the Town Hall on Friday, January 20 at 6 p.m. *Coco* is a PG-rated animated film released by Pixar in 2017. The story follows a 12-year-old boy in his journey to bring music back into his family's life. The movie has a runtime of 105 minutes. Come at 6 p.m. for pizza, snacks, and juice; the movie will start at 6:30 p.m. An adult must accompany children. RSVP to 301-654-7144 or [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) by January 18.



## Kids Winter Outdoor Scavenger Hunt, January 22

Join us for a free kid's winter scavenger hunt at the Lawton Center playground on Sunday, January 22 at 3:30 pm. The scavenger hunt will be geared towards ages 1-6, but all ages are welcome. There will be snacks and prizes!

## Winter Clothing Drive Continues Thru February 28



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. 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 Maple and Pine Place).

## Climate & Environment Tip of the Month

### *Reducing Household Plastic Use*

Products made from or packaged in plastic have become a scourge, and very little plastic is recyclable. What can you do beyond recycling plastic bags? Here are some ideas:

Many cleaning products are now available that are made from plants or use recycled paper products. For example, have you tried:

- Scotch-Brite Greener Clean non-scratch scrub sponges: they are made from plants, thus are biodegradable, and are available in most local grocery stores.
- Swedish dishcloth: a biodegradable cloth better than using paper towels, and it launders well. Available at Rodman's, Strosnider's, or from Who Gives a Crap (<https://us.whogivesacrap.org/>).

Cloth towels:

- Purchase a stack of small white towels instead of paper towels. Easy to launder. Reduce your usage of all single-use items.

For personal hygiene:

Standard toothbrush handles and bristles last forever (not in a good way).

- Toothbrushes with bamboo or wood handles are available from many companies.
- Use toothpaste that is available in biodegradable tubes.
- Switch to bar shampoo and conditioner -- it works great! Ditch the plastic bottles & pumps.

### **Town of Chevy Chase**

4301 Willow Lane  
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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### **TOWN COUNCIL**

*Barney Rush, Mayor*  
*Joel Rubin, Vice Mayor*  
*Rich Brancato, Secretary*  
*Irene Lane, Treasurer*  
*Joy White, Community Liaison*



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