



Forecast

DECEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER FOR THE TOWN OF CHEVY CHASE



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

Thursday, December 4
Climate/Environment*, 7 p.m.

Monday, December 8
Land Use*, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 10
Town Council, 7 p.m.
see page 2

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

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

December 24-26
Christmas Holiday
Town Office Closed

December 31-January 2
New Year's Holiday
Town Office Closed

Monday, January 5
Town Book Club, 7 p.m.
see page 3

Sunday, January 11
Theatre Discussion, 11 a.m.
see page 3

* Town Committee meeting. See website for more information.

**Holiday Gift Drive &
Winter Clothing Drive**
see page 3

Elm Street Park Renovations Coming

We are still awaiting next steps regarding redevelopment of the Farm Women's Market and the Bethesda Market Park. But in the meantime, we will see substantial changes in Elm Street Park that will include a new link for the Capital Crescent Trail (CCT) and a new and enhanced playground area. Page 2 of this issue contains a good rendering of the upcoming Elm Street Park project.

Phase 1 of this project, which the Town Council and staff were extensively engaged in planning, involves the construction of an additional link in the CCT that will connect the portion along Willow Lane to the portal where the trail will proceed up a ramp and cross over the Purple Line tracks. This new link will be built at the edge of Elm Street Park and 47th Street and then curve around the back side of the park to the portal. Regrettably, this construction will require taking down trees near 47th Street, including some large pines; but the Parks Department will be replacing these with canopy trees -- an American Elm variety that is resistant to Dutch Elm disease. In addition, pathways will be constructed in the park to guide pedestrians from the future Bethesda Market Park to the playground area without using the CCT. Construction will begin soon and should be completed by late spring of next year, in time for the expected summer opening of the entire CCT being built along the Purple Line tracks.

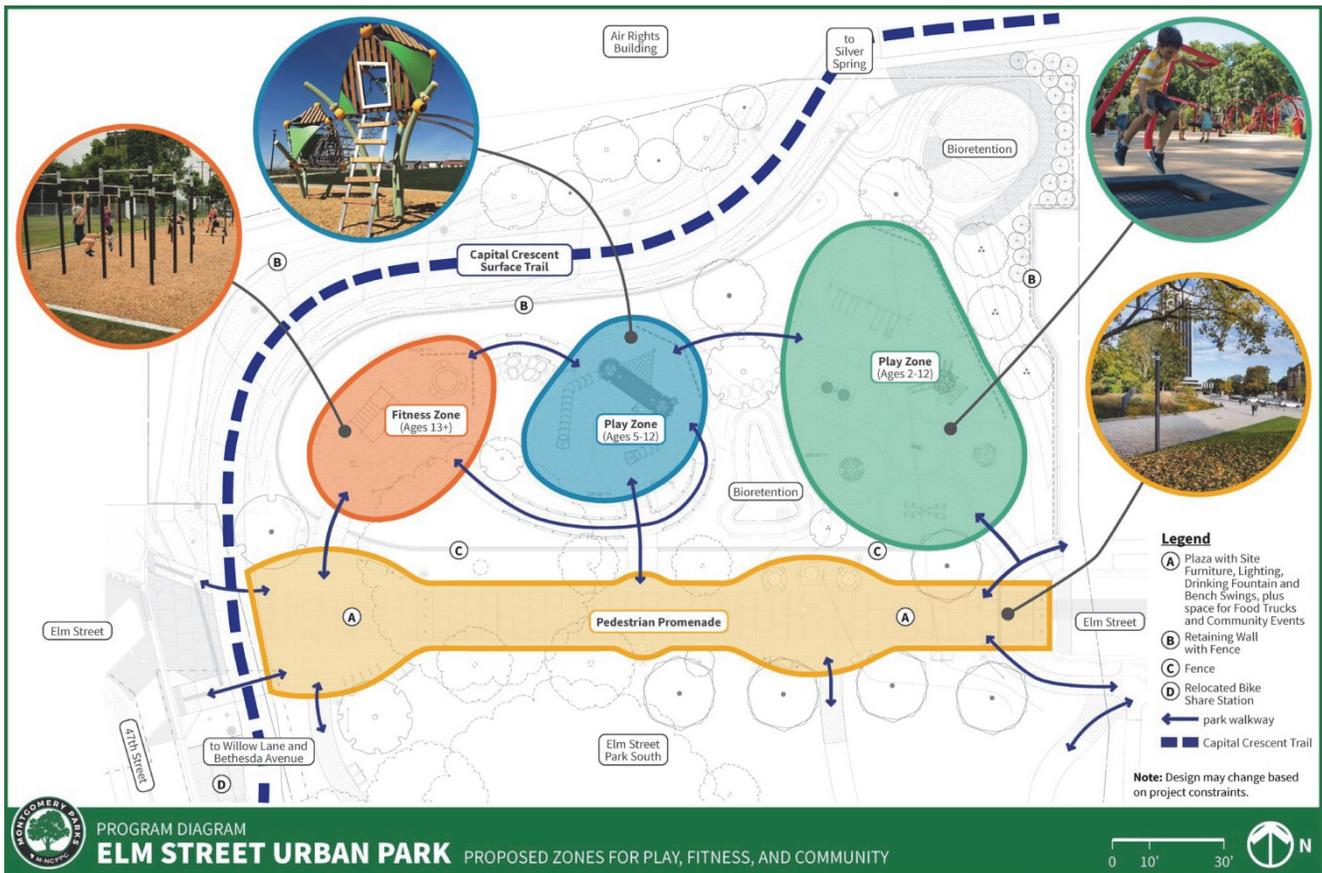
Phase 2 of the work is building an expanded playground and associated retaining walls. As shown in the rendering, there will be three distinct play areas for kids of different ages: 2-12, 5-12, and 13 years and older. A presentation that shows the project in detail can be found at bit.ly/ESPPProject. Canopy trees will be planted between the play areas, and the existing promenade linking the two sections of Elm Street will be refurbished. Completion of the new play area is expected by fall of 2026.

There is also one project that has been delayed: the resurfacing of the basketball and tennis courts at the Lawton Center. Due to difficulties in completing arrangements with a contractor, this work will now be undertaken in 2026, instead of this fall as the Parks Department had initially expected. When undertaken, this project will also address the frequent flooding and debris retention that inhibits play on the courts.

Quynh Tran Joins Town Council

We are very pleased that Quynh Tran has agreed to join the Town Council. Quynh, who took the oath of office at our Council meeting on November 19, is replacing Vice Mayor Irene Lane, who resigned as she and her husband are moving to Austin Texas. Quynh will fill the remaining months of Irene's position, which will conclude in May of next year. Quynh, who lives on Ridgewood Avenue, has most recently been co-chair of the Community Relations Committee, and has served on that committee for 8 years. Welcome, Quynh!

– Mayor Barney Rush



The final plan for a renovated Elm Street Park. The plan includes a fitness zone and two play zones.

Town Council Meets on December 10

The Town Council will hold its regular monthly meeting on December 10 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall and by Zoom. At this meeting, the Council will discuss, among other matters, a contract for a speed camera vendor as well as the status of other projects in and around Town. The December meeting **agenda will be published on December 5**. If you are unable to attend the December meeting, you may provide comments by email to townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org.

Leaf Collection Ends on December 22

Leaf vacuuming 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. Please remember -- and remind your contractors -- that gas-powered leaf blowers (GPLBs) are prohibited year-round in the Town.



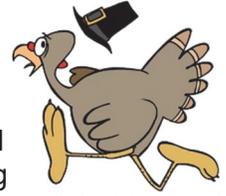
Preparations for Winter Weather



The Town's Winter Weather Preparedness flyer is available at bit.ly/TOCCWinter. We would like to remind residents that, in the event or threat of a snowstorm or icy road conditions, **cars must be parked either in driveways or on the even-numbered side of the street** (unless otherwise posted) to ensure safe passage for the snow removal trucks. Also, please note that the Town's contractor will remove snow from public sidewalks if accumulations total 6 inches or more. Otherwise, residents are responsible for clearing the sidewalks adjacent to their homes within 24 hours after precipitation has ended. Thank you for your cooperation.

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.

A Heartfelt Thanksgiving Thanks!



To all who contributed to the Town's 17th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner effort, a heartfelt thanks! **160 Montgomery County school families received grocery cards** to shop for a holiday dinner and have extra food over the Thanksgiving school break. 115 school families received grocery cards of either \$100 or \$125, depending on the size of their family. Another 45 families, who have access to other non-perishable food donations, received a \$50 Giant or Aldi card to help with meat and other perishables items. Thank you for your generous support this year!

TOCC Book Club Meets January 5

The next meeting of the TOCC Book Club will be Monday, January 5 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall. We will discuss ***The Correspondent*** by Virginia Evans, an ode to the lost art of letter writing, sent or unsent. All Town residents are welcome.

Round House Theatre Discussion, January 11

The Community Relations Committee will be hosting a discussion of Round House Theatre's production ***Rules for Giving*** on Sunday, January 11 at 11 a.m. See the play at your convenience then come share your impressions with neighbors. Location (either the Town Hall or a private home) will be sent to all who RSVP to bit.ly/RHTJan11 by January 6.

Winter Clothing Drive Continues Thru February 28



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. Clothing donation boxes are located 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). Thank you for helping those in need.

Brighten the Holidays for Domestic Violence Victims & Their Families

This is the 15th year of the holiday fundraising drive for survivors of domestic violence and their children conducted by the Community Relations Committee. Neighbors have donated generously to families struggling with the pernicious effects of domestic violence and trying to make ends meet. **The deadline is Friday, December 19**, but donations will be accepted gratefully anytime.

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 for children receiving trauma counseling at Chesapeake Counseling.

Here's what you can do:

- 1) **Donate online:** bit.ly/MCFJCTOCC
- 2) **Write checks** of any amount to "FJC Foundation" (memo: "TOCC fundraising drive");
- 3) **Donate gift cards** from stores such as Target, Marshall's, Kohl's, Safeway, or Giant.



Checks and gift cards can be dropped off at the Town office during normal business hours or at Cathy Wolf's house: (7624 Lynn Drive -- basket in carport) or Quynh Tran's house: (7203 Ridgewood Avenue -- in black mailbox). For a tax receipt, provide your name & email. Thank you for your generosity!

Town of Chevy Chase

4301 Willow Lane
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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TOWN COUNCIL

Barney Rush, Mayor
Rich Brancato, Vice Mayor
Tambra Leonard, Secretary
Carlo Collela, Treasurer
Quynh Tran, Community Liaison

 This newsletter is printed on recycled paper.

Eco-Friendly Tips from the Climate & Environment Committee

Learn How To Reduce Plastic Waste

Plastics pose a wide range of hazards to the environment and human health. The Town's Climate and Environment Committee is proud to host Didi Bild and Adrienne Dern, Co-Chairs of **Beyond Plastics Montgomery County**, to talk about efforts in the county and state to combat the crisis of plastic waste.

Join us on Saturday, January 10 at 4 p.m. in the Town Hall to learn how we can take individual and collective steps to reduce the production and use of single-use plastics.



Free Composting

Did you know the Town offers free composting? Composting is an easy, sustainable way to recycle food waste and other organic materials, with a bonus of benefiting the environment. You can sign up at www.compostcrew.com. Residents also will receive a **free bag of compost in the spring!**