

# Town Council Actions: December 2025

- Adopted Resolution Recognizing the Sesquicentennial of the First Elected Council of the Town of Occoquan
- Received Report of the Fall Arts & Craft Show
- Received First Quarterly Report of the Visit Occoquan FY26
- Accepted Fiscal Year '24 Financial Audit & Presentation
- Adopted Resolution of Congratulations to Inez Thurston

## Menorah Lighting December 15, 2025

Join us for our annual lighting of the Menorah. It will be happening on Monday the 15th at 5:30pm, the second night of Chanukah.



## Volunteer for Board Vacancies

The Board of Zoning Appeals is seeking two volunteers to serve through January 31, 2030. If interested, please complete the short application and submit to Town Hall M-F, 9am-4pm. Applications are available at Town Hall (314 Mill St.) or online under the "Boards and Commissions" page at [www.occoquanva.gov](http://www.occoquanva.gov)

## OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

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### TOWN OF OCCOQUAN

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# OCCOQUAN NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXXII, ISSUE XI

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December 2025

### TOWN COUNCIL

Ernest W. Porta, Jr., Mayor  
Jenn Loges, Vice Mayor  
Theo Daubresse  
Cindy Fithian  
Eliot Perkins  
Robert Love



### TOWN HALL STAFF

Adam Linn, Town Manager & Chief of Police  
Megan Lubash, Asst. Town Manager & Town Clerk  
Philip Auville, Deputy Town Treasurer  
Asma Rupani, Town Treasurer  
Tammy Hassett Events Director  
Jessica Bastone, Administrative Assistant  
Jason Forman, Deputy Chief of Police

## Mayor's Letter

Thank you to everyone who participated in making our annual shop late and tree lighting event last month so enjoyable. It was a wonderful start to the Christmas and winter holiday season in town. Our next event brings Santa Claus by boat to the town dock at 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 6. He'll swing by the Artisan Market and then go to Town Hall to get photos with kids of all ages.

Speaking of the Artisan Market, after a hiatus, this is being brought back by popular demand. In addition to town businesses, we will have bunch of pop up market stalls in town on both December 6th and 7th, accompanied in its midst by a Fireside Corner where you can warm up and enjoy some libations and treats with fellow shoppers. Many town businesses will be open late again on that Saturday evening.

We of course have other holiday programs during the month, as well. This includes the *Untrim-A-Tree Senior Basket Program*, which runs through December 10, and our *Letters to Santa* campaign which ends on December 15. The Clerk of the Circuit Court's Office will also be here on December 12 at Madigan's Waterfront Restaurant for holiday elopements! Then on December 15 at 5:30 p.m. in River Mill Park we will light the Chanukah Menorah donated by the Chabad of Greater Gainesville & Manassas. More detailed information on all of these is contained elsewhere in this newsletter or on the town web site.

Hopefully, everyone can find something enjoyable to do in Occoquan during the month. If nothing else, try simply strolling through the decorated streets of town to enjoy the atmosphere. Staff have been working diligently over the years to gradually increase our stock of lighting and decorations and we hope you have noticed them. Of course, while strolling we hope you will consider patronizing our small businesses, who depend heavily on this season to be successful.

As always, thank you for your support of our community and please do not hesitate to contact me at [eporta@occoquanva.gov](mailto:eporta@occoquanva.gov) with any questions, comments, or concerns.

*Ernest W. Porta, Jr.*

## Shop, Dine, & Win! Contest

### Ends December 7

Grab your favorite drink, wander through fabulous finds, and let the good times roll—because every purchase could be your golden ticket to win! Think of it as retail therapy with a splash of happy hour and a sprinkle of luck. Shop and dine at your favorite Occoquan businesses for a chance to win \$100 in Occoquan business gift cards! This is a great way to explore and support the town’s unique businesses that make Occoquan so great. Winners will be drawn **December 8th**. For more information on all of our holiday events check out [visitoccoquanva.com/holiday](http://visitoccoquanva.com/holiday)

## 2025 Real Estate Tax Bills Due

This is a reminder that the Real Estate Tax due date is **December 5th** for the 2025 year. Real Estate tax bills have been mailed to each property owner unless a mortgage services company has requested the tax bill. If you do not utilize a mortgage services company, then you must pay your tax directly to the Town. For more information go to [occoquanva.gov/living-here/tax-information](http://occoquanva.gov/living-here/tax-information).

## Occoquan Gives Back

### Ends December 10

This Christmas, you can be Santa! Donate to Untrim-A-Tree’s Senior Basket program. We are proudly partnering with Volunteer Prince William to bring cheer to senior citizens in our area. Fill the sleigh at Town Hall on weekdays between 9am-4pm or at Mamie Davis Park during our Holiday Artisan Market. For more details on items needed or to give virtually, go to [www.visitoccoquanva.com/giveback](http://www.visitoccoquanva.com/giveback)

## Santa is Coming to Occoquan!

### December 6

Jingle bells and river swells– Santa is coming by boat! Santa is docking at 11:30am. He will sing a few songs at the Holiday Artisan Market before heading to Town Hall where you can snap a magical moment with him. Please bring your own camera.

## MEETINGS & EVENTS

### December 5

#### Real Estate Taxes Due

### December 5 & 6

#### Gingerbread Creations Due

10am-4pm December 5  
9am– 12pm December 6  
to Townhall

### December 6 & 7

#### Holiday Artisan Market

12pm-8pm December 6  
11am– 4pm December 7

### December 7

#### Last day for Shop, Dine, & Win Contest!

### December 9

#### Town Council Meeting\*

7:00 pm

### December 12

#### Holiday Elopements

12pm-4pm at Madigan’s Waterfront

### December 15

#### Menorah Lighting

5:30pm

### December 16

#### Planning Commission

6:30 pm

#### Architectural Review Board

7:30 pm

### December 24-26

#### Townhall Closed Christmas Holiday

\*Meetings held at Town Hall, 314 Mill Street, unless otherwise noted.

## December Events:

### Holiday Elopements

#### December 12

Ditch the stress, grab a kiss, and say, “I do” in the winter wonderland of Madigan’s Waterfront from 12pm-4pm! Our Holiday Elopement Event is the perfect shortcut to romance with festive cheer and zero wedding planning headaches. Cozy up, pop some champagne, and let the holiday magic make your love official! To learn more visit [www.visitoccoquanva.com/elopement](http://www.visitoccoquanva.com/elopement) and call **703-792-6036** to reserve your spot.

### Holiday Artisan Market

#### December 6 - December 7

See the magic of historic Occoquan come alive during our Holiday Artisan Market. Join us on Union and Commerce Street to meet local artisans and find one of a kind gifts. Take a break from shopping and warm up at our Fireside Corner in the center of the market. Spice things up by entering our annual Gingerbread Contest! Patrons will be voting for their favorite during both days of the market. For more information about entry please visit [www.visitoccoquanva.com/arisanmarket](http://www.visitoccoquanva.com/arisanmarket). Shuttle services will be available from the Rt 123/Old Bridge Commuter Lot. Shuttles cost \$5 for all weekend access.

### Letters to Santa

#### Deadline December 15

Whether you’ve been naughty, nice, or somewhere in between (we won’t tell), your letter could be the sparkle that makes the North Pole twinkle a little brighter. Design your own letter or create one with us during the Holiday Artisan Market (Dec 6, 12pm-8pm and Dec 7, 11am-4pm). Drop your letter to Santa in our special mailbox at **Town Hall (314 Mill Street)** or at **Hitchcock Paper Co. (125 Mill Street)**. If you include a return address, Santa will send a personalized letter back!

