

**November 20, 2020**



435 N. DuPont Hwy  
Dover, DE 19901  
Contact: Dina Vendetti  
[marketing@cdcc.net](mailto:marketing@cdcc.net)  
302-734-7513

### A New Twist on a Beloved Tradition

The Capital Holiday Celebration is still happening... just a little differently this year. Due to the added restrictions announced by the Governor's office in the face of the pandemic's recent spike, plans for the Capital Holiday Celebration have been reworked. The City of Dover will still welcome the holiday season with many of the same elements as have become tradition, but some of them will be presented in a new way to ensure the safety of everyone.

The official start of the holiday season for Dover residents will take place on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Events to share holiday cheer and opportunities to catch the Christmas spirit will begin at 2 pm and run through 8 pm. Activities will not all take place in one location, but they will be taking place all over the downtown area.

Mayor Robin R. Christiansen will light the City's Christmas Tree at 6 pm in front of City Hall – this event will be live-streamed on Facebook! Non-perishable donations for area food pantries can be brought to the truck parked next to the Library on Federal Street from 2 – 6 pm. Also from 2 – 6 pm, the team at the Dover Public Library will be providing three different crafts in grab bags for attendees to take home and create. The bags will be handed out – first come, first served – on the Loockerman Street side of the building. Attendees will also be encouraged to participate in a StoryWalk® connected to the Merchants' Holiday Window Contest. Each window will be decorated around the theme "Holiday Wishes" based on the children's book The Wish Tree Written by Kyo Maclear and illustrated by Chris Turnham. Participants will be able to view each window while reading pages from the book. What a great way to experience a holiday story!

And, of course, one cannot host a kick-off to the holidays without the most popular toy maker of all time, Santa Claus himself! Santa will be taking a short break from making his list and checking it twice so that he can make his presence known at the event. While social distancing rules will prevent children from visiting Santa up close and sitting on his lap, Santa will be riding around town, waving and spreading good cheer. Children of all ages are invited to write a letter to Santa and bring it to the event – a special mailbox located in the Children's Section of the Library will be ready to collect the letters and have them delivered directly to Santa... no stamp required!

Many of our downtown merchants will be open for evening shopping until 8 pm. It will be the perfect time to take advantage of the discounts offered through the Capital Key Card (visit [www.downtowndoverpartnership.com](http://www.downtowndoverpartnership.com) to learn about this program). Shoppers will also be able to view the holiday windows that are entered in the Merchants' Holiday Window Contest. The Dover-based jazz fusion band, The Fig Tree, will be on hand on Loockerman Street to provide music from 5 – 7 pm. There will be something for everyone as, together, we enter the Holiday Season!

Be sure to tune in to Facebook the day of the event for live updates from Downtown Dover! We are excited to see all of you at this fun, family friendly start to the holiday season! Stay tuned for more information and details to follow in the Delaware State News.