



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024

FEBRUARY VILLAGE MEETING

February 20, 2024 – 7:30pm– hybrid platform (in person and via Zoom - instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of January Minutes *Treasurer’s Report *Permits

CALENDAR (2024)

- February 20: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm
- March 14: Curbside Donation, Clothing
Donation Nation
- March 15: Curbside Donation,
Furniture/Non-Clothing Items
Donation Nation
- March 16: Bulk Trash Pick Up
- March 19: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm
- April 16: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

The Village is turning 100!

Save the date: April 27, 2024 Do you have a story to share? Do you have old photos of the Village or know the history of your home? Please contact Olga Joos at treasurer@northchevyCHASE.org with any photos, history, or simply just names of previous owners as this information may help in the search for Village history.

Over the past month, Olga has communicated with current and former residents to collect more history on the development of the Village since Redford Walker and his son purchased the land in 1895 that makes up what we now call the Village. All inputs are appreciated as it

will add more richness to the Village history we are pulling together. See the last page for some interesting bullet points and photos.

In addition, the Village is looking for volunteers to assist with our 100th Celebration and would greatly appreciate your time and talent to make this event a success. Volunteering is a great way to benefit our community and a great way to get to know your neighbors. Please contact the Village Manager at nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org if you are interested in helping.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.org

Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
vicechair@northchevyCHASE.org

Secretary: Maury Mechanick
secretary@northchevyCHASE.org

Treasurer: Olga Joos
treasurer@northchevyCHASE.org

Member: Jon Macy
member@northchevyCHASE.org

Manager: Susan Theis
nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org

Fire Board Representatives:
Dave Albinson, Abby Morris, Guim Barbour

Village of North Chevy Chase
PO Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Mobile: 301-654-7084
TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258
Website: www.northchevyCHASE.org

Tax Time:

Processing of personal income tax returns for Tax Year 2023 has begun. The federal and state individual income tax filing deadline is **Monday, April 15.**

Revenues received through our residents' paid income taxes remain the most significant source of Village revenues. This money goes directly to services benefiting Village residents. Village residents do not pay any additional income taxes to live in the Village of North Chevy Chase. By law, as a municipality, the Village receives a portion of the tax you pay to Montgomery County.

Please be aware that MD Form 502 features a separate political subdivision section located under your mailing address. When you complete your Maryland income tax return, remember to put the Village of North Chevy Chase under "Maryland Political Subdivision" and include **1618** the "4 digit Political Subdivision Code" to ensure the Village receives our share of the state income tax.

Village Council Elections:

Election for three Village Council positions (2-year terms) will be held on **Tuesday, May 7.** Per the Village Charter, a Nominating Committee shall be appointed no later than March 1, to comprise at least three persons who are Qualified Voters (resident of the Village of North Chevy Chase who is qualified to vote in Montgomery County and who is registered with the Montgomery County Board of Supervisors of Elections or with the Village Council).

Qualified Voters who are interested in serving on the Nominating Committee, please contact the Village Manager by **Friday, February 23.**

Permit Reminders:

If you are considering a home renovation, addition or landscape project, please contact the Village for information and to determine what permits may be required. There are county and Village building regulations that may apply.

For information or if you have permitting questions, please call the Village office at (301) 654-7084 or send an email to nccinfo@northchevychase.org

Snow Removal:

Last month, for the first time in two years, the Village had a significant snowstorm. Snow Central did its best to clear streets and we appreciate everyone who moved cars into driveways or to the even numbered side of the street, as it made snow removal much easier.

Snow Central obtains its salt from the State Highway administration through a Memorandum of Understanding we have with the state. The salt depot is conveniently on the ramp of Connecticut Avenue and the beltway; this year, however, it hasn't been consistently open, making it very difficult for our contractor to obtain salt once the storm ceased. The Village Manager, working with neighboring municipal manager, has arranged with Montgomery County to obtain salt from their depot on Brookville Road in Silver Spring. Therefore, the Village will now have two sources of salt so we will not be caught without again.

In addition, Village management will continue to notify residents via the email distribution list when snow removal is scheduled. Please note that residents are required to maintain the sidewalks adjacent to their property for passable and safe pedestrian travel by removing snow and ice (or spreading sand or calcium magnesium acetate if snow/ice has hardened) within 24 hours of snow cessation.

On Street Parking Concerns:

The Village representatives on the Montgomery County Fire Board have advised the Council of difficulties that on-street parking poses for safe passage by emergency vehicles on some Village streets, particularly narrower ones.

Recognizing that some parking on Village streets is unavoidable, there are some common-sense measures that can minimize the impact on emergency vehicles and help avoid the imposition of more stringent parking restrictions by Montgomery County.

These measures include:

- For residents with driveways or car pads, please park as many cars as you can in your driveway or on your car pad before using on-street parking.

- For residents owning multiple vehicles, park larger vehicles (such as SUVs) in driveways while using on-street parking for smaller vehicles (such as compacts or sedans).
- When parking on the street, park your vehicle as close to the curb as possible.
- When parking on the street, be mindful of where other cars are parked on the opposite side and attempt to stagger your parking by at least one car length from cars parked on the opposite side.

GENERAL INTEREST

Montgomery County Police Chief Marcus Jones Announces Retirement After Thirty-Eight Years of Dedicated Service

After a career spanning 38-years, Chief Marcus G. Jones has announced his retirement from the Montgomery County Department of Police (MCPD), effective Monday, July 1, 2024.

Chief Jones is a respected leader, who has tirelessly served Montgomery County with unwavering commitment and dedication.

Throughout his tenure, he has played a pivotal role in enhancing public safety, implementing innovative policing strategies, and fostering positive relationships between MCPD and the community.

Chief Jones was appointed the 17th Police Chief in November of 2019. He began his career with MCPD in September of 1985, and worked his way up the ranks. He previously served as the Assistant Chief of the Investigative Services Bureau. He has also served as the Commander of the 3rd District, Director of Major Crimes, Drug Enforcement Commander and a variety of other assignments. He was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame in 2020.

The search for a new Chief of Police will begin right away, to ensure a smooth transition.

County Executive's recommended capital budget, capital improvement program

Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich transmitted his \$5.84 billion FY2025-30 capital improvement program (CIP) that addresses major capital needs over the next six fiscal years, and his recommended FY2025 capital budget to the County Council for consideration.

The CIP budget is \$133 million (2.3 percent) more than the FY2023-28 CIP budget. Among the funding recommendations are the following:

- \$1.9 billion for Montgomery County Schools capital projects;
- more than \$580 million for bus rapid transit (BRT) along Maryland routes 355 and 586 (Veirs Mill Road);
- \$194.7 million for affordable housing;
- funds for resurfacing and rehabilitation of county roads and sidewalk repair;
- \$153 million to begin implementation of the county's comprehensive flood management plan; and
- purchase of 219 electric battery and hydrogen fuel cell buses continuing the transition to a 100 percent zero-emissions bus fleet by 2035.

Property tax assessments and appeals considerations

Property tax assessments are distributed in three groups by the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation, and a third of Maryland homeowners received their new assessments (from the state, not the county) in December 2023 for tax year 2024.

Nearly 97% of the recipients saw their assessments go up, a lot in many instances: an average of 23.4% across the state and 21% in Montgomery County. A major reason for the increase was that residential housing stock is low, demand is high.

If you are among these recipients and thinking of appealing your assessment, there is a lot to consider, including some risk. For example, if you think your assessment is inaccurate and file an appeal but lose, the state might realize it under-assessed your home and you could be on the hook for the higher assessment. If you appeal that decision, there are hoops to go

through, at which point you might want to hire an attorney.

The appeal form and more information are available on the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation website (<https://dat.maryland.gov/realproperty/Pages/Assessment-Appeal-Process.aspx>)

U.S. DOT denies grant for Beltway funding

U.S. Department of Transportation this week denied the state's application for a grant that would have been used to ease congestion along Maryland portions of the Capital Beltway. State and federal officials did not say why Maryland's application for funding for Beltway relief was rejected.

State transportation officials said last year they would seek a total of \$3 billion in federal aid to help pay for replacement of the American Legion Bridge as well as the widening of Interstate 270 through the multimodal project discretionary grant.

Maryland Legislative Jewish Caucus Launched

Senator Shelly Hettleman (D-Baltimore County) and Delegate Jared Solomon (D-Montgomery County) have announced the launch of the Maryland Legislative Jewish Caucus in the General Assembly. The purposes of the caucus are to fight antisemitism and hate crimes, protect religious freedom, educate Marylanders about the Jewish community, serve as a liaison to Jewish people and celebrate Jewish culture and heritage. Hettleman and Solomon will serve as Senate and House co-chairs.

County Council to hold Black History Month commemoration

The public is invited to attend the County Council's annual commemoration for Black History Month on **Tuesday, February 6, at 11:30am** in the Council Office Building's third floor hearing room at 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville.

This year's commemoration will focus on African Americans and the arts. On February 6, the council will recognize Levi Robinson, a local award-winning artist; Kenneth Smith, Montgomery Blair High School social studies

teacher who leads a hip-hop history and culture course; and Angela Ingram, a local folklore educator and professional dancer who specializes in ballet, jazz, and tap.

Residents who cannot join the commemoration in person can stream the event live or after the fact on the Council's YouTube and Facebook pages.

You're Invited to a Concert!

The North Chevy Chase Christian Church invites the community to come and hear 'Dick' Kaufmann & The Glen Pearson Band on **Sunday, February 11 at 1pm**. Donations will be accepted and all proceeds to benefit the Church's General Fund, with 10 percent going to outreach ministries.

Montgomery County Recreation's Spring Registration

Montgomery County Recreation's spring registration begins at **6:30am on Monday, February 12** for County residents for most programs and activities.

Spring programs and activities are tailored to a variety of interests, skill levels and ages. Offerings include aquatics, fitness, sports, visual and performing arts, therapeutic recreation, adult 55+ programming and more.

There are hundreds of programs available that promote an active, healthier lifestyle. Programs will become viewable online Friday, February 2 and residents can build their own guide or view the digital guide online.

While online registration is encouraged, registration will also be available by mail, drop-off or in-person. For more information about registration, visit the website at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/howto/registrationinformation.html> or call the customer service team at 240-777-6840.

Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment Released

Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) has released the 2023 Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), and the report shows that mental

health is the most important health issue to residents and stakeholders surveyed. The CHNA details the health and socioeconomic needs, issues and barriers of the community.

Key health needs and issues are identified in the report, and these will be used to create a Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The full CHNA report is available on the Healthy Montgomery website at <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/healthy/montgomery/Process/chna.html>

Residents, community partners and stakeholders are invited to attend a virtual town hall on from **3-4:30pm on Wednesday, February 21**, for a more detailed look at the report's findings.

Advance registration for the virtual town hall is required to receive login information. Register for the Zoom event here: <https://montgomerycountymd.gov.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlqdevtqjooGtFMGoLae-YgMnZ91fDyHn-a#/registration>.

If you would like to know more about the CHNA, email Christopher Rogers at Christopher.Rogers@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Chevy Chase At Home Talk on Democracy
Chevy Chase At Home invites the community to a wide ranging discussion with Marvin Kalb on issues related to the future of democracy in the U.S. and around the world on **Thursday, February 22 at 1pm**.

A nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, he is a prolific international correspondent with a long history in broadcast news and the author of 17 books on Russia, the media, and foreign policy. The recipient of numerous journalism awards, Kalb served for many years as chief diplomatic correspondent and host of "Meet the Press" on NBC. Founder of the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School, Kalb is an expert on media ethics and responsibility. His latest publication is "Assignment Russia: Becoming a Foreign Correspondent in the Crucible of the Cold War."

This event is online and open to the community. Register in advance to get the zoom link at info@chevychaseathome.org or (301) 657-3115.

Consumer Alert: Important Information on Door-to-Door Sales Scams

The Maryland Attorney General's Office is offering tips to help people avoid door-to-door sales scams.

Door-to-door scams have been around for years. Scammers may disguise themselves as legitimate salespeople, but they have one goal – to trick consumers. They want to pressure people into providing personal information or purchasing goods or services that they do not want or need.

Common door-to-door imposter scams:

- Water Filtration Scams
- Fake Solar Energy Providers
- Fake Utility Representatives
- Home Improvement Scams

Helpful tips for protecting yourself against door-to-door seller scams:

- Research the business before agreeing to allow any work to be done in your home or on your property.
- Legitimate salespeople will identify themselves immediately and have a photo identification in sight.
- Keep your front and back doors locked while talking with any salesperson.
- Require that the salesperson provide you with a written quote. Scammers may give a verbal quote with a good price, but then they may demand more money before the job is finished – or they may never finish the work at all.
- Never pay in cash. If you suspect fraud after the transaction, you may be able to dispute charges with your credit card company or stop payment on a check.

Remember: If someone knocks on your door and offers a deal that seems too good to be true, it likely is.

Tell the Friends of the Chevy Chase Library

The Friends of the Chevy Chase Library is an independent, community-based organization founded in 1995 to support the wonderful library and to help connect the community with the library.

The Friends of Chevy Chase Library would like to get your ideas about programs they should support in the future and have posted a short online survey to solicit your ideas. Please take this survey – it won't take more than a few minutes – and tell them what interests you. It can be found at

https://qualtricsxmpjkrh2hc2.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_81usfc3xxfisd82

Are you familiar with our local station, **Maryland Municipal Cable**, available on Channel 16 on Comcast, Verizon and RCN every evening as well as 24/7 on [YouTube](#)? MMC was established to increase community awareness among the citizens of Montgomery County Maryland by broadcasting municipal events, educational programs and other content relevant to the community.

You can also learn what's happening in your neighborhood with [Montgomery Municipal Cable's Inside Scoop](#), a weekly newsletter sent on Fridays that contains the latest events in our community. For daily content and updates visit the blog section of the MMC website. Look at the [website](https://www.mmctv.org/programs/) for a full list of programs.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM JANUARY COUNCIL

(Please note that the official minutes will be posted to Village website upon approval)

Secretary's Report for December 2023 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer's Report for December 2023 (Joos) – Approved.

Results for December 2023 included income of \$1404.41 and operating expenses of \$34,091.86 (including waste removal, leaf collection, street lighting, trees, wages and taxes, membership and dues, professional fees, and office and communication). No capital expenditures were incurred during December 2023. Total current assets as of December 2023, consisting of

operating balance plus reserves, including APRA funds received, came to \$2,959,561.43.

Action Items:

Composting – Consistent with the decision taken at the December 2023 Council Meeting, the Council approved the issuance of a RFP to potential composting companies to submit bids for the Village's pilot project regarding composting.

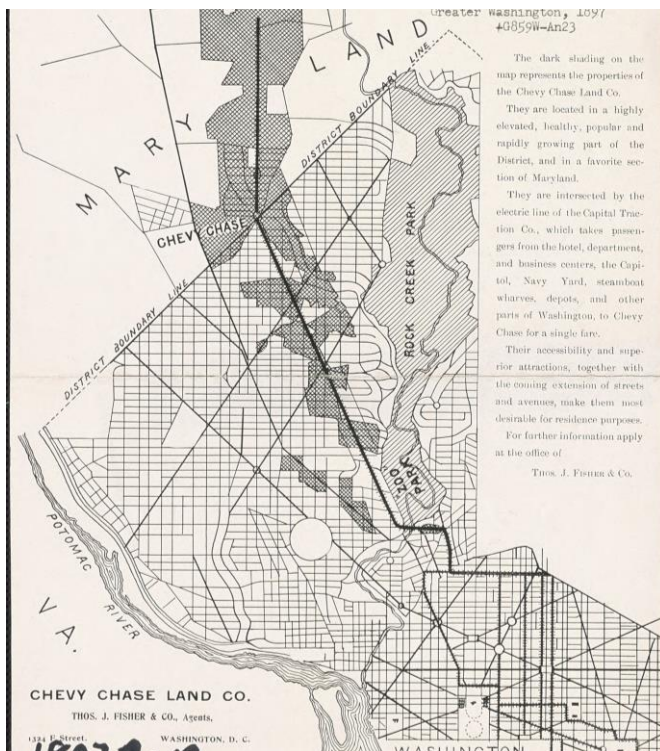
Amendment of Village Ordinances Regarding the Planting of Canopy Trees in the Village Right of Way and Required Notification to Be Provided to New Residents Regarding Village Permitting Requirements

– In recognition of the importance of maintaining adequate canopy tree coverage throughout the Village, the Village Council decided that amendment of the Village Ordinances to establish specific policies regarding circumstances in which the Village may plant trees within the Village right of ways and to specify the circumstances in which canopy trees on residential property can be taken down, should be undertaken. Similarly, in order to ensure that new residents are fully aware of Village permitting procedure, the Council also decided that amendment of the Village Ordinances to require disclosure of Village permitting procedures in connection with the sale of residential properties located within the Village should be undertaken. Specific text for revised Ordinances will be submitted for consideration at the February 2024 Council Meeting, as the first step required under the Village Charter for adopting amendments to existing Ordinances.

ARPA Funds – The Council continued discussion of possible projects to be funded by ARPA funds received, with increased focus on using these funds for improved pedestrian street lighting along Kensington Parkway and improve overhead lighting throughout the Village. In order to develop concrete plans and contract execution by year-end 2024, as a condition for expenditure of the ARPA funds, the Village will retain advice of one or more lighting experts to develop the necessary plans.

Village 100-Year Celebration – In connection with the Village efforts undertaken to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of the Village's formal establishment, Olga Joos has undertaken research that she reported on regarding the Village's history and some historically significant developments with respect to the surrounding areas. Below are some interesting historical bullet points.

- Village development stemmed from transportation developments- the Baltimore and Ohio railroad to the north and the Rock Creek Railway to the south which ended at Chevy Chase Lake.
- To the south of the Village, Senator Newland created [Rock Creek Railway](#) to support the development of Chevy Chase which he led through the Chevy Chase Land Company.

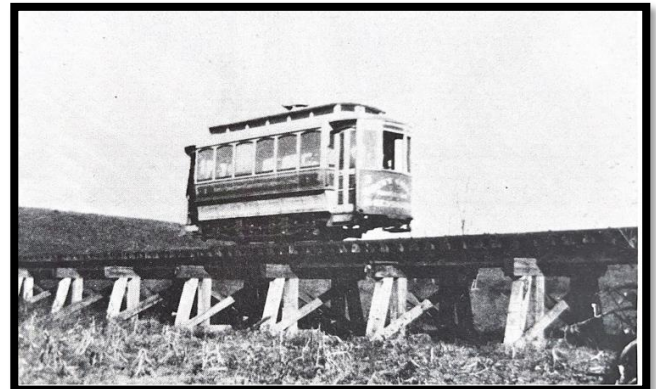


- To the north of the Village, [Kensington developed around the B&O train station](#)

which just celebrated its [150 anniversary last year.](#)

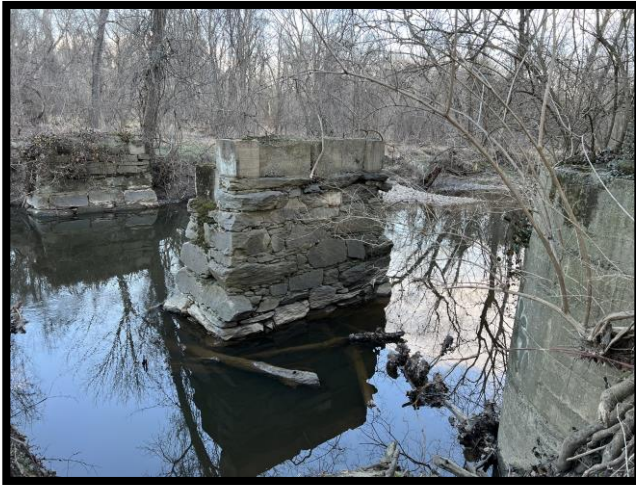


- Brainard Warner, a prominent Kensington developer, improved Kensington's transportation connection with DC by chartering [the Chevy Chase Lake and Kensington Railway](#) in 1894, connecting Kensington to the Rock Creek Railway trolley terminus at Chevy Chase Lake.



- The trolley traversed Rock Creek Park on a trolley trestle and bridge. You can still see the remaining trolley bridge abutments when you cross Rock Creek.

- You can also see a preserved trolley in the [DC collection at the National Capital Trolley Museum located in Colesville, MD.](#)



Trivia: Do you recognize this beautiful Village home?



This is one of the oldest homes in the neighborhood. Email the address and date the home was built to Olga at treasurer@northchevy Chase.org to be recognized in the newsletter next month.

We greatly appreciate Village residents sharing their memories and photos with us, such as was the case with this lovely photo. THANK YOU!