



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER MAY/JUNE 2024

JUNE VILLAGE MEETING

June 18, 2024, 7:30pm – Hybrid (zoom and in-person - instructions will be sent to the Village's email list). *Approval of May & Annual Meeting Minutes *Treasurer's Report *Permits * Compost Crew* July 4th annual party

CALENDAR (2024)

- June 1: Village Spring Fair (9am-12pm)
at Inverness & Montgomery
- June 7: National Gun Violence
Awareness Day (orange ribbons)
- June 13: Curbside Donation, Clothing
Donation Nation
- June 14: Curbside Donation,
Furniture/Non-Clothing Items
- June 15: Bulk Trash Pick Up
- June 18: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid – presentation by
Compost Crew
- July 4: Annual Block Party & Pot Luck
- July 16: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid
- (No Council meeting in August)
- Sept 19: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm Hybrid

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

New Residents:

The Village warmly welcomes the following new residents!

- **8804 Montgomery Avenue:** Evan Sheppard and Michele Udine
- **8900 Clifford:** Billy Hayes, Natalie Burke and their son, Charlie

Village Council Elections:

Adrian Andreassi, Olga Joos and Maury Mechanick were all reelected to another two-year term at the annual meeting on May 7, 2024. Please note in the box for the Village Council the respective positions each Council member has over the next year.

Do you need a Permit?

Spring/Summer is a great time to refresh your home and yard, but before you begin any exterior improvement project, please ensure you have obtained the necessary permits from the Village (and, when applicable, Montgomery County). When in doubt, please visit the Village website, or contact the Village Manager to confirm if your planned project requires a permit.

VILLAGE COUNCIL

- Chair: Adrian Andreassi
chair@northchevyCHASE.org
- Vice Chair: Brian Hoffner
brianhoffner@gmail.com
- 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, Guim Barbour, Abby Morris

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

Village Spring Fair on Saturday, June 1st!

Come by Montgomery Avenue at Inverness Drive on **Saturday, June 1st from 9am to 12pm** and enjoy:

- **Gorgeous native flowers and shrubs** - Pre-order and/or available at the fair.
- **Art show - Nature in Our Neighborhood!** All ages and all art are welcome, from crayon & pencil drawings to photographs & oil paintings.
- **Kids' Corner** - Bring the kids for a fun scavenger hunt and nature-friendly crafts!
- **Delicious sweet and savory crepes and coffee** from **The Crepe Shoppe** available for purchase and cooked to order. We're aiming for zero waste so please bring your own coffee cup.
- **Live music!** Folk Favorites & more!
- Get garden and nature advice from local experts and your favorite non-profits!

We hope to see everyone there!

Calling All Artists!

Submit your artwork to be showcased at Nature in Our Neighborhood, the **Village Spring Fair Art Show, on June 1st from 9am-12pm**. All ages and skill levels are welcome. You may use whatever medium inspires you, from oil paints to markers or crayons.

We are accepting submissions through **Friday, May 31st**. If you are interested, please drop off artwork with the artist's name and title at the Sripathi residence, 3706 Stewart Dr., or contact Geetika Sripathi at gbhandari@gmail.com for more information.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day:

In May 2020, the Council unanimously adopted a proclamation declaring the first Friday in June (**June 7, 2024**) as National Gun Violence Awareness Day within the Village of North Chevy Chase, to honor and remember all victims and survivors of gun violence, to declare that we as a country must do more to reduce gun violence, and to encourage all citizens to support their local communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human lives. In recognition of this day, the Village will be hanging orange ribbons on its municipal signs.

Donation Prior to Bulk Trash Pick Up:

Donation Nation will be coming through the Village prior to the **Saturday, June 15th bulk trash pickup**, as noted on the calendar. Donation Nation accepts furniture and appliances, household items such as dishes and glassware (they ask that those items be boxed up and not mildewy or significantly stained) and office furniture and furnishings such as chairs, computers, copy machines, filing cabinets, desks and more. They also accept clothing but request that it be placed in a bag and labeled for Donation Nation. Pick up of bagged clothing curbside will be on **Thursday, June 13th** and non-clothing and furniture will be picked up on **Friday, June 14th**. Please only put out items scheduled for pick up that day. No specific timeframe is scheduled both days - the Village was informed that trucks will be in the area throughout the day. Additional information on the organization can be found at: <https://www.donationnationusa.org/>

GENERAL INTEREST:

Gov. Moore to sign Maryland Kids Code internet safety bill

Maryland Kids Code, a bill that will require social media companies to do more to safeguard kids, will be signed into law by Gov. Wes Moore in Annapolis.

The legislation was sponsored in the Maryland General Assembly by Del. Jared Solomon (D-Dist. 18), who represents Chevy Chase and Kensington, and Sen. Ben Kramer (D-Dist. 19), who represents Silver Spring.

The primary focus of the bill is to protect children's privacy and prevent children from being inundated with harmful or inappropriate content that they weren't looking for. This could result in tech platforms limiting autoplay videos for children, as YouTube has in the U.K. It would also implement strategies to prevent anonymous adults from contacting children online.

Once Moore signs the bill into law, one piece will go into effect Oct. 1. This part of the law says that internet companies "can no longer harvest the data, they can't post location information, they can no longer use dark algorithms" when it comes to kids, Solomon said.

Gov. Moore signs road safety bill named for Bethesda diplomat

On Friday, May 10, Maryland Governor Wes Moore signed a bill into law named for Bethesda diplomat Sarah Langenkamp, who, in August 2022, was riding her bicycle in a protected bike lane on River Road but then hit and killed by a flatbed truck that was turning right into a parking lot.

Under the [Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Memorial Act](#), drivers will face up to two months in jail and a fine of up to \$2,000 for hitting a cyclist in a protected bike lane, the same penalties as for hitting a pedestrian or cyclist in a crosswalk.

County launches fund to preserve affordable housing

Montgomery County and the Housing Opportunities Commission of Montgomery County (HOC) today launched the [nonprofit preservation fund](#) (NPF) to preserve affordable housing. The NPF will be funded with \$50 million by fiscal year 2025 to provide low-interest interim loans to support nonprofit developers and HOC in acquiring and preserving naturally occurring affordable housing (NOAH).

The county has more than 25,900 NOAH units, affordable to households earning under 65 percent of area median income. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Commission has identified between 7,000 to 11,000 affordable housing units that are at risk of losing affordability due to rising rents.

To qualify for the NPF, a property must be at least 20 years old. Entities must be nonprofit organizations with experience in affordable housing development or be a local housing authority.

See details and application materials on the HOC website at

<https://www.hocmc.org/extra/1217>

Registration opens for MCPL's summer reading challenge

Registration opened, **May 15th**, for the Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL) "[Adventure Starts Here](#)"-themed summer reading challenge for children, teens, and adults, which runs **June 14th - August 31st**. Registration for the challenge can be done

online at

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/library/programs/summer-reading.html> or at any MCPL branch.

The reading challenge offers participants an opportunity to fill their summer with great books, fun learning activities, in-person and virtual events, and maybe prizes.

There will be six indoor-outdoor kick-off events to celebrate the summer reading challenge. The one in our area will be at Connie Morella Library on **Sunday, June 23rd, 2-4pm**. There will be one at nearby Kensington Park Library on **Friday, June 28th, 11am-2:30pm**.

Art Walk at Glen Echo Park resumes

Art Walk in Glen Echo Park is held every first Friday, May through September 6-8 pm. Eleven studios and galleries will be open and include hands-on projects and/or artist demonstrations, including glass-blowing. Go to <https://glenechopark.org/art-walk> to see the full schedule of Art Walk events.

Bethesda's Friday summer concert series is back

Bethesda Urban Partnership's [summer outdoor concert series](#), which runs weekly through **September 20th, kicked off Friday, May 17th**, in the Woodmont Triangle, corner of Norfolk and St. Elmo avenues, 6-8 pm. Free.

See the complete list of scheduled performers here:

<https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/schedule-0>

Food and drink can be purchased from participating restaurants Rock Bottom Brewery & Olazzo.

Summer Sounds at Chevy Chase Lake

Join every **Thursday from May 23rd-July 25th** for an evening filled with live music, food, and fun. The festivities begin at 6:30pm at 8525 Chevy Chase Lake Terrace. Come and enjoy the sounds of summer with friends and family in a beautiful outdoor setting. Don't miss out on this fantastic event!

Music Line Up:

May 23rd: Kelvin (R&B, Pop)

May 30th: Hurricane Kevin and the Cat5 (Top 40s Variety)

June 6th: The Daryl Davis Band (American Roots)

June 13th: The Dan Haas Trio (Pop, Lounge)
June 20th: The Jarreau Williams
Experience (R&B, Soul)
June 27th: Justin Trawick and The Common
Good (Americana Pop)
July 4th: No Concert - Happy 4th of July!
July 11th: Moose Jaw (Bluegrass)
July 18th: SoulJourney (Classic Rock)
July 25th: Jon Tyler Wiley and His Virginia
Choir (Americana, Rock 'n Roll)

Food & Wine:

Each week, will have a curated list of specialty wine and beer available for purchase from Uncorked, and your favorite gourmet fare and snacks from Elena James.

Fitness in the Parks classes return

Get your workout in Elm Street Urban Park in a series of free outdoor fitness classes offered by Bethesda studios and gyms (see below).

Registration is required. Visit the Fitness in the Parks website at

<https://www.bethesda.org/bethesda/fitness> to reserve a spot.

Saturday, June 1, 9 am: Barre3

Wednesday, June 12, 6 pm: CorePower Yoga

Saturday, June 22, 9 am: The St. James
Performance Club

Saturday, June 29, 9 am: Urban Boxing
Bethesda

Saturday, July 13, 9 am: OrangeTheory
Bethesda

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and Manna Food Center are hosting the 31st Annual "Give and Ride Food Drive" from Sunday, May 26th, to Saturday, June 1st.

MCDOT is asking for donations of non-perishable food items on any MCDOT Ride On bus or at designated drop off sites. County bus riders who make a donation will have their bus fare waived.

A 2023 Strategic Plan to End Childhood Hunger reported that at least 14 percent of children in Montgomery County (approximately 34,000) are food insecure. Nearly 20 percent of seniors in the County live below the self-sufficiency standard, according to the 2023 Self-Sufficiency Standard.

Non-perishable food items can be dropped off on all Ride On, extRa, Flex and Flash buses or

at the five participating Montgomery County Public Libraries, the Executive Office Building and the Council Office Building.

Red Line station temporary closure dates announced

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority announced that the Glenmont, Wheaton, Forest Glen and Silver Spring Metro stations will close **June 1st and reopen September 1st** and that the Takoma Metro station will close **June 1st and reopen June 30th**. The closures are to allow for construction at the stations and the Purple Line.

Free shuttle buses will be provided between open and closed stations. Local, and limited-stop shuttle buses will be available between the Glenmont and Fort Totten Metro stations, and free express shuttle buses will run from Silver Spring into downtown D.C.

The construction and renovations planned for the stations to be closed include upgrading the signaling system, installing communication and train control cables, and repairing the interlocking track-crossing system.

Metro fares for bus and rail will increase July 1st

Beginning in July, Metro bus and rail fares will increase in the region as a means to continue funding and operating the transportation system, which was facing significant budget cuts. On **July 1st**, bus fares and base rail fares will increase from \$2 to \$2.25; the maximum rail fare will increase from \$6 to \$6.75; and late-night and weekend fares will increase from a flat rate of \$2 to \$2.25 or \$2.50 depending on distance traveled.

In addition, MetroAccess fares will rise from \$4 to \$4.50 and bike lockers will cost five cents an hour, but parking fees will not change.

Warning to Customers about E-ZPass Scam

The Maryland Transportation Authority's E-ZPass Group issued a warning about a text messaging scam that aims to deceive E-ZPass customers into providing personal data and financial information on a fake website. The sender, which appears as "E-ZPass Toll Services," directs the recipient to click on an embedded link to pay an outstanding toll

balance to avoid a late fee. This is a scam. The message is fraudulent.

E-ZPass advises customers to delete the texts immediately. Do not click on the embedded link. Customers who clicked the link and completed the form should immediately contact their financial institution and also notify E-ZPass of any erroneous information posted to their accounts.

If you have received one of these fraudulent texts, E-ZPass also advises that you file a complaint with the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), www.ic3.gov.

Emergency Alert: Power Outage Information and Weather Updates

Follow statewide power outages at this link:

<https://mdem.maryland.gov/Pages/Power-Outages-Data.aspx>

Monitor weather watches and warnings at this link:

<https://www.weather.gov/alerts>

Monitor the weather by radar at this link:

<https://radar.weather.gov/>

If at all possible, stay off the roads during times of severe weather. If you must drive, the following links may be helpful in planning for safe driving routes:

<https://chart.maryland.gov/TrafficCameras/GetTrafficCameras>

and

<https://chart.maryland.gov/InteractiveMap/GetInteractiveMap>

HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL 2024 COUNCIL MEETING (Official minutes are posted to the website)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MAY 2024 COUNCIL MEETING AND 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

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

MAY COUNCIL MEETING

Secretary's Report for April 2024 Council Meeting (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer's Report for April 2024 (Joos) –The Treasurer's Report for April will be presented, along with the Treasurer's Report for May, at the June 18, 2024 Council Meeting.

Permits:

- 3820 Kenilworth Driveway – permit application for home renovation after fire in October 2023.

The Council was unable to approve the permit application until additional information regarding the proposed modifications to the existing structure was provided, but was prepared to review such information once submitted and allow construction to proceed, pending payment of required filing fee and security deposit and execution of the required Site Management Agreement.

Action Items:

Adoption of Village FY 2025 Budget Ordinance

– The Council adopted the FY 2025 Budget Ordinance as required under Maryland law, setting forth the previously approved Village operating and capital budgets.

Provisional Approval of Resolution for Real and Personal Tax Rate

– The Council provisionally approved the resolution setting forth the proposed FY 2025 Village tax rates for real and personal property, pending confirmation by vote of Village residents of the proposed tax rates at the Village's Annual Meeting. The proposed tax rates are \$0.045/\$100 assessed value for real property and \$0.13/\$100 assessed value for personal property subject to the tax.

National Gun Violence Awareness Day

– The Council approved issuance of a proclamation recognizing National Gun Violence Awareness Day on Friday, June 7, 2024.

Village Spring Fair on June 1st and Village Annual Block Party/Picnic on July 4th

– The Council received status updates on the planning activities related to both activities.

2024 ANNUAL MEETING

Action Items:

- Based on a vote of Village residents attending the meeting or voting by absentee ballot, the proposed Village real property and personal property tax rates for the upcoming year was approved (\$0.045/\$100 of assessed value for real property and \$0.13/\$100 assessed valued

for personal property), both tax rates remaining unchanged from the past four years. With the vote, the formal resolution establishing these rates was signed by the Village Secretary.

- The Council Chair, Adrian Andreassi presented an Annual Report on Village services and activities. A power point presentation of the 2024 Annual Report will be posted to the Village website.
- Based on a vote of Village residents attending the meeting or voting by absentee ballot, Adrian Andreassi, Olga Joos and Maury Mechanick were elected to two-year terms as Council members and were administered the oath of office.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: (Courtesy of the Environment Committee)

Sustainable Gardens

Thinking about "greening" your garden to reduce the use of chemicals and attract pollinators? Spring is the perfect time.

My Green Montgomery

(<https://mygreenmontgomery.org/about-us/>) has the following that can help you achieve your goal:

- tips for a creating a sustainable garden
- lists of native plants for shady or sunny gardens
- how to sign up with **TreeMontgomery** (<https://treemontgomery.org>) to get a free shade tree.

As you may know, shade trees help our environment in many ways. They are important to wildlife and the process of pollination. Trees soak up water runoff reducing the risk of flash flooding. These beautiful trees also help us save energy in homes, offices, and schools.

Plant a Pollinator Garden

Help critters out by planting native plants around your home. Native plants help provide species like insects and birds with food, shelter and proper habitat to reproduce.

Native plants are your best bets as the species in your area are specially adapted to pollinate the plants indigenous to their habitat.

Some pollinator favorites include alyssum, basil, the aptly-named butterfly bush, fennel, lavender, marigold, oregano, verbena and yarrow.

Pesticides and Alternatives:

Now that spring/summer has arrived, many residents are working at having greener lawns. Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) encourages enthusiastic lawn care but reminds residents that the County's pesticides law is in effect, which affects property owners and professional landscapers equally. Contracts for lawn care should have provisions that include the use of organic pesticides or herbicides. Additional information can be found at:

<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/lawns/law/>

Montgomery County's organic lawn and landscape program, says that organic lawn care is not difficult and recommends:

- Leave grass clippings on lawns to provide nitrogen to the grass.
- Cut grass over 3 inches to shade the ground and prevent weeds from germinating.
- Water lawns during dry spells to limit weed growth.