



**VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2022**

APRIL VILLAGE MEETING

April 19, 2022 – 7:30pm NCC Christian Church Community Room & Zoom platform (instructions will be sent to the Village’s email list) *Approval of March Minutes *Treasurer’s Report *Permits *Approval of FY23 Budget & Ordinance *ArborPro demonstration

Bios for these candidates are included at the end of this newsletter.

Please note that the Village Charter Section 9.03 indicates that any Qualified Voter can seek nomination for the Council positions by Written Notice to the Nominating Committee (Brigitte Akalovsky, Helen Santiago Fink, Fern Lapidus) up to one week before the elections, which is April 26.

CALENDAR (2022)

- April 19: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm – In-Person and Virtual
- May 3: Village Annual Meeting/Elections
7:30pm – In-Person at NCC Christian Church
- June 14: Village Council Meeting
7:30pm – In-Person and Virtual
- June 16: Curbside Donation, Clothing Donation Nation
- June 17: Curbside Donation, Furniture/Non-Clothing Items Donation Nation
- June 18: Bulk Trash Pick Up

VILLAGE-SPECIFIC NOTICES

The April 19 Village Council meeting will be hybrid! Residents may once again attend in-person or continue to participate virtually. This is a pilot on which future hybrid meetings will be based. Many thanks to Montgomery Municipal Cable and to the NCC Christian Church for making this possible.

Village Council Elections: Election for three Village Council positions (2-year terms) will be held on May 3, 2022. The current Council members whose terms are expiring are Adrian Andreassi, Olga Joos and Maury Mechanick.

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: Chas Stewart
member@northchevyCHASE.org

Manager: Susan Theis
nccinfo@northchevyCHASE.org

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

Village of North Chevy Chase
P.O. Box 15887, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Mobile: 301-654-7084
TDD (MD Relay Service): 1-800-735-2258

Residents can request absentee ballot and/or vote in-person on May 3 at the NCC Christian Church. Council members will then be sworn in for new terms at the May 3 Annual Meeting.

FY2023 Budget: The Village Council reviewed the draft budget for FY2023 at the March meeting. The draft budget and corresponding ordinance have been posted to the Village website and attached to this newsletter as well. The Council will be voting on the budget at the April 19 meeting. Residents are requested to provide any written feedback/comments to the Village Manager in advance of the meeting. Please note that the proposed real property tax rate (0.045) and personal property rate (0.13) of assessed value remains the same and has been since FY18.

Free Night-Time Illuminators for Kensington Parkway/Montrose Intersection – In February 2020, the Council accepted the gracious offer of Tapco to supply and install, at no charge, pedestrian activated illuminators to light one lane on either side of the Kensington Pkwy/Montrose intersection, which are scheduled to be installed early this month. Tapco will use the illuminators in the Village to highlight innovative pedestrian-safety technology to MDOT and other stakeholders.

Notary Public: Maury Mechanick, Council Secretary, is a Maryland certified Notary Public, and is available to notarize documents for Village residents. Maury can be reached at secretary@northchevychase.org

Pet Waste: A number of residents continue to face challenges with pet waste being left on their property. Residents are required to dispose of pet waste properly. Waste is to be bagged and placed in Village trash receptacles or the pet owner's household waste. Pet waste is not to be placed in neighbors' trash receptacles, including yard waste and recycling containers. Please note that the Village fine for not properly disposing of pet waste is \$100 for the first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses.

Staying Connected: Village management would like to have up-to-date contact information for each resident. For those residents who have provided their email addresses but are not receiving Village notices electronically (approximately 1-2 are sent weekly), please check your spam/junk folder.

To be added to the email distribution, please send your email address and phone number to the Village Manager at nccinfo@northchevychase.org or via text to the Village mobile at 301-654-7084. In addition, if you would like to be added to the online directory (password protected) on the Village website, please notify the Village Manager.

Taxes: Earlier this tax season, Comptroller Franchot extended the state individual income tax year 2021 filing and payment due date to **Friday, July 15, 2022**. The federal individual income tax deadline remains **Monday, April 18, 2022**.

Please be sure to include the Village of North Chevy Chase as your "city" at the top of your State Tax Return. In the past, Village residents' income taxes have been sent to other municipalities in error due to misfiling. For electronic filers, [the Political Subdivision Code for North Chevy Chase is 1618](#).

GENERAL INTEREST:

"Chevy Chase Voices: Treasures from the Oral History Collection"

The Chevy Chase Historical Society will showcase the wide variety of voices in its oral history collection during a **virtual lecture via Zoom on Thursday, April 7, at 7:30 pm**. Featuring local residents recalling life in Chevy Chase from as early as 1910 using vintage photos, transcript excerpts and audio clips. The interviews touch on many subjects, including serving in World War II, the expansion of Chevy Chase, and racial and religious bias experienced by community members. CCHS Archive and Research Director Beth Huffer will present the program, which is free and open to the public. A Zoom link will be sent to all register for the talk at www.chevychasehistory.org

Important update regarding the Connecticut Avenue corridor.

The State Highway Administration (SHA) recently released a comprehensive report (bit.ly/connecticutave) and is seeking input from the community. It includes a discussion of existing conditions, including pedestrian comfort, bicycle safety, transit access, traffic

data, and crash history. It also recommends “complete street” models for various segments of the road, including buffered sidewalks, comfortable bike lines, and landscaped medians.

This document represents an important starting point in the conversation to dramatically improve Connecticut Avenue and SHA would like to hear from residents who live along the Chevy Chase section of the corridor. There will be a community meeting on **Wednesday, April 13 from 6-7:30pm via Zoom**. To RSVP and receive a zoom link, please register here:

<https://bit.ly/ConnAveStudy>

The Purple Line: A Neighborhood Update

The Purple Line is back on track. What does that mean for the NCC neighborhood? When will work resume? What can we expect in terms of road closures and detours? What is the schedule for construction of the Jones Mill Road underpass and pedestrian bridge over Connecticut Avenue?

Join host NCC Connections and Matt Pollack, Executive Director for the Purple Line, on **Tuesday, April 19 at 7:30pm** for answers to these questions and many more. Please visit the NCC Connections website

<https://northchevycon.wixsite.com/nccc/calendar> for a link to this virtual meeting.

Maryland State Board of Elections Announces New Election Timeline – Primary Election to be held on July 19

Maryland State Board of Elections Administrator, Linda Lamone, released the following statement: “Following the Court of Appeals’ decision to move the primary election to July 19, the State Board of Elections has been working with the local boards of elections to ensure that Maryland voters have the opportunity to participate fully in the election process.”

The deadline to register to vote in the primary election is June 28, and the new deadline to request a mail-in ballot is July 12 for voters who want to receive their ballot in the mail. Early voting will now start on July 7 and end on July 14 (including the Saturday and Sunday).

Election day is July 19.

The adjusted election timeline comes after the Maryland Court of Appeals pushed back the primary election from June 28 to July 19 amid court challenges to local, state legislative and congressional redistricting plans.

Voters interested in serving as an election judge can learn more by going to the website: https://elections.maryland.gov/get_involved/election_judges.html

Residents Can Share Views on County Operating Budget for FY 2023 at Council’s Public Hearings

Sign up opportunities are now underway for residents to offer their views on County Executive Marc Elrich’s proposed \$6.3 billion Fiscal Year 2023 operating budget at public hearings that will be held by the County Council.

The public hearings will be held on **Tuesday, April 19, Wednesday, April 20, and Thursday, April 21**. Residents will have the opportunity to testify both in-person and virtually via Zoom.

County Executive Elrich presented his recommended budget to the Council on March 15. The Council will review the budget and adopt the new County budget in late May. The new budget will go into effect on July 1.

Residents can sign up to testify by clicking the “sign up” button for public hearings on the Council’s calendar. Individuals will receive a confirmation email with the appropriate instructions to participate in the meetings. Help to sign up is available by calling 240-777-7803.

The registration deadline for the operating budget public hearings is 5 p.m. on April 18.

Residents also can submit written or prerecorded audio or video testimony for Councilmembers to consider throughout their budget deliberations. The deadline to submit testimony is midnight two business days before Council action. Written testimony also can be mailed to the Montgomery County Council at

100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, Md. 20850.

Information on the County's 2023 operating budget can be found at:
<https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/omb/publications.html>.

County hiring consultant for racial equity, social justice review of Thrive Montgomery 2050 The County Council plans to hire an outside consultant to help reach minority communities and people of color about Thrive Montgomery 2050, the county's proposed general master plan.

The council expects to have a report from that consultant by July 1, according to council staff documents.

Council members say the work is needed because of a racial equity and social justice review completed by the county's Office of Legislative Oversight.

The office determined that groups representing communities of color and low-income residents need to be consulted more on the plan, and that there should be a new chapter including the "historical and current drivers of racial and social inequities in land use, housing and transportation."

Because of that work, it appears that a final vote on Thrive Montgomery 2050 is still months away. The council extended its deadline to vote on the plan from March 20 to May 19, and can continue to extend it in 60-day increments.

County Council President Gabe Albornoz said that council members want to vote on the plan before the end of October, before the November general election.

Thrive Montgomery 2050 is the county's proposed general master plan update. The last update to a county general master plan was in 1993, revising the county's Wedges and Corridors plan, which focused on Montgomery and Prince George's counties. That plan dates to the 1960s.

Ice Cream shop, New American restaurant among tenants coming to Chevy Chase Lake Bozzuto and the Chevy Chase Land Company said in a press release that six named tenants will be coming to the development by the end of 2023. Additionally, a seventh business — an unnamed grocery store — will open this fall.

The Charmery, a Baltimore-based ice cream shop with five existing locations is among the announced retailers. It will be in a 1,306-square-foot space and is projected to open this summer, according to the press release.

Elena James will be an all-day restaurant serving dishes made from locally sourced ingredients. It will be in a 5,000-square-foot space and is projected to open in the spring of 2023, according to the press release.

Playa Bowls, a fast-casual eatery specializing in fruit bowls and smoothies, will open at Chevy Chase Lake this fall in a 1,748-square-foot space, according to the press release. It will be the chain's fifth location in Montgomery County.

The wine and beer store UnCorked will open in the development this fall in a 3,011-square-foot space, according to a press release. UnCorked will feature a bar and food offerings that include salads, sandwiches and charcuterie boards.

CVS Pharmacy and Truist Financial Corporation will also be coming to the development, according to the press release.

Two of the residential buildings in Chevy Chase Lake, The Barrett and The Ritz-Carlton Residences, are expected to be ready later this spring, according to the press release. A third residential building is expected to be completed next year.

Montgomery County will keep Streeteries Open at least through Labor Day, Monday, September 5

Streeteries were established as part of the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Shared Streets program, allowing restaurants to establish outdoor dining areas on streets that have been

closed to vehicular traffic. First created in response to the COVID-19 health crisis, the pedestrian-friendly program will be extended throughout the summer.

“Our Streeteries program has helped reduce the transmission of the COVID virus while helping keep our restaurants in business and workers employed,” said County Executive Marc Elrich. “Streeteries have provided a safe gathering place for residents throughout a challenging time. These are family-friendly spaces that encourage community gathering and create enticing destinations throughout the County.”

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH COUNCIL

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

Secretary’s Report for February 2022

Council Meeting - (Mechanick) – Approved.

Treasurer’s Report for February 2022 (Joos) –

Results for February 2022 included income of \$85,287.21, and operating expenses of \$17,771.61 (including waste removal, snow removal, street lighting, sign/street maintenance, landscaping and lawn mowing, wages and taxes, professional fees, and office and communication). Current fiscal year to date revenues through February 2022 came to \$452,695.73 and current fiscal year to date operating expenses came to \$187,039.45. No capital expenditures were incurred during February 2022. Total capital expenditures for FY 2022 to date came to \$154,961.10. Total current assets for as of February 2022, consisting of operating balance plus reserves, including APRA funds received, came to \$2,224,443.07.

Action Items:

Draft FY 2023 Budget. Ordinance and Tax Rates

– The Council reviewed the initial draft of the proposed FY 2023 budget, the proposed ordinance for adoption of the budget, and proposed real estate and personal property tax rates for Village residents. For FY 2023, the budget and accompanying ordinance are to be approved at the April Council meeting, and the 2023 tax rate will be voted on by Village residents at the May Annual Meeting. The

Council was generally satisfied with the draft budget, noting that the 2023 estimates were in line with average figures over the past few years also taking into account, where appropriate, adjustments for inflation. Publication of a draft budget would be included in the April newsletter to allow Village residents the opportunity to see the proposed budget, in compliance with the requirements of Section 9.01 of the Village Charter. The Council also indicated that it would further review the proposed tax rates, taking into account information provided by Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation regarding appropriate taxation levels based on a constant yield tax rate, although the Council was not inclined to propose any tax rate increases for FY 2023 even if supported by a constant yield tax rate analysis.

In Person Meetings/Emergency Elections Ordinance for 2022 Elections

– Given that prior emergency declarations from the Governor of the State of Maryland relating to election procedures affected by the pandemic were no longer in effect, the Village will not be adopting an emergency elections ordinance for the upcoming annual election and instead will follow normal procedures for conducting its annual election, to be conducted at an in-person annual meeting, scheduled for May 3, 2022. Village residents may either vote in person at that meeting or submit absentee ballots, following the procedures set forth in the Village Ordinances. Further, given the lifting of the mask mandate by State and County officials, the Council decided to return to in-person Council meetings as of the April 2022 meeting, however efforts to conduct the meeting on hybrid basis were supported, relying on equipment that would be made available by Montgomery County Cable, assuming necessary logistical arrangements for conducting the meeting on that basis can successfully be implemented.

Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling Request for Fuel Adjustment

– The Council approved in principle a temporary fuel surcharge adjustment requested by Montgomery County Sanitation as a result of significant increases in the cost of diesel fuel arising as a result of various current events. The Village Manager will liaise

with the other neighboring municipalities that also use Montgomery County Sanitation to coordinate a unified approach, if possible, to dealing with this request.

County Bicycling Master Plan – The Village will consider partnering with Kensington and Chevy Chase View in participating in a bikeway study looking toward the establishment of a County Bicycling Master Plan, including applying for a grant from the State of Maryland that would cover a significant portion of the study's expense. Additional details still need to be resolved, including who will head up the coordinated effort and the Village's ability to decide to continue or not continue with this effort as events move forward. While there was strong support for Village involvement in the formulation of such a plan, the Council felt it was important to ensure that any such activity would be conducted on a fully coordinated basis, particularly to avoid the possibility of overlapping or potentially inconsistent efforts to address this issue.

Tree City USA – The Village Council provisionally decided to request status as a Tree City USA participating municipality, pending confirmation that the current Village Ordinances dealing with tree matters are sufficient to qualify the Village as a participant.

Environmental Committee/Earth Day Activities – Carrie Witkop presented an overview of various activities sponsored by the Village Environmental Committee in connection with Earth Day, including an art show and the sale of native plants, to be conducted from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on April 23 at the NCC swimming pool site.

ARPA Funds – The Village Manager confirmed that ARPA funds could be expended for storm water management, street lighting (particularly improved lighting on Kensington Parkway) and bike lane purposes, assuming proposals are property structured and presented. Determination of the priority to be set for such projects will require additional consideration, including specific

cost estimates and availability of other funds for certain of these activities. This will be an ongoing matter for discussion in the months ahead.

Sandy Spring Bank – The Village now has three active accounts with Sandy Spring Bank, and is in the process of transferring funds from Truist to Sandy Spring and closing out the Truist accounts that it currently has.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING: (Courtesy of Environment Committee)

Village Earth Day Fair - Stop by on Saturday April 23rd for Food, Music, Flowers and Art

Come by the NCC pool at 8817 Brierly Rd on Saturday **April 23 (9 am-1 pm)** for the Village's Earth Day Fair to enjoy:

- **Fresh golden crispy crepes** from The Crepe Shoppe available for purchase and cooked to order. We're aiming for zero waste so bring your own coffee cup.

- **Gorgeous native flowers and shrubs.** Pre-order and pick up at the fair. See recommended flowers and ordering details at www.northchevyCHASE.org/earthday and in the flyer delivered to your door in early April.

- **Art show - Nature in Our Neighborhood!** All ages and all art are welcome, from crayon & pencil drawings to photographs & oil paintings. Drop off April 21 & 22 at Carrie Witkop's house, 8827 McGregor Drive, Chevy Chase MD. Questions? carriewitkop@gmail.com.

- **Live music!** Folk Favorites & more,

- **Free compost bins. Sign up for free trees.** Garden experts, Audubon Naturalist Society, and Parks & Conservation experts on hand!

Hope to see everyone there!



VILLAGE OF NORTH CHEVY CHASE: MONTHLY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2022

CANDIDATES for 2022 VILLAGE COUNCIL POSITIONS:

Adrian Andreassi

I have lived in the Village since 2001 and am a lifelong Bethesda-Chevy Chase resident. I grew up in East Bethesda and attended Lynbrook Elementary School, Leland Junior High School and BCC High School. I have worked for almost 40 years in the residential remodeling business and have been with my current employer since 1988 and have worn many hats along the way. My building and remodeling experience and knowledge of zoning regulations and building codes in DC, Maryland and Virginia makes me well suited to review proposed remodeling or home building activities within the Village. I have served on the Village Council since about 2002. I have a wonderful wife, Beth who gave me three great daughters --Maddalena, Alexandra and Olivia. I am blessed with a feisty 99-year-old mother. I have a miniature poodle named Scout and she has a cute underbite. Diagnosed with lymphoma in 2004 and still here to talk about it! My hobbies include bicycle riding, working on cars and home projects, going to the gym and sampling single malt scotch whisky

Olga Joos

After moving around quite a bit during my adult life, I am so happy to call the Village of North Chevy Chase home since 2017 and for many years to come. My husband, Nick, and I moved to the area for work and have found such an idyllic place to raise our children- Penelope (10 years old) and Felix (7 years old). Both attend the Spanish immersion program at Rock Creek Forest and the Spanish Culture and Language School through the Spanish consulate, both wonderful programs that support my dedication in developing Penelope and Felix's Spanish identity and language capacity as dual citizens. Professionally, I have dedicated myself to caring for others facing very challenging experiences, at the individual level as a pediatric cardiac critical care nurse and at the populations level as a public health expert focusing on medicolegal death investigation system strengthening and stillbirth prevention and advocacy. I approach these challenging situations with care and thoughtfulness and through research and lesson sharing. I use this approach in my role as a Village Council member. Although I have extensive experience in working with government stakeholders in my role as Senior Technical Advisor with the CDC Foundation, I am newer to my role in local government and put time into researching topics and participating in pertinent local meetings, i.e. Maryland Municipal League and Chevy Chase Coalition, to learn and make thoughtful decisions. I have engaged closely in the conversation on Thrive 2050 and have supported the Village's initiatives in strengthening its environmental efforts, supporting the adoption of the tree management software (Arbor Pro) and initiating the Village's efforts to be recognized as a Tree City by the Arbor Day Foundation. In addition to these professional and Council responsibilities, I volunteer through Maryland Responds as a COVID vaccinator and as room parent for my daughter's 4th grade class. I serve as a mentor to medical students through the CDC's Epidemiology Elective Program and to undergraduate students through a Morehead College-CDC internship program. I also support my alma mater, Georgetown University (Go Hoyas!), as an alumni interviewer. When not engaged in these activities, you will find me gardening or taking a much needed nap.

Maury Mechanick

I have been a resident of the Village for 27 years (since 1995). Professionally, I have been either an attorney in private practice or an executive in the satellite industry, until I retired in 2017. Most recently, I served as Counsel in the DC Office of the international law firm, White & Case LLP (2002-2017). Starting in 2012, I have been elected as a member of the Village of North Chevy Chase Council and served as Secretary for five terms. I have taken a leadership role on behalf of the Village on a number of issues affecting Village life, including updating the Village's regulations and website; re-development of Chevy Chase Lake; pedestrian safety in the Village, and various issues involving the Maryland State Highway Administration (herbicide spraying, Salt Barn relocation and, most recently, Beltway expansion). I have testified on behalf of the Village on numerous occasions before the County Planning Board and the County Council on these issues, and led Village efforts to influence Maryland Comptroller Franchot to hold firm on keeping the Montgomery County portion of the proposed Beltway expansion in Phase 2 of that project rather than accelerating it to Phase 1. I am also a Maryland Notary Public and am available to provide that service for Village residents and others in need of notarization services. I am usually quite visible walking the Village streets multiple times a day, with my wife and our dog, Franklin Delano, the third in a line of Village-friendly golden retrievers, the first being Wookie and the second being Teddy Roosevelt Ruff Rider.