



## Honoring July 4<sup>th</sup> -- Every Day

*“The strength of free nations resides in the township. Town institutions are to freedom what primary schools are to knowledge: they bring it within people’s reach and give [people] the enjoyment and habit of using it for peaceful ends. Without town institutions a nation can establish a free government but has not the spirit of freedom itself....”*

*In America, not only do institutions belong to the community but they are kept alive and supported by a community spirit.”*

*-- Alexis de Tocqueville, Democracy in America, 1835*

There is little in America today that de Tocqueville did not see 190 years ago. Travelling through our country on a nine-month tour in 1831, over halfway in time between the Revolution and the Civil War, he saw a nation both forged and forming; understood its weaknesses and admired its strengths. And as these quotes make clear, de Tocqueville appreciated the virtue of local democratic government.

We maintain this virtue that a young America held dear. We see it in holding elections every year for members of our Town Council. We see it in our committees that consider the on-going issues we face -- regarding land use, public safety, the environment, and racial justice; in our concerted efforts on specific matters, such as the 4-H property sale, redevelopment of the Farm Women’s Market and park expansion, and Purple Line mitigation; in the numerous events organized every year that bring us together for fun, entertainment and education; and in the outpouring of neighbor helping neighbor during the pandemic. And beyond our borders, we help PTA’s, Chevy Chase at Home, our libraries and so many other causes and institutions. All good work, undertaken by volunteers who care and care to give.

We also see this virtue practiced in the lively discourse on Town Neighbors on the issues of the day, such as the prospect of “missing middle housing” in our Town -- discussion that is serious and thoughtful, but also civil and considerate. And we see it in our Town Crier messages, most recently in a powerful statement on the Juneteenth holiday from the Racial Justice Special Committee.

In all this intense and continuing community engagement, we practice good stewardship of everything around us, from our majestic canopy of trees to a sense of neighborliness that we cherish and seizing opportunities that benefit us all. We also act, as de Tocqueville reminds us, as stewards of our democracy. What more profound legacy can we pass to our children than that? In a world facing a rising tide of autocracy in other countries, and with the recent uncertainty about our own nation’s ability to address its challenges, I can think of no other.

**-- Mayor Barney Rush with credit to Councilmember Joy White**



**Independence Day Celebration**  
**July 4, 12- 2 p.m., Lawton Center Grounds**  
*See page 3 for details*

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# NEWS & NOTES

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## Committee Volunteer Deadline Extended Until July 31

The Town has extended until July 31 the deadline to submit requests to serve on a Town committee or board for the coming year. Information about the various committees and boards is posted on the Town website. The Town also is seeking members for the Montgomery County Police Advisory Board. The board is an informal group of area residents who meet periodically with 2<sup>nd</sup> District police officials to review and discuss crime trends and prevention; traffic issues; and any specific public safety issues. The advisory board meets at the Bethesda Police Station approximately 6 to 8 times per year for an hour or less. There is no regularly scheduled meeting. There are occasional guest speakers at board meetings. Board members may serve as long as they wish. If you are interested in volunteering for any Town committee, board, or commission, please submit a brief note expressing interest to [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org) by July 31.

## Does Your Project Need a Permit?

As a reminder, in addition to permits for new houses and additions, the Town requires permits for new and replacement driveways, new and replacement fences, walls, pools, and other improvements. The Land Use Committee created a helpful resource to assist residents in determining if a project requires a permit. The Unofficial Land Use Handbook, available on the Town website, outlines the local rules that govern development activities in the Town of Chevy Chase. It is intended to provide residents with an easy-to-use, non-technical manual explaining the basic Town requirements relevant to construction and landscaping activities on your property. Please note that this is an unofficial guide, which does not attempt to provide or substitute for the full legal detail contained in the Town code. For the specific and full legal requirements governing development in the Town, please call 301-654-7144 or email [townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevy Chase.org).

## Climate and Environment Tip of the Month: Be Cool!

Now that we're into the hot & humid time of year, here's some reminders about keeping your family and others cool and saving energy and money:

- Install and use a programmable thermostat to optimize your cooling and savings. Set your default cooling temperature up several degrees.
- Close blinds or shades when there is direct sunlight hitting your windows. Open your windows when it cools off at night and close them when it heats up outside.
- Use fans – ceiling or household fans move air to keep you cooler and you can use bathroom or kitchen ceiling vent fans to exhaust hot air outside and reduce the AC load. If you have a whole house fan, use it to pull in cool outside air.
- Use plants and foliage shade outside of your home to reduce radiant heat.
- Turn off lights & unplug devices – they generate heat and waste energy & money.
- Make sure your interior spaces have proper insulation to reduce interior heat seepage (e.g., hot air from your attic/eaves can seep into the home through interior openings).
- Install a mini-split heat pump or window or portable air conditioner for room-specific cooling or for homes without ducts.
- Take advantage of PEPCO's many programs for energy assessment and savings (<https://www.pepco.com/WaysToSave/ForYourHome/Pages/Maryland.aspx>) and switch to 100% renewable electricity supply for broader environmental impact.
- Have unused AC equipment (window units, fans, etc.)? Donate unneeded equipment or money to Community Forklift ([communityforklift.org](http://communityforklift.org)) or Habitat for Humanity (<https://habitatmm.org/restore/restore.html>) to help others.

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# SPECIAL EVENTS

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## Independence Day Celebration -- July 4, 2021

12 p.m. to 2 p.m.: Ice Cream

Come to the Lawton Center parking lot where Ben & Jerry's will be serving 5 flavors of its namesake pre-packed ice cream.

1 p.m. to 2 p.m.: Rockville Concert Band

The Rockville Concert Band will play celebratory music from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Lawton Center.

Bring your blankets, folding chairs, a picnic basket if you wish, your water bottles -- and settle down for a small, but happy, July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. The wonderful video of the reading of the Declaration of Independence created last year with lots of help from Scout Troop 255, Town residents, and the Community Relations Committee can be viewed on the Town website.

## Yappy Hour & Pop-Up Dog Park -- July 8, 6-8 p.m.

Montgomery Parks and Bethesda Urban Partnership invite you to bring your furry friends to "Yappy Hour" and Pop-Up Dog Park in Elm Street Park on July 8 from 6 to 8 p.m. Enjoy live music and Bethesda restaurants featuring food, beer, and wine. There will be a small dog and large dog enclosure area for well-socialized dogs.

## Chevy Chase Book Club -- July 11, 7 p.m.

The newly formed Chevy Chase Book Club has chosen "Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century" for our next book club meeting which will be held July 11 at 7 p.m. via zoom. Join our lively discussion as we explore this book which was the basis for the 2021 Academy Awards Best Picture winner. It follows retiree "workampers" in their itinerant, gypsy-esque lives around the U.S. doing low-wage, unstable work out of necessity. It's sure to be an interesting and timely discussion. Please join us -- even if you have not attended a book club meeting before. We welcome your insights and company. RSVP to receive the Zoom link at [townoffice@townofchevychase.org](mailto:townoffice@townofchevychase.org).

## SAVE THE DATE! -- Calling All Rising K thru 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Children and Parents for a Play Date in the Park!

Gather together at Leland Park on a Saturday in late August or early September for light breakfast fare, coffee, juice, and milk.

Rising kindergartners, and first and second graders, will get a chance to meet other neighborhood primary school-aged children before the start of the school year and reduce first-day-of-school jitters. New parents will have a chance to connect with "veteran" parents, ask questions, and learn about what to expect as their child celebrates this special milestone.

The date will be announced via Town Crier. To sign up to receive Town Crier emails, please visit [www.townofchevychase.org/list.aspx](http://www.townofchevychase.org/list.aspx).

## Trash & Treasures Planned for September

Barring unforeseen circumstances, the Town will resume a normal Trash & Treasures event in September, and details will be provided in the September issue of this newsletter. In the meantime, residents are reminded that **the County's Shady Grove Processing Facility and Transfer Station accepts bulk waste from Town residents**. Visit [montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff/](http://montgomerycountymd.gov/sws/dropoff/) for more information. Town residents also may call the Town's household trash collection contractor at 240-278-2698 to request bulk pick-ups for a fee determined by the contractor.

## Town of Chevy Chase

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### TOWN COUNCIL

*Barney Rush, Mayor*

*Irene Lane, Vice Mayor*

*Joel Rubin, Secretary*

*Joy White, Treasurer*

*Ellen Cornelius Ericson, Community Liaison*



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# REMINDERS

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## Have a Wonderful Summer!

The FORECAST is not published in August, and the Town Council does not meet in August (the Council's July meeting is scheduled for July 14). Please visit the Town website for current news and information. To receive Town news alerts, please sign up to receive Town Crier emails (see below).

## Sign Up for Town Crier & Town Neighbors

Residents are encouraged to connect with the Town through the Town Crier email alert system ([www.townofchevy Chase.org/list.aspx](http://www.townofchevy Chase.org/list.aspx)) and with fellow residents through the private Town Neighbors listserv. To join the Town Neighbors listserv, please email [townneighbors+owner@groups.io](mailto:townneighbors+owner@groups.io). Both resources offer an important way to stay informed and in touch.

## Overgrown Vegetation

As a reminder, residents are asked to keep all streets and sidewalks clear of overgrown vegetation. Please prune vegetation to ensure unobstructed sight lines for pedestrians and motorists. The Town's vegetation maintenance standards are available for review on the Town website.

## CC@H July Zoom Presentation -- July 15, 11 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join our docent for a virtual visit to the Worcester Art Museum's exhibition, "The Kimono in Print: 300 Years of Japanese Design." This is the first show to examine the kimono as a major inspiration in Japanese print making from the Edo period (1603-1868) to the Meiji period (1868-1912). Register on the events page of the CC@H website at [www.chevy Chaseathome.org](http://www.chevy Chaseathome.org) to receive the Zoom link.