

Martin's Edition

A Newsletter for the Village of Martin's Additions to Chevy Chase

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June 2016

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Residents,

Hello Summer!

June brings the end of the 2015-2016 Fiscal year and the preparations for our annual financial audit. Based on financial reports through the month of May, we expect income to exceed our earlier projections and expenses to be slightly below budget. The Village remains financially healthy and the Council and staff will continue to work hard to keep us that way as some of our anticipated larger projects move forward.



The end of the fiscal year also brings the end to the terms of the volunteers on the Election and the Ethics Committees. We were pleased to be able to thank committee members at the reception held before our last Council meeting. Volunteers are the life-blood of our community and we very much appreciate their service. Please consider volunteering for one of the committees for this upcoming fiscal year.

If you are interested in being considered for appointment to either the Election or

Ethics Committee of the committees, please submit your name and a brief statement of interest to the Council at vmacouncil@googlegroups.com by Sunday, July 17th. Please be sure to indicate in your email which committee you would like to serve on and explain why you would like to serve on that committee, highlighting any particularly relevant experience you may have. Current members are eligible to reapply.

Also, our thanks to all the volunteers who distributed the Montgomery County Police Department's "Help Us Prevent Thefts from Vehicles" flier on Monday, June 20th! In case you missed it, they were: Lynn Welle, Molly Ruhl, Ellie Awdeh, Keith Allen, Stephen Schmal, Susan Fattig, Katya Hill, and Tiffany Cissna. The 2nd District was so appreciative of your help.

Lastly, we are already well into the vacation season, so just a reminder that it is important to let your neighbors know when you are going to be away so they may pick up any papers or packages that get delivered (whether you asked for them or not!). Also, it is recommended that you leave an emergency contact number with a neighbor or two. Lock your car and lock your house and leave a light (on a timer) if you can!

Have a great summer!

Richard

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UPCOMING EVENTS



- **7/4/2016: Independence Day Holiday - Village Office Closed**
- **7/9/2016: Bulk Trash Pickup**
- **7/21/2016: Council Meeting 7:30pm**
- **8/18/2016 Council Meeting 7:30pm**

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HOT TOPICS

Native Canopy Tree Planting Program

In FY2017, the Village will begin a native Canopy Tree Planting Program on a trial basis. This program was designed by the Tree Committee, which consisted of Arthur Alexander (Chair), Josh Bowers, Cris Fleming, Paula Goldberg, Ed Novak, and Mike Zielinski. Under this program, the Village of Martin's Adds plants native canopy trees on private property. When a tree is requested by a resident, the arborist evaluates whether there is an appropriate location on the property for a canopy tree. The town purchases the trees with a \$100 contribution from the applicant, pays for installation, and provides a water bag to assist residents with the care needed in the critical first year after planting. Residents are responsible for the long-term care of the tree, including watering.



[Information is posted on the Village website](#) about the available trees along with a tree request form. Residents are encouraged to submit their tree requests early, as there is limited availability.



After ten trees have been planted, the Village will evaluate the program for revision and budgetary adjustment.

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

The Centennial Celebration [video has been posted on the Village website](#).

If you would like a DVD copy of the video, please let the Village office know; it will be provided free of charge (one copy per household). Please place your order by June 30.

The Celebration Celebration Committee is also creating a video of the interviews conducted before and during the event which will be posted soon.

- The Centennial Celebration Committee

Naomi Naierman (chair), Richard Krajeck, Susan Fattig, and Michelle Malloy

ELECTION COMMITTEE

The 2016 Election Committee is pleased to present our final, year-end report to the Council members and residents of Martin's Additions. Following is a summary of the Committee's actions:

- o Held an open community solicitation and successfully recruited six candidates for the Council's consideration to fill the vacant seat on the Council in August 2015.
- o Analyzed the electoral process in VMA, in order to improve the process and address residents' concerns about previous elections.
- o Conducted the first-ever village-wide survey about VMA elections, to obtain residents' comments and suggestions.
- o Created and publicized a Committee email address, held open meetings, posted dozens of Committee notices and articles in the VMA newsletter, and listed the names of all the Committee members to make it easy for people to reach us.
- o Developed and recommended an official set of Election Rules and Procedures for VMA, which the Council adopted in February 2016.
- o Designed and implemented new procedures to enable residents to request and receive absentee ballots by email.
- o Improved the security and privacy of the absentee voting process, by assigning randomized control numbers for absentee ballots and providing a new secure P.O. Box address for ballots to be returned by mail.
- o Extended the voting hours at the polling table to 8 p.m. to make voting more accessible for residents.
- o Solicited nominations for the 2016 election, standardized the guidelines for candidates' statements, obtained the new conflict-of-interest disclosure forms from the candidates, designed the ballots, prepared the election materials, and met all electoral deadlines.
- o Wrote and mailed the official election information packet to all VMA households, posted the information on Constant Contact, and held the public Candidates Forum on April 28.
- o Updated the official list of eligible voters.
- o Responded to all requests for absentee ballots.
- o Staffed the polling table on May 12, conducted the election, counted the 228 ballots cast, and announced the voting results at the Council

Meeting on May 12.

- o Provided a prompt written report on the election results to the Council, and posted the report on Constant Contact and in the VMA newsletter.
- o Held a final open Committee meeting on May 31 to review the election process and welcome residents' comments.

To complete our service, the Committee will draft a memo outlining the details of the electoral operating procedures, time-lines, and logistics, for the benefit of the new 2017 Election Committee.

It has been a pleasure to serve on the 2016 Committee. We believe the new written Election Rules and Procedures ensure fair and efficient elections and we were pleased to implement them this year. We thank the Council and the VMA staff for the consistent support they provided to assist us in carrying out our tasks. We are especially pleased that this Committee was able to help to set a new tone of open, accessible, and responsive local government by warmly inviting community participation throughout the past year.

Respectfully submitted by the 2016 Election Committee:

Lee Ann Anderson (Chair), Marty Langelan, Naomi Naierman, Steve Trowern, and Natalie Straus Welle.

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SPOTLIGHT

Police and Safety

Many residents and visitors to Montgomery County are victims of the problem of theft of property from vehicles and the theft of parts from vehicles (tires, mirrors, etc.) The vast majority of these thefts are preventable. Here are some recommendations to reduce the chance that the thief will choose your car.

- Lock your doors and close the windows completely. Any open door or window is an invitation to take any property



in your vehicle.

- Remove valuables from your car or lock them in the trunk where they are out of sight. Leaving valuables in view from the outside is just the opportunity a thief is looking for.
- Do not leave electronic devices or accessories visible. A cigarette lighter plug or cassette adapter are tell-tale signs there are valuables in the car. Also replace the cigarette lighter when exiting the vehicle.
- Report any suspicious persons to the police. If you observe activity which may be criminal in nature, immediately report it to the police at 301-279-8000.
- Do not leave money in your vehicle. A thief will break into your vehicle even for a small amount of change.
- Park in your garage if you have one. If you have a garage, use it; if a thief cannot get to your car he cannot break into it. We also have cases where a thief removes a garage door opener from an unlocked vehicle and then enters the home.
- Do not hide a key on your vehicle. A potential thief could see you hide the key, and then use it to gain entry into your vehicle.
- Record serial numbers of any equipment you install or carry in your vehicle. This will assist the police in investigating the theft and will help in recovering your property. The [Operation Identification Program](#) includes engraving all theft prone items with your driver's license number is also suggested.
- Park in well lighted, populated areas. If a thief believes he may be caught they are less likely to take the chance of targeting your vehicle.
- Install an anti-theft device that has a visible indicator. A flashing light or stickers informing a thief of a device may be enough to deter a potential thief from selecting your vehicle.
- Install a "tapered" interior door lock. A door lock that does not have a "head" that can be pulled up by a coat hanger is available in most auto parts stores.

Items frequently stolen from vehicles:

Cell phones	CD Players
Money	CD's
Briefcases	Laptop Computers
Clothing	Sporting Equipment
Purses/Wallets	

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Bulk Trash Pickup: The next bulk trash pick up will take place on Saturday, July 9.

2016 Resident Directory

: The Village has published and mailed a new resident directory. Extra copies are available in the Village office.

Street Lights: PEPCO sent one its engineers to VMA to observe the layout of the Village, and assess the locations of new poles, according to our design. Staff expects PEPCO to send a price for the 8 new poles within the next two weeks.

The WSSC water main relocation and replacements: On Quincy Street the new main has been installed on the dead end side; WSSC is finishing installation of the new main at the Brookville/Quincy intersection. Once that is complete, WSSC will begin pressure and chlorination tests, and will connecting individual services to the new main; these will require water to be shut off at individual homes for roughly 45 minutes to an hour, and the Village office and WSSC will notify you before these occur. If you are heading out of town, WSSC suggests shutting off your water from the main switch on the inside of your house.

All in all, the work should finally be completed in mid-July. If you have any questions about this work, please do not hesitate to ask to speak with a WSSC project manager on site, or to contact the Village Office with your concerns. Thank you to all residents, particularly those on Quincy and Oxford, for your continued patience as the project plods along.

Leaf Bags: will be delivered to residents this fall. If you do not want/need leaf bags this year, please let the Village office know.

Street Repaving: We are getting our legal ducks in a row to do a proper RFP (request for proposals) to solicit bids from contractors to repave Village streets. The RFP should be sent out within the week, and the plan is to begin repaving by late summer or early Fall 2016.

Right-of-Way License Agreements: [ROW License Agreements](#) are needed for any structures in the ROW. If you wish to place a structure such as fence, walkway, irrigation system in the public ROW, you must obtain a ROW License Agreement from the Village. The license agreement will be filed with your deed. A ROW license agreement grants permission for use of the public ROW for a private purpose, and makes clear that the license is revocable by the Village. The purpose is to make clear that the Village may at any time move or remove any items you have placed in the ROW. There is a \$100 charge for a ROW license agreement to help defray the legal fees involved for the Village.

Permitting: A reminder to contact the Village office before beginning any work to verify permitting requirements. Work performed on your property may require permits from the Village as well as from Montgomery County.

New Building Permit Requests:

3509 Bradley: New AC Unit

3505 Raymond: Front Porch

3507 Raymond: Rear Breakfast Room with Deck

3512 Taylor Street: Replace Retaining Wall

Moving? Residents of VMA are encouraged to contact the office to have temporary No Parking signs posted in front of their home when moving out of the Village or when expecting a large truck delivery.

Other items:

- Elizabeth (Beth) Boa is a Notary Public in Maryland. Please call ahead if you need notary services (301-656-4112).
- To receive official notifications from the Village Council, the committees, and the office (i.e., any communication from your Village government), please [sign up on our website](#) This is the best way to receive information on things like waste pickup, snow removal, and Council and committee meetings.

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BUDGET CORNER

Request for Proposals for Street Paving

The Village office is finalizing a Request for Proposals to be sent out to potential bidders. All proposals would be due by late August and then a contractor would be selected after a review process. Washington Gas provided a letter that included a proposed reimbursement amount for paving repairs due to their on-going projects. That proposed amount is under review by the staff.

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DRAFT AGENDA FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

**Village of Martin's Additions
Council Meeting
7013 Brookville Road (Suite B, 2nd floor)
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3263**

Draft Agenda for July 21, 2016

7:30 PM	Call to Order: Krajeck
	Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Krajeck
	Appointment of FY 2017 Committee Members
	Action on Annual Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2016: Krajeck
	Financial Matters, including Treasurer's Report: Hill
	Manager's Report, including updates on office lease, WSSC Water main replacement project, RFPs and contracts

9:30 PM	Adjournment: Krajeck

Click [here](#) to see last month's Council Meeting minutes and [here](#) to listen to a recording of the meeting.

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LITTLE KNOWN FACT



Shredding Event

On Saturday, June 4, The Village of Martin's Additions joined with Section 3 and Section 5 for the annual shredding event. This year, 4,600 pounds of documents were shredded! Thank you to all of the participants.

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CONTACT INFO

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Katya Hill, Treasurer	301-718-1920	ka2shaz@gmail.com
Tiffany Cissna, Secretary	301-652-0541	cissnafamily@gmail.com
Susan Fattig, Member-at-Large	301-951-9578	susan.fattig@gmail.com

OFFICE STAFF		
Name	Phone	Email
Matt Trollinger, Village Manager	301-656-4112	martinsadditions@gmail.com
Elizabeth (Beth) Boa, Assistant Village Manager	301-656-4112	assistantvma1@gmail.com

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HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK



Holiday Schedule

The Village Office Will be Closed on Independence Day, Monday, July 4

Keep our community walkable; please patronize the businesses in our Village!

Please also keep in mind these "Friends of the Village":

[A Wider Circle](#)

[Chevy Chase at Home](#)

[Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter](#)

[Live and Learn Bethesda](#)

[Manna Food Center](#)

Village of Martin's Additions

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