

Martin's Edition

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

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November 2016

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Residents,

Have you considered running for Village Council? I believe if you talk to current and past members, they would agree that it is: surprising; educational; tedious at times; and rewarding. It is surprising to discover the scope of issues that come before the Council, everything from dogs not on leashes to the latest technology in street lights. It is educational - as I now know more than I ever thought possible about building codes, the ins and outs of "laying" asphalt - just two of a myriad of examples. It is tedious when we have spent three hours painfully going through proposed changes to the Code of Ordinances in which every word has meaning and, when you think you've covered absolutely every possible exception, somebody finds a "hole" or there are unintended consequences. And then there are the



rewards: a neighbor stopping you on the street to say thank-you; building plans that take no account of our Village codes and would result in a humongous structure if it weren't for the time and effort we as a community have put into establishing building codes for the Village.

Last fiscal year, there were three vacancies and three candidates for the Council. This fiscal year there will be two vacancies. New blood and new ideas are always needed to keep the Council alive and fresh-thinking. While this past year and a half has been especially busy, I see the months ahead going back to meetings that are only a couple of hours once a month with fewer special sessions. So, think about it. Talk to previous and current Council members. Come to the Council meetings on the third Thursday of each month. Serving on the Council is a great opportunity to serve your community.

The Election Committee has proposed the date of May 11, 2017 for the Council Election and Celebration on the Sidewalk. Nominations and the candidates' statements would be due by April 11. An open public forum with all the candidates will be scheduled in late April or early May.

As previously noted, our long-time Village Tree Supervisor, Dan Gardner, is retiring. As thanks, the Village offered Dan and Kirsten a tree planted in their yard. Dan has donated the tree to the Village: his favorite tree, a red bud, will be planted in the Village right-of-way across from his house. Thank you Dan, for your many, many years of service to the Village.



The Council welcomes Paula Goldberg as the new Village Tree Supervisor. Thank you to her for volunteering to serve; below, in the Newsletter's 'Spotlight' section, is an introduction and her background.

It was wonderful to see so many Village residents, ghouls and goblins at the annual Halloween party! Music, pizza, ice cream, crafts and balloon creations were enjoyed by all. Thank you to Keith Allen and Holly Worthington for their valuable assistance!

Once again the Village will collect donations from residents for the "holiday fund" to express thanks to the Waste Management men that serve us. Watch for your letter

in the mail after Thanksgiving with a self-addressed envelope for you to return with your donation, and thank you in advance for your generosity.

-- Richard

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JUST A NOTE

The Village is losing two long time residents: Steve and Debbie Schmal of Summit Ave. Both Steve and Debbie have been active in our Village and the area. Steve was an early member of the Village Council and, without a doubt, has attended more meetings as a Council member and involved resident than anyone else in VMA. Both have always been there when help is needed whether it is to drive a neighbor or deliver leaflets. Chevy Chase @ Home and the Friends of the Library Chevy Chase Chapter will miss them as much as our village. We send them off to the lucky folks in San Diego with our best wishes and our deepest thanks for their many years of service to our community.

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UPCOMING EVENTS



- **11/23/2016:** Village Office closed early at 1:00 p.m.
- **11/24 -11/25/2016:** Office Closed; Thanksgiving Holiday
- **12/15/2016:** Council Meeting 7:30pm in the Village Office
- **12/26/2016:** Office Closed, Christmas Holiday (observed)
- **1/2/2017:** Office Closed; New Years Holiday (observed)

- **1/14/2017: Bulk Trash Pickup**

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HOT TOPICS

Preventing Package Theft

The holiday season is a time when many of us are taking time to visit with family. Its also a time when many of us are shopping for gifts for our loved ones. As online shopping becomes more and more prevalent, packages left on a doorstep are commonplace. Criminals unfortunately will take advantage of the opportunity, and police see an increase of package thefts this time of year. Consider the following tips to help protect yourself against package theft:

- Have packages delivered to a work location, so they are not left on a porch unattended.
- Require signature for delivery.
- Ask the shipper to leave the package at their location, and pick it up when you have time.
- Don't have items arrive when you are not home.
- Ask a neighbor to take your packages in for you.
- Consider installing a security camera on your front porch/door bell. They are becoming more and more cost efficient, and can serve as a deterrent.

And as always, please call the police if you see someone in your neighborhood that is unfamiliar and suspicious. Lock your doors, and don't keep valuables unsecured outside your residence! On behalf of your Village of Martin's Additions Community Policing Officers, we hope you have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.

- Nick Picerno, Community Policy Officer

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

No Committee Reports this month.

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SPOTLIGHT



MEET THE NEW VILLAGE TREE SUPERVISOR: Paula Goldberg

Paula Goldberg (Bradley Lane) has been a resident of the Village of Martin's Additions for over three decades. Paula was a health care provider, a Physician Assistant, for most of her professional life. She is currently the Executive Director of City Wildlife, a small non-profit organization in DC dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of sick, injured, and orphaned native wildlife.

Paula has always had a passion for the natural world. She served on two Village Tree Committees in 2006-7 and 2014-15. She is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator in the state of Maryland. Paula is also a volunteer at the National Museum of Natural History's Insect Zoo and Butterfly Pavilion and has run a butterfly survey in the foothills of the White Mountains in New Hampshire every summer since 2004.

Paula and her husband Jeff have three grown children and a house full of pets.

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NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

Village Halloween Party: The annual Halloween party and costume parade took place Sunday October 30 at the Turner Lane cul-de-sac by Shepherd Park. Many attendees came in costume and enjoyed food, drinks, music, and crafts. There was also a balloon artist! Thank you to the volunteers!

Fall Leaves: Please bag your leaves for yard waste collection on Mondays or have them removed by your yard service. Please do not leave them in piles on the street or right of way! Thank you!

Street Cleaning: Rolling Acres will do at least two street cleanings before Old Man Winter is upon us. The office will be sure to email and contact residents to give them an opportunity to move cars off the street ahead of time.

Concrete Repairs & Replacement: Concrete work has been completed on Bradley, Melville, the dead end of Raymond, Cummings, and Shepherd. After the holidays, we will start back up again on Turner and move northward through the Village to complete sidewalk, curb & gutter repairs and replacement.

Street Repairs & Replacement: The failing trench was repaired and 1/2" milled off of Quincy St. This is only a temporary solution, but makes for a smoother surface for the winter, and cuts down on potholes, which can cause damage to resident vehicles and can also catch on snow plows and exacerbate damage. Street repaving throughout the Village will occur in the spring - this decision was made in part because of weather (asphalt plants close around Thanksgiving time, so there would have been a time crunch; and falling leaves can negatively impact asphalt integrity), and also to schedule around WSSC, which is coming back (again) early in 2017 to do sewer main replacement on Quincy, half of Raymond, Chestnut, and parts of Thornapple. Completing street repairs in the spring will avoid having to re-do and pay for the same work twice.

Streetlight Replacement: PEPCO and its supplier have begun creating the parts that were ordered by the Village for the new streetlights. PEPCO estimated that by the time the Village's order is completed and parts created, installation can begin around the beginning of April.

Open Request for Proposals: The Village has two open RFPs. One is for the Village Arborist; the deadline is December 2. The Village also has an open RFP for redesign and hosting of the website, also due on December 2. [The RFPs are posted on the Village website.](#)

2016 Resident Directory: The Village has published and mailed a new resident directory. Extra copies are available in the Village office.

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. See the "Building Blocks" section of the newsletter for the latest!

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 Constant Contact notifications from the Village Council, the committees, and the office (i.e., any official communication from your Village government), please [sign up on our website](#) This is the best way to receive information on waste pickup, snow removal, and Council and committee meetings.
- To receive a paper copy of *Martin's Edition* in the mail, please contact the Village office.

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BUDGET CORNER

Holiday Fund 2016

'Tis the season for our annual call for **contributions to the Village of Martin's Additions' Holiday Fund**. This fund provides a convenient and safe opportunity for residents who wish to offer a seasonal thanks to the wonderful men who collect our household garbage, yard waste and recyclables throughout the year. A letter will go out to all Village households with an enclosed return envelope for your convenience.



We have dedicated, professional men handling our trash and recycling services as well as yard waste and heavy trash pickups: Jose A. and Burton on weekly trash truck; Jose P. and Jesus on yard waste; Jose P., and Jesus on recycling trucks; Jovino, Roberto and Burton on heavy trash trucks.

If you would like to make a donation to the fund, **Checks should be made to the Village of Martin's Additions (Note: Holiday Fund)**. Please make your contributions **by Friday, December 16th** so we can present the checks before the holidays!

Thank you in advance for your show of appreciation. All cards and notes reflecting your appreciation are welcome and will be included in the Holiday Letter to the men.

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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 December 15, 2016

7:30 PM	Call to Order: Krajeck
	Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Krajeck
	Action on Council Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2016: Krajeck
	Hearing on draft Ordinance 10-16-1: to amend the Code of Ordinances regarding Non- conforming buildings; Right-of-Way license agreements: Krajeck
	Financial Matters, including Treasurer's Report: Alexander
	Manager's Report, including: streetlights; street repaving; RFPs and contracts: Trollinger
	Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Krajeck
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



Winterizing Trees

Now that the temperatures have suddenly turned colder, it is important to think about how your landscape shrubs and trees will survive the winter. Did you know that water is nature's anti-freeze? Martin's Additions has received less than three inches of natural rain since mid-September.

Plants are going into the winter already dehydrated. With no substantial rain forecast, it is imperative for plant health to give all of your plants a good drink now.

Let the sprinkler run for an half hour or so, stop for an hour, and then turn on the sprinkler again. This will allow the water to penetrate into the ground rather than run down the street. This should be repeated in 3-4 days or until we get significant rain.

Two inches of mulch over the root system of shrubbery will aid in holding the moisture in the ground and also provide a nice blanket to keep the roots warm over the winter.



--Paul Wolfe, (Integrated Plant Care) Village Arborist

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BUILDING BLOCKS

Building Administrator's Report

7219 Chestnut St.

The homeowner placed stones tiles over the top of the existing concrete sidewalk. A right of way license agreement was prepared for that portion of the sidewalk in the Village right of way. We are waiting for the homeowner to return the executed and notarized agreement, which will be recorded in the land records at Montgomery County.

3414 Cummings Lane

The construction of the detached garage, pool, pool decking and driveway is on-going. The Village recently extended the building permit.

7210 Delfield St.

The homeowner has planted rose bushes and other plants outside the new fence at the front of the property and within the Village right of way. A right of way license agreement was prepared for the plantings in the Village right of way. We are waiting for the homeowner to return the executed and notarized agreement, which will be recorded in the land records at Montgomery County.

3505 Raymond Street

Work is continuing on the original house improvements and a new building permit has been issued for the front porch addition, the new deck above the old garage, and the relocation of two A/C compressors at the rear of the house.

3507 Raymond St.

The homeowner has submitted plans and a building permit application to the Village to make interior improvements and to add a deck to the rear of the house. The Village has issued a building permit. The work is ongoing.

MSHA - Brookville Road

MSHA maintenance crews have been repairing the inlet in Brookville Rd., just north of Shepherd St. Repairs were completed this week. They also are investigating the water ponding at the northeast corner of Brookville Rd. and Bradley Ln.

AMT GIS Update

AMT last updated the Village GIS computer data in 2014. We are presently compiling the information for a new update. The update will include the new front yard construction projects since 2014, the WSSC water main replacement project from 2012 and 2016, the recent WGL improvements, and any changes to trees within the Village right of way. We have submitted some of this information to AMT and the rest should follow in the near future.

Recently, residents have been questioning the location of their property lines. We are also compiling a folder of individual lot surveys, which may help clarify where the individual property lines are located. AMT provided a street right of way survey in 2007. We have asked AMT to review the individual property line surveys and compare that information to the survey they provided in 2007.

--Doug Lohmeyer, Building Administrator

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HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK

WEATHER OUTLOOK:

Temperatures through Thanksgiving and through the end of November will average around normal, which is low to mid 50s. Thanksgiving Day will be breezy with temperatures 55-60 F, with possibly some left over showers early Thanksgiving Day morning.

The day before Thanksgiving is always the most traveled day of the year, but the one day of the year most important weather-wise is July 4th because of so many outdoor activities and fireworks displays. Third on that short list is Christmas.

The winter outlook we issued in September is calling for a mild winter with below normal snowfall and no big storms. The biggest problem we could foresee in December, January and February is ice.

For updated forecasts dial 202-589-1212. We're still doing it the old fashioned way on the phone, but we believe this service is still more timely. We'll keep you updated here in Martin's Additions of any impending storms and severe weather.

- Keith Allen, Turner Ln

[Keith Allen, long time resident of Martin's Additions,](#) provides weather forecasts by phone for cities across the U.S.



Happy Thanksgiving!

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](#)

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CONTACT INFO

COUNCIL		
vmacouncil@googlegroups.com		
Name	Phone	Email
Richard Krajeck, Chairman	301-654-3663	rkrajeck@hotmail.com
Tiffany Cissna, Vice Chairman	301-652-0541	cissnafamily@gmail.com
	301-718-9787	arthur.alexander@att.net

Arthur Alexander, Treasurer		
Susan Fattig, Secretary	301-951-9578	susan.fattig@gmail.com
Katya Hill, Member-at-Large	301-718-1920	ka2shaz@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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Village of Martin's Additions

martinsadditions@gmail.com | 301-656-4112 | www.martinsadditions.org

301-656-0030 (fax)

Village of Martin's Additions, 7013 Brookville Rd, Suite B, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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