

Martin's Edition

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

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October 2016

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Residents,

During the past couple of months we have made significant progress in the Village's effort to update and replace the streetlights throughout Martin's Additions. Although the process has been painfully slow at times, we believe we are at the point where installation work is finally going to begin.

In the years since this project was first developed, lighting technology has evolved considerably. Whereas the Village was initially pushed towards incandescent lights, the lighting world has since moved away from that and almost entirely towards LED. In fact, by the time the Village decided to move ahead with a particular type of incandescent fixtures - cost, based on light output, temperature, glairiness, etc. - and we were ready to put in the order, PEPCO told us that its supplier no longer made those lights.



Since the LED sample fixture that was put up on 3525 Bradley Lane was even more popular with residents than the incandescent fixture we planned to order, and, as technology improved, its cost went down (the LED lights we have ultimately selected are about \$1,000 less *per light* than they would have been just a year ago), we have placed our order with PEPCO to install the LED lights throughout the Village. The total cost will be approximately \$250,000 which was budgeted for the project. The cost includes new lights on 62 existing poles and adding 7 new poles where there was inadequate lighting. PEPCO estimates it will be 6 weeks before the LED lights we have specified will be delivered.

Of note, *The Washington Post* [recently ran an article](#) about concern regarding health risks that may be associated with LED lighting. We want to assure you that the lights we have selected fall well outside the areas of concern identified in the article. In fact, the concerns brought up in the article are part of the reason we worked diligently to select the right light output, color, and temperature for Martin's Additions.

The Village office will keep you informed when the project is ready to start and how PEPCO plans to replace the current lights and put in the new poles, including how we might need your help (e.g., no parking in certain areas at certain times).

On another note, at the last Council meeting, the annual survey results were reviewed. [Results may be found here.](#) One of the things I'd like to highlight for you here is how we have made some changes to our newsletter in response to some of the comments received. In the past, we heard complaints that the newsletter was too cluttered and contained "too much gossip", was how one resident put it, and to get rid of the non-Village articles. The survey showed that there is still interest in articles of Village activities, such as the MANNA food drive, Chevy Chase @ Home, library activities, etc. You will find the policy under consideration by the Council regarding articles to be considered for inclusion in the newsletter at the end of this *Martin's Edition*.

Thirdly, the Council, in recognition of the many years that Dan Gardner has served as the Village Tree Supervisor, is offering Dan a tree of his choice to be planted in their yard. It is a small token of thanks from the Village for the many years and hours Dan has devoted to keeping our trees coverage healthy with the removal of old trees and the planting of new trees. On behalf of the Village, a million thanks to you, Dan!

In case you missed it... The Centennial Plaque may now be seen at the end of Turner Lane, on the boulder near the Centennial Tree.

Lastly, the annual Village Halloween Party is this Sunday, the 30th, from 3-5pm in the Turner Lane cul-de-sac. There will be the usual food and treats for the



kids and adults - great costumes too! A special thank-you to Keith Allen for his assistance with the Halloween party. I look forward to seeing all of you there.

-- Richard

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UPCOMING EVENTS



- **10/30/2016: Village Halloween Party 3-5pm at the Turner Lane Cul-de-Sac**
- **11/12/2016: Bulk Trash Pickup**
- **11/17/2016: Council Meeting 7:30PM Village Office**
- **11/24 & 11/25/2016: Village Office Closed in Observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday**

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HOT TOPICS

Street Repaving Update

We are *finally* taking the next step towards getting our streets repaved and concrete replaced and repaired throughout the Village! Earlier this month, office staff walked the Village with our selected contractor (A.B. Veirs) to identify concrete areas that need replacement - you may have noticed the orange spots throughout the neighborhood.

In order to protect the integrity of the asphalt, concrete work will be done first - and is scheduled to begin right November 1st, and will take about a month to finish. The Village will be replacing curb and gutter, sidewalks, and driveway aprons in Martin's Additions as needed. Work will begin on Bradley St., and will take a few days to finish. The office will be sending out reminders and notices a

couple days before work progresses onto subsequent streets. The Village office will also be putting up physical signs on the roads to be closed ahead of time.

Residents who are getting apron work done should not drive over the new concrete for at least 3 days after it is poured. Unfortunately, this means that they will have a temporary inconvenience of not being able to park in their driveway or on the street during work hours. I have asked A.B. Veirs to stop by and make large spray paint marks on the aprons so the residents know if their apron will be restricted. If you see this mark, please do not park your car in your driveway for the entire duration of the project on your street, and do not drive on it for at least 3 days after the new concrete has been poured. Driving on it too soon will damage your new concrete.

When concrete work begins on your street, please remove your car from street parking starting at 8:00 am, and do not park throughout the work day (until 4:00 pm). Please be aware that your efforts to comply with 'No Parking' on days that concrete work is being done on your street will make the process go more quickly.

We have also given residents the opportunity to "piggy back" and have A.B. Veirs re-do residents' asphalt driveways. A.B. Veirs has been in contact with those residents that were interested to evaluate and send an estimate for the work. (Typically "piggy-back" pricing is a little bit cheaper than if you decided to do it all on your own, because they already have all the materials out here).

Getting back to the general timeline - because asphalt plants close from around Thanksgiving through January (weather-dependent), unfortunately the repaving is going to be pushed into the spring. I too am disappointed in this development, but logistically it actually makes more sense (bear with me as I deliver more disappointing news...): WSSC will be returning to Martin's Additions, this time for sewer main replacement. This is a new development, and will be affecting Quincy, Raymond, Chestnut, and Thornapple. The work on Raymond, I was told, should begin and be completed early in the New Year. Quincy and Thornapple are split into two different jobs - the first part will begin and end at the same time as Raymond St. Unfortunately, though, the second "job," which also affects Chestnut, is still in design phase, but I was told to expect it in late summer/fall of 2017. I encourage residents to check out WSSC's website, which has an interactive map entitled *In Your Neighborhood* that shows upcoming work: <https://gis.wsscwater.com/inyourneighborhood/>

What this means is that Quincy, Chestnut, and Thornapple residents will probably not see their roads repaved in the spring. Disappointing, again, I know, but if we do the work now WSSC will just tear up the roads again next fall and we would be back to square one, *paying for the same work two times*. Instead, we will wait until WSSC has finished, and then come in and complete the road repairs and repaving on your streets. I do know that Quincy Street has been hit particularly hard, and with more WSSC work it will only get worse, so our office worked with A.B. Veirs to figure out a short-term solution that we can get done before the winter so that Quincy does not fall further into disrepair and become completely undriveable over the winter. A.B. Veirs will be going to replace the old Washington Gas trench in the middle of the road, which seems to be failing, dig it up, and put in a new permanent trench. This will alleviate the big dip that runs right down the middle of the road, and means that when we finally do get to a full mill-and-overlay, we would have a better base in place. Additionally, they will be doing a

small layer of asphalt on top of what is currently there to just smooth it out (this is called "wedge and level" or "skim coat"). Neither of these are long-term solutions, but should provide some short-term relief until we can go in and do a long-term fix.

Martin's Additions has been hammered by utility work over the past few years, but I am excited that we are finally getting to a point where there is light at the end of the tunnel. I want to thank everyone for their extreme and continued patience - between all the utility work, upcoming concrete and road work, I recognize the disruption this has caused the Village. But once we have made it over the hump, with new updated utilities, safe-to-walk sidewalks, and smooth and driveable roads, our community will be all the better.

Thank you again - on behalf of myself and Beth, everyone in the office, and the Village Council - it is a pleasure to serve you all. And we thank you in advance for your cooperation and patience throughout the upcoming project.

-- Matt Trollinger, Village Manager

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COMMITTEE UPDATES

ELECTION COMMITTEE

The 2017 VMA Election Committee held its first meeting on October 5. We reviewed the Village election procedures, discussed the tasks and timing for this year, and had some fun in the process. The chair of the committee this year is Marty Langelan, and the vice-chair is Naomi Naierman.

We sent two action items to the Council: We recommended that the Council appoint Ms. Lauren Biel of Delfield St. to the Election Committee (welcome, Lauren!), and recommended that the Council set Thursday, May 11, as the date for the 2017 VMA Council election.

At the request of the Election Committee, the recent VMA community survey included a question about VMA's election process. Of the 117 residents who answered, 90 percent said they think that VMA's new procedures are fair and effective. A number of residents said they were pleased with "the positive and constructive changes," the "open process," and the "prioritizing of transparency and ballot security." The committee thanks everyone who took the time to answer and write comments. At our next meeting, we will review the detailed survey responses and residents' ideas about ways to improve our Village elections. All of our Election Committee meetings are open - VMA residents are always welcome to attend.

In the meantime, PLEASE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 8. The polls will be open from 7 AM to 8 PM on Election Day. For many VMA residents, the polling place is the Rollingwood School at 3200 Woodbine St. For other VMA residents, the polling place is Chevy Chase Village Hall at 5906 Connecticut Ave. To find your polling location, [click here](#).

Early voting: 8 AM to 8 PM, October 27 through November 3.

Our nearest early-voting locations are the Jane Lawton Community Center at 4301 Willow Lane in Chevy Chase, and One Veterans Place, near Ellsworth Drive in Silver Spring.

November 1 is the deadline for a registered voter to request a mailed or faxed absentee ballot.

November 4 is the deadline for a registered voter to request an electronic absentee ballot (delivered via internet).

And last but not least, we have a very nice tradition in Martin's Additions of neighbors giving neighbors a ride to the polls, so please check to see if your neighbor might need a lift.

Your VMA Election Committee:

Marty Langelan, Lauren Biel, Naomi Naierman, Steve Trowern, and Natalie Straus
Welle

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SPOTLIGHT

Survey Results

The second annual resident survey was open to residents during the last two weeks of September. This year we received 141 responses, which is a fairly significant increase from last year's 105 responses. You can see the summary of responses by clicking on the link at the end of this article.

117 residents took the time write in text responses that provide great insight into what's most important to our residents. We really appreciate the time the residents took to submit their anonymous feedback. The most common feedback points were:

- Communications - residents would like to see more information from the Village office on what's happening in the community, issues under consideration by the Council, construction plans (see the "Building Blocks" section in this newsletter!), community events and other information that could be of interest to the residents. There were also a number of resident comments requesting to bring back elements of the original format of the monthly newsletter. The Village office will make an effort to better meet the residents' needs by communicating about a wider range of subjects that affect the residents' day to day life and Village activity. This will also be reflected in the newsletter, which will be more enjoyable to read. The staff will explore options for a new format and contents for the newsletter in the coming months. The newsletter enjoys a pretty high readership rate, per the data in Constant Contact. Also, of note, most of the readers are reading on mobile devices, which means that the format must remain accessible to them.
- Utility work/street disrepair - completely understandably we received a lot of complaints on the state of our streets. The Village office is pushing hard to have the streets repaved as early as possible.
- Services - the overwhelming majority of residents do not want to see reductions to the services provided by the Village. Other feedback included:
 - ◦ There were several comments requesting eliminating police patrols and an equal amount of comments requesting increasing of patrols.
 - ◦ Some residents wanted to add leaf vacuuming to the current service of leaf bag delivery, rather than replace one service with another as the survey suggested.
 - ◦ Residents are interested in reinstating snow shoveling for the elderly as a service.

The Council will take into consideration these suggestions as we look at our budget for next year.

- Elections - there were many positive responses on the work performed by the Election Committee. A number of residents expressed concern with lack of competition for Council seats during the last election. If you are interested in running for one of the two Council seats up for re-election in May, please reach out to the Election Committee members.

The Council would like to take this opportunity to thank those of you that responded to this year's survey, whether electronically or in paper form. It is great resource to us as we deliberate on issues throughout the year. If there is anything you would like to communicate to us between the annual surveys, please send an email to VMACouncil@googlegroups.com or call the Village office.

[Survey results summary can be viewed here.](#)

-Katya Hill

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NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

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

Village Halloween Party: The annual Hallowe'en party and costume parade will take place this Sunday October 30 from 3-5 PM at the Turner Lane cul-de-sac by Shepherd Park. Come in costume and enjoy food, drinks, music, and crafts. The Village office is also seeking volunteers to assist with set up, crafts, and clean up.



Loose Dogs: Please note that Montgomery County will fine pet owners if a dog is "At Large." Any dog is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and not leashed, unless it is a service dog, is in a dog exercise area designated by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, or is participating in an approved activity. Any other animal (i.e., cat or livestock animal) is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and not leashed or immediately responsive to verbal or non-verbal direction.

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

Village Events

Part of the Village budget is used to host the Celebration on the Sidewalk in May and the Halloween Party in October. The Village Council would like feedback from residents on how they feel about Village events. Please contact the Council at VMACouncil@googlegroups.com or the Village office with your input.

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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 November 17, 2016

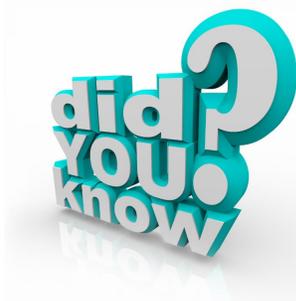
7:30 PM	Call to Order: Krajeck
	Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Krajeck
	Action on Council Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2016: Krajeck
	Presentation of the Annual Audit of the Village for FY2016 by LSWG: Introduced by Hill
	Public Hearing on Policy 9-16-01: Draft Policy for Inclusion in <i>Martin's Edition</i> : 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



Trees To Be Planted in the Fall

The Village arborist recommends eight new sites for replacement trees in the right-of-way:

- 7203 Delfield St: Redbud
- 7223 Delfield St: "Okame" Cherry
- 7311 Delfield St: Amelanchier
- 7315 Delfield St: Black Gum
- 7308 Summit Ave: Kwanzan Cherry
- 7304 Summit Ave: Hornbeam
- 7214 Chestnut St: Autumnalis Cherry
- 3500 Turner Ln: Sweetgum



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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 lead 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.

3512 Taylor Street

The staff noticed that the existing retaining wall along the front property line was being totally removed and re-built. The Village no longer issues permits for retaining walls. A right of way license agreement was prepared for the wall in the Village right of way. The agreement has been recorded in the land records at Montgomery County.

--Doug Lohmeyer, Building Administrator

New Permit Requests

7203 Delfield: Dumpster and Porta-potty

7213 Delfield: Dumpster

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HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK

Police and Safety

Halloween is an exciting time, especially for young people. To guarantee everyone has a safe and fun Halloween night, we would like to pass along the following tips:

1. **Trick-or-Treating:** Do so in your neighborhood and in areas that are familiar. We encourage adults to be present during trick-or-treating, to stay close and to watch the kids as they approach unfamiliar houses. Instruct children not to eat any candy until returning at the end of the night, and not to enter stranger's houses.
2. **Costumes:** Wear reflective clothing and carry a flashlight in order to be seen by motorists. In the same vein, drivers operating vehicles should be wary of children. Wear costumes that allow for visibility so kids can clearly see around them.
3. **Candy:** Accept only wrapped candy unless its coming from a family member or a well-known neighbor. Adults, make sure to examine the candy collected before consuming.
4. **Families:** Homeowners, be sure the outside of your property is well-lit, all outside lights are turned on and any animals are secured.
5. **Transportation:** If you're operating a car or another kind of vehicle on Halloween night, be wary of kids going door to door. Be sure to enter and exit driveways carefully. As the night progresses and it starts to get darker, drivers, pay special attention to kids dressed in dark clothing.

--Nick Picerno, Village Police Officer

Policy No. 09-16-01: DRAFT Policy for Contents of *Martin's Edition*

The Village of Martin's Additions (Village) Council desires to be transparent in its publishing policy for *Martin's Edition*, the Village's monthly newsletter.

The Village newsletter is generally reserved for official Village business. However, residents may submit articles and notices. In order for non-Village business to be included in *Martin's Edition*, the information

- (1) must be submitted by a current Martin's Additions resident;
- (2) must pertain to a not-for-profit organization;

(3) must be received in its entirety by the Village staff in electronic format by the 15th of the month it is to be printed; and

(4) is limited to written text and cannot exceed 100 words.

Policy Number: 09-16-01

Action/Adoption:

Effective Date:



Happy Halloween!

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



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