
Martin's Edition

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

Notes from Chairman Tim Price:

With the arrival of the New Year, the Village is prepared to move forward with issues associated with zoning and construction. As everyone is aware, the Chevy Chase area has and will continue to see a great deal of construction, whether remodeling, infill, additions, or replacements. Each of the Chevy Chase villages continue to discuss whether and how to address this recent increase in construction. Some of our neighboring villages have addressed the issues aggressively and some have taken little or no action.

Addressing the issues is a fairly complex and time consuming task that the Martin's Additions Village Council decided was beyond its ability without the benefit of experts and dedicated volunteers. The Council is choosing a Citizen's Advisory Committee from a long list of volunteers to work with Jakubiak and Associates, the urban planning company retained by the Village, to review the present zoning and construction ordinances, ascertain what, if any, changes the Village desires to make to its present zoning and construction ordinances, and, if changes are desired, to prepare amendments to the ordinances for presentation to the Village and consideration by the Council. There will be opportunities for every resident to participate in this process by attendance at Village-wide forums. During these forums Jakubiak and the Citizen's Advisory Committee will be asking Villagers for their opinions and viewpoint on issues dealing with zoning and construction. Again, I would emphasize that the issues are fairly large and include, at least in part, consideration of issues associated with front, side and rear yard setbacks, water runoff, the amount of lot coverage permitted by the primary building and/or the secondary buildings, the total size of the allowed construction and whether that total size should bear a relation to the size of the lot, and the total amount impervious surfaces allowed on any lot.

The process is just beginning and will take a significant portion of the calendar year to complete. I hope everyone will join in the discussions and follow the developments as this discussion and any resulting changes to our ordinances will have a long term impact.

JANUARY '08



**WISHING YOU A HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

◆ **MAKE A RESOLUTION!**

Resolve to be informed and engaged in your community in the new year. Join our community email service by going to groups.google.com/group/martins-additions-chevy-chase and click on "Apply for Membership." Attend the monthly Council meetings.

◆ **REMEMBER TO SHOVEL YOUR SIDEWALK!**

Please remember that the Village code requires you to clear your sidewalk of snow and ice! Please be considerate of your neighbors and make it safe to walk throughout the Village.



◆ **NEXT VILLAGE BULK TRASH PICKUP Saturday, January 12, 2008**

◆ **NO SALT ON NEW SIDEWALKS**

Please use sand or non-clumping kitty litter on the new sidewalks this winter.

◆ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR WINTER GATHERING**

Plans are already being made for the Village Winter Gathering at La Ferme! Mark your calendar for Sunday, February 10, 2008 from 2- 4 PM.

◆ **ARE YOU LISTED CORRECTLY IN THE VILLAGE DIRECTORY?**



If your listing in the Village Directory is not correct call the Office at 301-656-4112 by 1/31/08

NEXT VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETING

The next Village Council meeting will be held on **January 17, 2008 at 7:30 PM** in the Village Office, located at 7013 B Brookville Road.

DEAR JEAN...WHERE INQUIRING RESIDENTS ASK...



Dear Jean,

I have been impressed by the array of services the Village provides, from sidewalk repairs and garbage collection, to tree care, removal and replacement, snow plowing, shoveling and much more. Yet I don't see a Village Public Works Department. I also know that there are a host of paper processing requirements, public notice and filing provisions, building permit approval and issuance that any city in Montgomery County and the State of Maryland must meet in order to remain in the good graces of the higher authorities (and our residents). Then there are always issues with utilities such as Pepco, WSSC and Washington Gas and then cable services such as Comcast and Verizon. What are the details on how these services are provided? **Signed, Boggled.**

Dear Boggled: I am so glad you asked! Like any other municipality in Montgomery County, we are responsible for delivering a host of services that residents need and expect. In fact, without our fine-tuned network of contractors and service providers much of the Village would be “out in the cold” or “out on a limb”. The Village is also responsible for providing protective mechanisms in such areas as building permits, protection of the public right-of-way, and street lighting .

All of our ongoing and routine “hard” services, such as snow plowing, sidewalk shoveling, street cleaning, garbage collection, yard waste collection, recycling, and bulk trash pickup, are performed by independent contractors. Where possible and when required, the Village seeks competitive bids for such services. Our Charter provides limits and guidelines for this action.

“Softer” services, such as accounting, auditing, and legal services are also contracted out to reputable individuals and firms with expertise in these areas. Additionally, the Village occasionally addresses one-time contract needs. Survey work, urban planning and zoning regulation development,

and traffic engineering are some of the most recent examples. In many cases, even when the Charter does not require that the Village go out to bid for these services, the Council has insisted that “Requests for Proposals” (RFPs) be solicited from multiple vendors. Large “hard work” contracts in excess of \$10,000 for such things as major sidewalk replacement and repairs, street repaving and curb and gutter work throughout the Village are always sent out for competitive bid.

There is a broad and varied “in-between” zone of services, for which several types of contractors are required. Tree care is such a service. Sometimes we need simple pruning, sometimes we need several large trees removed or several new trees planted, and sometimes we need immediate emergency services when a tree comes down and blocks the road.

Then there are the everyday, ongoing maintenance needs that the Village has to address: street signs that get knocked down or run over, municipal trash cans that get trashed, traffic signs that disappear, public right of way areas that must be cleaned up, potholes that need emergency repairs, sidewalks that endanger pedestrians, icy streets and sidewalks that need another pass-through by the contractor. The list goes on and on. I haven't even talked about the relationship we try to develop and maintain with the big utilities that REALLY provide you with the basics of water and power! The wellbeing of our residents is always on our mind!

Sorry I was so long winded. Next month's column could probably continue this discussion, since there is so much to tell on how we run this Village!

DON'T FORGET TO SHOVEL YOUR SIDEWALKS!

Village regulations require that residents are responsible for clearing sidewalks in front of their property of snow and ice within a day after the snow storm ceases. Sidewalks must be safe for pedestrians. Residents who occupy corner lots are responsible for sidewalks in front and on the side of their property. Fines can be assessed for non-compliance with Village regulations.



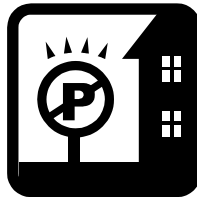
NEXT VILLAGE BULK TRASH PICKUP Saturday, January 12, 2008



Get your “junk” to the curb by late Friday afternoon or evening for Saturday morning pickup. No liquid latex paint. Appliances must have freon removed. No hazardous waste, construction debris, or yard waste. Call the Village Office at 301-656-4112. in advance if you have scrap metal or an appliance for pick-up or if you have any questions.

PLEASE THINK BEFORE YOU PARK.

Residents are kindly reminded to be observant and thoughtful when they park on Village streets. Parking is so often at a premium that we need to work together to get the best results! Please:



- ◆ Make sure not to block neighboring driveways.
- ◆ Make the best use of on-street parking. Did you use two spaces when all you needed was one?
- ◆ Refrain from parking opposite neighbors’ driveways if at all possible.
- ◆ Observe No Parking signage in the Village. It is there to improve YOUR safety and has been installed with an official Traffic Order, so it can be enforced.
- ◆ Especially observe the 30 ft. No Parking zone that is required at a Stop sign.



NEW OFFICER JOINS CHEVY CHASE VILLAGE FORCE

Martin’s Additions is fortunate to have Chevy Chase Village (CCV) Police close by so that we are able to contract with them for protective services every month. CCV is pleased to report that Officer Omar Hasan has recently joined the CCV Police Department. Officer Hasan’s previous law enforcement experience includes two years with the Baltimore City Police, eight years with the Montgomery County Police Department, and service in the US Army Reserves. He has a bachelor’s degree from Syracuse University in psychology and a

master’s degree from Marymount University in forensic psychology. Sounds like we are very lucky to have him overseeing our Village!

TREES GET PLANTED EVEN IN THE COLD!

The Village has recently completed the planting of 8 trees in several locations. These trees were offered to the Village by McCullough Residential, LLC, as replacement for the town tree that was removed to allow for a entrance and driveway at the construction site on the corner of Turner Lane and Brookville Road. Devoted resident volunteer and tree care supervisor Dan Gardner (Delfield Street) was instrumental in making the arrangements with Integrated Plant Care to locate and plant the trees. Dan continues to work with Paul Wolfe of Integrated on a planting plan for an additional 10 trees in the Village, so long as the nurseries are still digging and the ground is still plantable.



Tree pruning is also planned throughout Martin’s Additions during the winter months. No trees are presently slotted for removal, but extensive pruning may be required in several locations. The Village will attempt to notify residents when this may occur in front of their homes so that vehicles can be removed. It is also our plan to remove those mulch volcanoes we talked about earlier in the year.

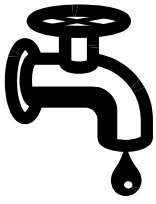
DOGGIE DOOS AND DON'TS

Please be considerate of everyone and pick up after your dog, and we don’t mean his room. We hate to remind dog owners of these simple courtesies but it seems that we have



to. Please make sure your dog is on a leash when not in a fenced portion of your property. Don’t let your dog defecate on the public right-of-way, private property other than your own, or on other public property without picking up the animal’s waste. It’s your responsibility and is required by Montgomery County law. Please do not be a doo-doo head.

WSSC ASKS US TO HELP...AND WARNS OF TROUBLE



At a recent meeting of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission's top brass and many of the neighboring municipalities, the Village of Martin's Additions was represented and given updated information on major upcoming WSSC projects to upgrade and improve the water and sewer systems that serve us. Officials discussed the antiquated condition of most of the water and sewer pipes, especially in our area, and presented the challenges they face with the aging infrastructure.

WSSC estimates the 85% of the water distribution piping will reach or exceed its useful life by 2020. Most of the collection system has substantial remaining useful life, although cast iron pipes, non-reinforced concrete pipe and pre-cast concrete cylinder pipes are in poor condition. The entire Chevy Chase area is particularly at risk because of the age of the area and thus the fragility of water and sewer pipes. Our crazy winter weather that freezes and thaws many times during the season puts our water and sewer system at even greater risk. The WSSC has developed a 10-year fiscal plan and a 30-year capital investment projection in an attempt to get a handle on the problem of pipe replacement. At the same time they are trying to cope with emergency response to seemingly continuous pipe breaks.

WSSC has prepared several informational brochures for our residents on such things as "Coping with a Sewer Back-Up," "Basic Plumbing for Your Home," and more that will be available in the Village Office shortly. They have also kicked off a large "Can the Grease" educational program, recommending that residents pour grease into a can, seal the can with a plastic lid that WSSC will provide to Martin's Additions, freeze the grease and then throw out the can when it's full, reserving the lid for the next can of grease.

There was much more information provided at this meeting that we will share over the course of the next several newsletters. In the spring the Village is scheduled for sewer pipe work (they call it "pipe bursting") along Thornapple Street, where the existing 6-inch sewer main will be increased in size to 8 inches.

Several homes along Thornapple Street will have new house connections and new sewer mains that will require excavations. Details will be made available to residents as they are made available to the office.

Here are some important WSSC phone numbers for you to keep handy. Other numbers are available from the Village office. *Communications and Community Relations at 301-206-8100, Customer Relations at 301-206-4001, Customer Relations 24 hour # 301-206-4002*

VMA FIRE BOARD APPOINTMENTS MADE

The Village is pleased to announce that Council Chairman Tim Price has reappointed VMA Fire Board representative Natalie Straus-Welle of Quincy Street to the Chevy Chase Fire Board. Her reappointment request came directly from the President of the Fire Board, Mr. John Bird who recognized her for outstanding contributions to the Fire Department and Board for several years. Mr. Price also newly appointed VMA resident Iris Reichert of Thornapple Street to fill a vacancy on the Board for the next three years. Hal Bruno of Cummings Lane will continue to serve on the Board as he has for 31 years! The Fire Department is pleased that we now have our full complement of Board members to represent Martin's Additions.

NOTES FROM OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT



♦ *Clothes Dryers Can be a Hazard.* Did you know that your clothes dryer is a very common source of residential fires? Dust fiber and lint are the cause of over 25% of these fires. When lint has to pass through an exhaust duct that is under a floor or through walls and is more than 6-feet long, it is almost impossible to propel all the lint out of the vent. As a result, lint can accumulate in pockets along the vent where they are harder to reach and clean. It is crucial for homeowners to regularly inspect and clean out the dryer vent. Recommendations for clothes dryer safety include the following:

♦Manufacturers recommend not using plastic flexible dryer ducts between the vent and the clothes dryer, but many homes continue to do so. The plastic can

provide additional fuel for a fire.

◆ Never put synthetic materials such as rubber, plastic, foam or pieces of cloth that have been used to sponge up flammable liquids in the dryer, even if previously washed.

◆ Clean the lint out of the exhaust pipe and the rear of the dryer regularly.

◆ Inspect your lint filter for rips and replace immediately if damaged.

◆ The exhaust pipe should be as short as possible and have limited bends to allow for adequate airflow.

◆ Never run your clothes dryer when you are out of the house or sleeping.

◆ Have gas-powered dryers inspected by a professional annually to ensure that the gas line and connections are intact.

◆ **Carbon Monoxide Detectors a Necessity.** The Fire Department recommends that carbon monoxide detectors be installed in all homes. New construction requires these detectors by law, but older homes are just as vulnerable, if not more so, to carbon monoxide. The winter months are the most dangerous.

◆ **Replace Smoke Detectors Every 10 years.** The Fire Department recommends that you replace your entire smoke detector unit at least every 10 years. Batteries should be replaced twice a year when you change your clocks for daylight savings time.

Residents requiring assistance with any of these recommendations are urged to call the Chevy Chase Fire Department at 301-652-0707 to request help.

HOLIDAY FUND A GREAT SUCCESS



The men of Waste Management who do such a great job taking care of our refuse throughout the year were thrilled at the wonderful response we received to our call for a Holiday Fund for them. More than half the households in Martin's Additions found the fund a convenient way to say thanks. These contributions were distributed to Mr. Powell, Mr. Moore, and Mr. Winston who handle the normal household waste and monthly bulk pickup; to Mr. Kabba who handles the recycling service, and to Mr. Navarrete and Mr. Cruz who pick up our yard waste. They all expressed their deepest appreciation for your appreciation!

OUT AND ABOUT THE VILLAGE

◆ Welcome to new residents *Gary and Laurie Cohen at 3518 Turner Lane* who moved to Martin's Additions from Georgetown. They have two little boys, Ethan 3 and Devon 10 months.

◆ Congratulations to *Ranjit Sidhu and Kristen Van Hook at 3519 Turner Lane* on the arrival of their first "addition" *Elijah*, on December 13, 2007. This "Big Boy" weighed in at a hefty 8lbs.13 oz. We expect to see him out walking their dog in no time!



VMA RESIDENT STOKOE EXHIBITS PHOTOGRAPHS

Architecture of Construction: Photographs by James Stokoe (Martin's Additions Resident, Cummings Lane) *opens at American Institute of Architects Headquarters Gallery January 11* and will run through March 27th. The gallery is open Monday through Friday 8:30 to 5:00 PM and is located at 1735 New York Avenue NW.

Local architect and photographer, James Stokoe explores the transient architectural forms of construction sites. The exhibit grew out of Mr. Stokoe's interest in documenting how our environment can be shaped by chance events or actions. Turning his camera to the construction site for the past four years, Mr. Stokoe has been documenting the unintended architectural riches of specific building and demolition projects in the Washington area, including the old and new convention centers, the Nationals Stadium, the Chinese Embassy, the Newseum, and the National Museum of the American Indian.

BROOKVILLE MARKET LOOKING FOR YOUR INPUT



Comments and product suggestions are being requested for the "all new" Brookville Market. Pick up your survey at the Pharmacy or at the Market and let your voice be heard!



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

B-CC USED BOOK SALE
APRIL 5-7, 2008. YOUR
USED BOOKS ARE
NEEDED



It's easy to donate. Just load your books in boxes or bags and drive to B-CC's Chelton St. entrance for **curbside pick up** by volunteers, from 10AM to 2 PM every other **Sunday in January (the 13th and 27th)** and **February (10th and 24th)** and the first **Sunday in March, the 2nd**. Tax forms are available.

All types of books are needed--fiction and nonfiction; children and adult; paperback and hardcovers; all languages. NO encyclopedias, textbooks or magazines, please. The proceeds are used for equipment, teacher training, and special programs that make B-CC high school one of the best. Questions can be directed to Peggy Hsieh

McIntosh at peggy_hsieh@yahoo.com.



BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED /
REQUESTED

The following Permits have recently been requested or issued:

- ◆ 7003 Brookville Road, Fence permit
- ◆ 3410 Taylor Street, Fence permit
- ◆ 3518 Turner Lane, Fence Permit
- ◆ 6801 Brookville Road, new home construction

VILLAGE COUNCIL AND STAFF

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Council Member

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Village Office

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martinsadditions@verizon.net

VILLAGE COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council meetings are held every **third Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM** in the Village Office. The Meeting Agenda is posted on the Village Bulletin Board outside the Brookville Supermarket. The Village Council occasionally schedules Working Sessions to discuss specific topics. Notice of Work Sessions is also posted on the Bulletin Board.