

Martin's Edition

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

August 2018

In This Issue

[From the Chairman](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Spotlight](#)

[Notes From the Village Office](#)

[Draft Agenda for Next Council Meeting](#)

[Building Blocks](#)

[Heard on the Sidewalk](#)

[Contact Info](#)

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

I want to thank all the residents who have run for Village Council and who have volunteered to serve on the Village committees. The heart of our Village is the residents and it is very gratifying to see so many volunteering to make this Village a better place for everyone.

Every September Council meeting, we review and agree on the questions to be asked in the Village Annual Survey. The goal of the survey is to poll residents on what services are being provided and if the Council should consider discontinuing any of the current services or should be adding new ones.

In every survey, there are residents who would like the Village to restore snow shoveling services for those unable to clear their own walks. It was a service the Village provided a few years in the early 2000's, but was discontinued in 2008 at the beginning of the recession. The 2007-2008 Fiscal Year was the year we had two 20-plus-inch snow falls back-to-back. The budget for street plowing budget was greatly exceeded by the \$15,000 cost; but the \$65,000 snow shoveling expense was a real



budget buster. At the time services were trimmed because of falling revenues, Village-wide activities, as well as snow shoveling for residents, were no longer funded.

At that time, any resident over 65 or who was disabled qualified for snow shoveling services. Many over 65 refused the service as they were still able to shovel their own walks and felt the Village needed to find a different threshold to provide the service. Your ideas on how to structure a reconsideration of the program would be greatly appreciated.

The Council plans to take August off. Have an enjoyable, fun and safe summer!

- Richard Krajeck, Council Chair

[Back To Top](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS



- 8/1 Brookville/Taylor Construction Begins
- 8/16 VMA Council Meeting CANCELLED
- 9/1 Movie Night in Shepherd Park, 7:30 p.m.
- 9/3 Labor Day - Village Office Closed
- 9/4 First day of School!

[Back To Top](#)

SPOTLIGHT

A Safety Message from Village Police

As the weather quickly warms, it is time once again to remind everyone of the

importance of locking car doors and securing property at your homes. While break-ins by force do happen from time to time, the vast majority of all thefts from vehicles happen to unlocked cars.

Now, more than ever, it is important to everyone that the Village not have the reputation of being a place where cars can be found unlocked! So when you get home, take a second to secure valuables (EZ-Passes, GPS's, car chargers, or money) and never leave keys inside a vehicle.

Also, please remember not to leave bikes, tools, etc. on your porch or unsecured in sheds. By deterring theft, fewer criminals will try their craft in the Village.

~ Lt. Nicholas Picerno

[Back To Top](#)

NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

WSSC UPDATE:

WSSC has finished installing the new sewer main on Raymond Street, and they will not work to tie in individual houses into the new main. Lateral connections will take approximately two weeks to finish, at which point they will move on to Quincy Street.

WSSC will continue to provide flaggers to help the flow of traffic, though avoiding work areas as much as possible is recommended.

It is possible that during the course of the work, residents' driveways may be affected. WSSC will notify residents if their driveways will be affected to give residents an opportunity to move their cars. If residents are unable, they will still be able to leave their driveway, but it may take five minutes or so for WSSC to move their equipment and put a grate over any holes to allow your vehicle to pass.

WSSC has been working from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Friday (again, weather dependent). We have notified fire & rescue, the postal service, Waste Management, and the schools of the expected work, but please also forward this information and any parking restrictions to lawn service or other helpers that come to your home.

No Parking will be required for roughly 100 feet at a time, and will slowly work its way up the street day by day. Please obey all posted signs to allow work to continue as quickly as possible. We all share the common goal of getting WSSC over and done with so that we can finally finish repaving the streets.

During the day, there will be hammering and vibrations because of the work. This is

normal for the process, though it can be disruptive. Although largely unavoidable, the office has asked for WSSC to try and cut down on the giant "whacks" at the margins as much as possible. The vibrations from large equipment can cause sediment to be disturbed in the water pipes, giving water brownish or orange coloring. In all likelihood, this water is safe, and is not contaminated with sewer water. WSSC recommends flushing the water by running a bath tub for 10 to 15 minutes, which will typically take care of the issue. If it is persistent, please give the Village office a call and we will work with WSSC to get it sorted out. Please note: infants, children, pregnant women, elderly residents, or those with compromised immune systems are advised to not drink the sediment discolored water out of precaution. It would perhaps be a good idea for residents to stock up on bottled water for the days when there is work directly in front of your home, just in case.

In the evenings, WSSC will be covering any trenches with reinforced grates, so streets will be perfectly driveable, and without restrictions after 4:00 pm. Equipment will be held at the same locations that equipment has been stored before: on Melville Street; and at the dead end of Quincy. They will be storing one excavator and one skid steerer on site to allow for quick start-up time.

New Postmaster:

Unfortunately, our Postmaster, Mr. Hugo Aldana, has moved on to a new position in Gaithersburg. Although we are disappointed with this development, we are very thankful for Mr. Aldana's help in improving mail delivery service in Martin's Additions, particularly in the north end of the Village, where he helped rearrange carrier routes to ensure that we would have a full-time carriers throughout the Village. His promotion is well-deserved.

We will continue to work with the Postal Service and with our federal representatives to ensure that the improved service continues in Martin's Additions. Contact info for Mr. Aldana's replacements are:

Eugene Yates, Supervisor Eugene.H.Yates@usps.gov (301) 767 0919

Gina Houze, Manager Gina.P.Houze@usps.gov (301) 767 0919

Lakhjit Dheman, Postmaster Lakhjit.dheman@usps.gov

We are working with Jamie Raskin's Congressional office to arrange for a meeting with the new Postmaster. Please let our office know if you have any further questions, comments, or concerns regarding mail delivery.

Brookville/Taylor Intersection Re-Construction:

As you may know, Martin's Additions has been working with State Highway Administration and Section 3 for quite a while now to implement some safety measures and re-design the intersection of Brookville Rd. and Taylor St. Today, we met onsite with State Highway and their contractors, and I am happy to say that we are very close to getting underway!

What is the Project?

In an effort to make the Brookville Rd./Taylor St. safer for pedestrians, State Highway will move the crosswalks so that they are closer together, shortened, and straightened out. Visibility issues will be addressed by removing the marketplace handicap parking space that currently sits after the Stop Sign, and moving that to a safer location as well. The stop sign will be relocated so that it sits on an extended bump-out so it is not blocked by parked vehicles.

ADA-compliant handicap ramps will be placed at each corner of the intersection, and water flow issues will be addressed by re-grading the street and fixing the storm drains on both sides of the street.

When will it begin?

Depending on weather, work will begin on Wednesday August 1st, and will be completed in about two weeks. The heavy rain forecasts may impact start time and the length of the project.

How will residents be impacted?

Over those two weeks, State Highway will have to close down one lane of Brookville Rd. towards the intersection between 9:30 am - 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. They will provide a flagger to help move traffic along, but if you happen to cross that intersection during those hours, please be prepared for some delays.

In addition, the Section 3 side of Taylor street will be closed for staging of the construction vehicles over the length of the project.

Daytime parking in front of the marketplace will be prohibited during construction as well, as some construction vehicles may be placed there during the day.

In total, the project should last about two weeks, assuming good weather. This means

that by the start of the new school year, the intersection will have finally been addressed, and will hopefully be safer for schoolkids and families at the bus stop, and for all pedestrians and commuters in general.

Residents can look at the redesign by clicking on the following link:

http://cms6.revize.com/revize/martinsadditions/MD186_PSE%20Plans_2018-04-10_XX1645176.pdf

[Back To Top](#)

DRAFT AGENDA FOR NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The August Council meeting is cancelled for summer recess. The next Council meeting will take place on September 20.

BUILDING BLOCKS

Streets & Sidewalks:

- The Village will soon be replacing broken, weathered, and old signs throughout the Village with newer, more easily visible signs.
- Traffic studies have been completed on Quincy, Shepherd, Cummings, and Thornapple Street - [click here](#) and [here](#) for our Traffic Engineer, Joe Cutro's analyses. The Village is in talks with Section 5 to look into ways to slow down traffic on Thornapple Street.

Building Administrator Report:

TO: The Council at the Village of Martin's Additions

FROM: Doug Lohmeyer

DATE OF MEMO: July 16, 2018

SUBJECT: Building Administrator's Report

7210 Chestnut St.

The Village has issued a demolition permit for the removal of the ex. house. The demolition has been completed. The applicant is working with the architect to finalize the architectural plans for the new house. Nothing has been submitted to MCDPS or the Village.

3405 Cummings La.

The applicant has submitted for a building permit from MCDPS and the Village. The Village issued a building permit on 9/11/17 and construction is on-going. We will check to see if the project will be completed before the expiration date.

7208 Delfield St.

A dumpster permit has been issued for interior kitchen improvements in the ex. house. A performance bond has been posted to cover any damage to the Village right of way. The applicant recently amended the MCDPS permit for additional interior improvements.

116 Quincy St.

The Villages has issued a building permit for the homeowner to add a covered deck to the left rear back of the ex. house. Work is under construction.

3404 Shepherd St.

The proposed improvements were not completed prior to the original building permit expiration date. The Village has extended the applicant's building permit until May 16, 2019.

3409 Shepherd St.

In addition to interior improvements, the homeowners are enclosing the deck at the right rear of the house.

3501 Shepherd St.

The applicant has submitted a building permit application to make several improvements to the existing house. The County and Village has issued building permits and the work is proceeding.

3412 Taylor St.

An application for a County and Village building permit has been submitted. A resident's information meeting was held on Tuesday, June 19th. The applicant expects to receive the County building permit in about two weeks. The County has already

approved the applicant's sediment control plans and a permit to connect an on-site, private 6" storm drain pipe into the County storm drain inlet in Taylor St. A Village right of way permit will be required for this connect, since the proposed 6" pipe will pass through the Village right of way.

MCDPS has completed their review and issued a building permit. The staff is completing the Village's final review.

3512 Taylor Street

The staff noticed that when the retaining wall was re-built, the contractor left a 2-inch-wide depressed area between the existing Village sidewalk and the base of the new wall, which may cause a pedestrian to trip and fall. The staff is attempting to contact the homeowner to correct the situation.

3405 Thornapple St.

The house construction is completed. However, several sections of ex. curb in front of the house have chips and cracks and I recommend they be replaced. MCDPS has released their building permit and the staff recommends releasing the Village's building permit.

MCDPS will not release the sediment control permit until the applicant removes the excess dirt that was placed on the lot at 3407. The additional grading was not approved by MCDPS. The owner has placed some materials on-site and covered it with a tarp but has not begun the re-grading of the lot. I recommend the Village retain the performance bond until the grading has been completed, the MCDPS has released their sediment control permit, the old driveway apron has been removed, and the damaged section of curb are replaced.

3407 Thornapple St.

The applicant's engineer says the owner is looking at different architectural options and plans.

Miscellaneous Items

The staff is presently working with the following properties:

3520 Bradley La. - concept plan for an addition at the rear of the ex. house

6701 Brookville Rd.- concept plan for improvements to house and lot

3521 Cummings Lane - concept plan for improvements to house and lot
7209 Delfield St. - concept plan for improvements to house and lot
120 Quincy St. - water leaking from behind the curb
3504 Shepherd St. - concept plan for improvements to house and lot
3508 Shepherd St. - drainage issues

[Back To Top](#)

HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK

Manna Update:

Manna Food Drive is Having a Hot July!

July has been a very good month for the Martin's Additions food drive. As of the 17th, we'd delivered 508 pounds of nonperishable items to help Manna Food Center keep its shelves stocked during the summer months, when donations typically taper off. About half of the contributions came from some most-generous donations by fellow Villagers and the other half from the patrons of Rock Creek Sports Club, which has partnered with us for the past five years or so for a special "Thanks 4 Giving in July" event. With a week or so still to go in the month, we've already got a couple of crates of food ready to go --which should push our YTD total close to 3,000 pounds, well on the way to our annual goal of 5,000 pounds.

Manna - Montgomery County's main food bank - has been working to feed hungry families for 35 years and our Village food drive is now heading into its 12th year - an amazing show of community spirit by Martin's Additions residents. And donations are greatly needed, even in these better economic times. Manna reports that in our prosperous county, nearly 10 percent of children live below the poverty line and that 40 percent of elementary school students qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. Beyond helping kids and their families, the food bank also provides aid to thousands of residents with disabilities and to seniors living on fixed incomes. For more information on its mission and programs, go to www.mannafood.org

So please keep the donations coming as the dog days of August approach! For those of you new to our neighborhood, you should know our drop-off spots: a box at the stairs to the Village Office or on the front porch of the Browns (3404 Taylor) or the Kirschtens (3406 Turner). Thanks to all of you loyal supporters and welcome to any newcomers.

From Chevy Chase At Home:

CC@H IN THE LAZY DAYS OF AUGUST

Come beat the heat at our Ice Cream Social and see the delightful film "Something's Gotta Give," starring Diane Keaton and Jack Nicholson. The fun starts at 2 p.m., Tuesday, August 14, at the Chevy Chase VillageHall. Hope to see you there!

Brunch Bunch, our regular monthly get together, will be held on Thursday, August 9, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road. Just come buy something to drink or eat and pull up a chair at the CC@H table for some good conversation with neighbors. All are welcome!

Weather Outlook:

July was a crazy month weather wise. Through the 1st 16 days of July, only a trace of rain was officially recorded at Reagan National Airport. This is the only time this has happened on record, going all the way back to 1871 that no measurable rain fell in the 1st half of July. The old record was .08" in 1900. Normal is 1.86". In 1905, the wettest 1st half was 7.05". Then on Tuesday, July 17, 2018, that all changed in an instant. Torrential rain moved directly over the airport and the city (including Nats Park) the afternoon of the All-Star game. 2.63" of rain fell in 46 minutes, .95" fell in just 11 minutes. The total was 2.79," not just wiping out the rain deficit, but turning it into a surplus. The second half of July will be very humid and wet with no heat waves. August is shaping up to be above normal in rainfall and temp. Enjoy the rest of your summer.

- Keith Allen, Turner Ln

[Keith Allen, long time resident of Martin's Additions](#), provides weather forecasts by phone for cities across the U.S. Residents are encouraged to call 202-589-1212 for up-to-the-minute updates.

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](#)

[Back To Top](#)

CONTACT INFO

<u>COUNCIL</u> vmacouncil@googlegroups.com		
Name	Phone	Email
Richard Krajeck, Chair	301-654-3663	rkrajeck@hotmail.com
Tiffany Cissna, Vice Chair	301-656-4112	vmacouncil@googlegroups.com
Arthur Alexander, Treasurer	301-718-9787	arthur.alexander@att.net

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	manager@martinsadditions.org
Tina Lurie, Assistant Village Manager	301-656-4112	avm@martinsadditions.org

Notes:

To receive Constant Contact notifications from the Village Council, the committees, and the office (i.e., any official communication from your Village government), please contact the Village office. 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.

Please note - The Village office does not administer the neighborhood listserv. To receive listserv emails, please contact Bill Lebovich at architecturalphoto@mac.com

[back to top](#)

Village of Martin's Additions

301-656-4112 (office)

301-656-0030 (fax)

www.martinsadditions.org