

Martin's Edition

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

December 2021

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From the Chair

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

Hoping that you and your extended families were able to celebrate a wonderful, peaceful, and restful Thanksgiving. I was heartened by the sight of children, parents and grandparents arriving in our midst as well as a few packed cars ready to journey out of town for family reunions.

We live in a privileged community during incredibly challenging times, so let us not forget the less fortunate families facing food insecurity, day in and day out, during this holiday season. My sincerest appreciation goes to the many residents for their generosity and tireless, year-round support of our local food kitchens, with a special shout-out going to Linda Kirschten for her dedication and relentless advocacy.

As we celebrate Hanukkah, and with Christmas and Kwanzaa right around the corner, I also would like to personally thank the folks that make the VMA such an incredible place: First and foremost, to the residents, who care so deeply about our community and who never shy away from offering good counsel and their institutional knowledge as we navigate both challenges and opportunities; to our incredible Village staff, Niles Anderegg and Martha Fessenden; and to the many volunteers on the Council, the Ethics, Election and Community

Engagement Committees as well as the Tree Supervisor. We are indebted to you and your commitment to the well-being of our community.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy holiday season!

With gratitude,

Andrew

Upcoming Events

- Dec. 14 - Ethics Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm
- Dec. 15 - Contributions due for the *Holiday Fund*
- Dec. 16 - Monthly VMA Council Meeting, 7:30 pm
- Dec. 24 - Office closed for Christmas
- Dec. 31 - Office closed for New Year's Day



2021 VMA Holiday Fund

Thank you to those who have already contributed 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.



We have dedicated, professional contractors handling our trash and recycling services as well as yard waste and heavy trash pickups: Jose A. on the trash and bulk pickups; Jose L. on the trash truck; Roberto on recycling and bulk pickups; and Jovino on recycling, yard waste and bulk pickups.

If you would like to make a donation to the fund, please put a check (no cash, please) in an envelope, and mail it to the Village office at 7013 Brookville Road, Second Floor, Suite B, Chevy Chase, MD 20815. You may also drop off your check at the Village office, (between 9 AM - 5 PM, M-F, except holidays). Checks should be made out to "The Village of Martin's Additions." Please put "Holiday Fund" on the memo line. Please send in your check so it is received at the Village office **by close of business Wednesday, December 15, 2021.** This gives us time to deposit and distribute the checks before the holidays.

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



Agenda for Council Meeting Thursday, Dec. 16, 2021, 7:30 PM

The Council may entertain a motion in open session to enter into a closed session, in accordance with Section 3-305(b) of the Open Meetings Act (Maryland Code, General Provisions Article).

7:30 PM Call to Order: Kauders

7:31 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer

7:41 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

7:51 PM Committee Updates: Kauders

8:01 PM Presentation by the Villager's Auditor on the FY21 Audit

8:11 PM Discussion and Possible Introduction of 2022 Election Plan and Discussion of Proposed Charter Amendments

8:25 PM Public Hearing and Possible Adoption of a Traffic Order to Install a Temporary Speed Bump on Thornapple Street.

8:35 PM Discussion of the Results of the 2021 VMA Annual Survey

8:40 PM Financial Matters, including Treasurer's Report: Alexander

8:45 PM Manager's Report: Anderegg

8:50 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

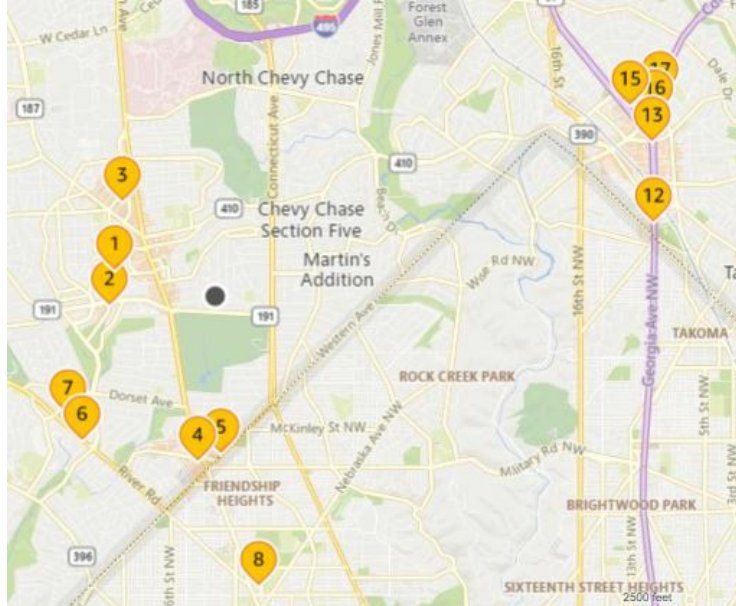
9:00 PM Adjournment: Kauders

*Please note: Listed times are approximate.

Prevention of Package Thefts!

Holiday season means dozens of USPS or Amazon packages sitting on front porches. Online

shopping has been on the rise for years, and the pandemic only intensified that trend, as many people sought to avoid face-to-face interactions. The number of package thefts incidents increased over 50% in 2020 and increased 4.8% in 2021 through 10/31/2021 in Montgomery County. That 4.8% increase is expected to increase as the 2021 holiday season heats up. Avoid porch theft with these crime prevention tips:



1. Take advantage of package tracking in 2021. Every major delivery company and the US Postal Service gives updates on when a given package will arrive. In most cases, you can track its progress and see when it's been placed on the truck for delivery. Finally, the tracking will be updated when your package has been delivered.
2. Install a video doorbell. Video doorbells are becoming an increasingly popular way of protecting homes. Brands like Ring, Arlo and Nest sell doorbells that double as home security cameras. When someone rings the doorbell, you can see a live video feed and hear what your visitor is saying. And the camera allows for two-way audio, meaning you can talk to whomever is on your porch.
3. Have your packages delivered to Amazon lockers. You can't always control when a package will be delivered or whether you'll be home to receive it. The good news is that there are options to change the delivery location and ensure the safety of your package. Amazon allows you to pick up your delivery in an [Amazon Locker](#) at selected locations with a unique code. Amazon currently has several pick-up locations nearby. **See map above.**
4. Invest in a porch lockbox. With porch piracy unfortunately becoming more common, many companies now manufacture lockboxes specifically designed for receiving packages.
5. Require signature on delivery. In most cases, delivery drivers simply leave packages on porches or at front doors. But that's not the only option. Most companies also give the option to require signature on delivery. In that case, the driver can't leave the package unless you're there to sign.
6. Purchase a mailbox sensor. A mailbox sensor is a small device that attaches to your mailbox and notifies you when it's been opened. You can find out when your mail is delivered, as well as find out if someone is trying to open your mailbox that shouldn't be.

Please remember to report suspicious activity and/or persons to the Police immediately!

Emergency: **911** Non-Emergency: **301-279-8000**

UPS My Choice: 800-742-5877

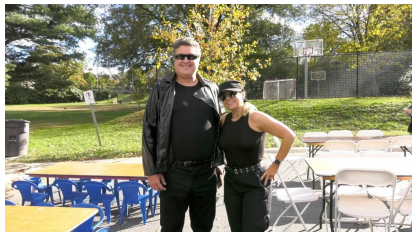
<https://www.ups.com/us/en/services/tracking/mychoice.page>

FedEx's Delivery Manager: 800-GoFedEx or 1-800-463-3339
https://www.fedex.com/apps/fdmenrollment/?locale=en_US

USPS 1-800-ASK-USPS (800-275-8777)
https://tools.usps.com/go/TrackConfirmAction_input

** * * Have a Safe and Wonderful Holiday Season! * * **

Montgomery Municipal Cable (MMCTV) produced a short video of this year's Halloween party and costume parade. You can watch it on YouTube here: <https://youtu.be/K4Un3Vvtv2o>. And enjoy these photos below, courtesy of MMCTV.





Building Blocks



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

FROM: Doug Lohmeyer

DATE OF MEMO: November 15, 2021

SUBJECT: Building Administrator's Report

3506 Bradley Lane

Demolition and building permit applications were submitted to the Village office. A second residents information meeting was held on Nov. 3. The plans are under review by the County and by the staff.

6701 Brookville Road

The homeowner has submitted a concept plan to construct a new driveway on Bradley Lane and possibly remove the existing driveway on Brookville Road. The staff has reviewed the concept.

7200 Chestnut Street

The applicant applied for a Village building permit to construct an addition to the west side of the existing house. The County issued their building permit on Sept. 3, 2020. The Village building permit was issued on Oct. 9, 2020. The MCDPS closed their building permit on Oct. 7, 2021 and the staff is in the process of closing the Village's building permit.

7200 Delfield Street

The property owners have applied for a Village demolition and building permit for a new house. The County issued their building permit on Oct. 23, 2020. The Village issued the demo and dumpster permits on Dec. 14, 2020 and the building permit on Jan. 4, 2021. The MCDPS has closed their building permit on Nov. 2nd. The staff will schedule a final site visit in order to close the Village's building permit.

7220 Delfield Street

The applicants have submitted an application to remove the existing house and build a new house. The Village information meeting was held on Dec. 14th. The County issued the building permit on April 20, 2021. The Village demo and

building permits were issued on May 17, 2021. The house has been removed. The new house construction is ongoing.

7221 Delfield Street

The homeowner has submitted an application to remove a portion of the existing deck and build a new section of deck and steps. The staff is reviewing the application.

120 Quincy Street

The homeowner has submitted plans to the County and the Village for review. The application proposes to construct several additions at the side and rear of the existing house. The County and the staff are reviewing the plans.

159 Quincy Street

The homeowners submitted an application to build a new deck at the rear of the existing house. The Village building permit was issued. Work is on-going.

163 Quincy Street

The homeowner has submitted a plan to add a parking pad on the east side of the existing driveway. The Village has issued the permit.

3515 Raymond Street

The applicant has submitted plans to remove the existing house and to construct a new house. MCDPS issued the building permit on Feb. 2, 2021 and the Village issued their building permit on Feb. 9, 2021. The ex. house has been removed and the new house is under construction. On July 13, 2021, the Council approved the variance to construct an office at the rear of the new house.

3521 Raymond Street

The homeowner has submitted a concept plan to remove a portion of the existing circular driveway, replace that portion of the driveway with grass and plants, and resurface a portion of the existing driveway. The Village has issued the permit and the work is underway.

7200 Summit Avenue

The homeowners submitted a Variance Application for additions to the existing house. The variance was approved by the Council on July 16, 2020. The applicants have not submitted to MCDPS or the Village. The Village variance has been extended for an additional 12 months.

3404 Turner Lane

The applicants have submitted an application for a variance of the Village's minimum side yard setbacks, so they can add a second floor to the existing, non-conforming house. The staff is working on issuing the building permit.

3502 Turner Lane

The homeowners are investigating the possibility of adding a new parking pad in front of their lot, since they do not have a driveway. A portion of the pad will be in the Village right-of-way.

Miscellaneous Items

The staff is presently working with the following properties:

1. The MSHA has responded to the Village's letter regarding water ponding at the Village street intersections along Brookville Road. The MSHA staff stated they are working with WSSC and MCDOT and will get back to us soon. The Village sent a letter to the State requesting an updated progress report on the outstanding pedestrian safety issues. The State responded and said they will be looking into adding additional pedestrian walkway safety measures at Bradley and at Taylor. Section 5 has prepared a concept plan to build a new MSHA storm drain system along the west side of Brookville Road from Bradley Lane to Shepherd Street.

Heard on the Sidewalk

Chevy Chase at Home

Navigating Life's Journey: Financial and Legal Planning for Future Healthcare Needs (a Zoom event)

Friday, December 03, 2021, 1:00 PM until 2:30 PM

This will be the second event of our new "Navigating Life's Journey" series, in which you will learn how to navigate your options for each stage of aging. In this session, a panel of experts will discuss how to ensure your future plans for aging in place (or anywhere else) are on firm financial and legal footing. Topics include long-term care insurance, financial planning, advanced directives, and issues in elder law like medical and financial power of attorney.

No fee. Registration is required.

https://www.chevyCHASEathome.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=559717&item_id=1567175.

Travels with Jan: Patagonia and Rapa Nui (a Zoom event)

Monday, December 6, 2021, 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM

Join intrepid traveler and CC@H volunteer Jan Augustine as she relives some of her most memorable trips in a series of Zoom presentations. This month she will take us to South America, sharing photos from Patagonia and Rapa Nui (Easter Island).

No fee. Registration is required.

https://www.chevyCHASEathome.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=559717&item_id=1551814.

CC@H Guest Speaker: Ambassador Elizabeth Davenport McKune on

"A Closer Look at the Arabian Gulf" (a Zoom event)

Friday, December 10, 2021, 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM

Ambassador Elizabeth Davenport McKune, former U.S. Ambassador to the State of Qatar (1998-2001) and an expert on the Persian Gulf, will speak about her experience in the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Oman.

No Fee. Registration is required

https://www.chevyCHASEatHome.org/content.aspx?page_id=4002&club_id=559717&item_id=1564754

Weather

We are heading into winter now and hopefully it won't be too bad. Overall December through February look to be milder than average along with below average amounts of rain and snow. Temperatures in December start off in the upper 40s for daytime highs and low 30s at night for low temperatures in the first week of December. Then by the end of the month temperatures decrease to highs in the low 40s and lows in the upper 20s for the last week of December. Average rain is 3" and average snow is 4". On December 4, 1957 we had 11" of snow and on December 19 – 20, 2009 we had two feet. The snowiest Christmas day was five feet in 1962 and the decade of the 1960s was the most snow on the ground on Christmas day from previous snowstorms. However, on Christmas day 1964 it was 72° making it the warmest Christmas day. The next year, 1965, it was 69° on Christmas. Then in 1982 it was 70°, more like Christmas in California. If you hear a *winter storm watch* has been issued that means severe weather might impact the area. A *winter storm warning* means heavy snow, sleet and/or freezing rain is imminent. Of the three winter months December is the month least likely to see measurable snow. We will have a mix of mild and cold days this December and maybe just enough snow around Christmas to get everyone into the yuletide spirit. Please stay safe and healthy and enjoy the holidays.

Keith Allen, a longtime 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.

Manna Food Center

Holidays Are Coming – Our Food Drive Can Use Your Help

Two November deliveries to Manna Food Center netted us close to 500 pounds of donations (268 on the 10th, another 211 on the 15th), boosting our YTD total close to just over 3,020 pounds. A special thanks to Cub Scout Pack 255 for dropping a dozen or so bags of canned/boxed goods on my porch (on top of what the Manna trucks had already picked up from them).

With the holidays right around the corner, the need for food becomes even more imperative as more and more families experience "food insecurity" – that is, not knowing where their next meal will come from. So please, if you're able, pick up a few extra items on your next shopping trip and leave them in the box by the doors to either the Brookville Market or the Village Office or put them on my front porch at 3406 Turner Lane. We will make sure that things are driven to Manna's warehouse as expeditiously as possible. It's been a fraught year for so many – so thanks in advance for lending a helping hand to the families in

our midst who are in need of special assistance. --- Linda Kirschten

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](#)



CONTACT INFO

VILLAGE COUNCIL

Council Chair

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Council Treasurer

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Council Secretary

Katie Howard – (301) 656-5566

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Council Member-at-Large

Susan Fattig - (301) 785-6017

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VILLAGE OFFICE – Telephone 301-656-4112

Village Manager

Niles Anderegg– manager@martinsadditions.org

Manager Assistant

Martha Fessenden – avm@martinsadditions.org

To receive e-notifications from the Village Council, the committees, and the Office (i.e., any official communication from your Village government), please fill out the Village Contact [webform](#). This is the best way to receive information on Village business (e.g., Council and Committee meetings), services (e.g., waste pickup and snow removal), and events (e.g., the 4th of July Celebration or the Movie Night in the Park).

The VMA monthly newsletter is distributed to the Village on the last Monday of the month. If you wish to submit an article or news item for the newsletter, please submit your item by 5 PM on the preceding Friday. Any article or news item must meet the VMA newsletter criteria. [Policy No. 09-16-01-Policy for Contents of Martin's Edition Newsletter](#)

Please note:

The Village Office does not administer the VMA neighborhood listserv (a Google Group). To receive listserv emails, please contact Bill Lebovich at architecturalphoto@mac.com

Village of Martin's Additions
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www.martinsadditions.org