

# Martin's Edition

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

April 2018

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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Dear Neighbors,

We are in Village Council Election season again, with three council seats up for election. There are two things I would like to bring to your attention about the Village Elections:



- 1) The Election Committee has recommended, and the Council has adopted the provision that the election results will be sent to the Village residents by email after the ballots have been counted, rather than announcing the results at the end of the Annual Meeting. The Committee recognized that giving the vote tallies in public, at the end of the Annual Meeting, can prove embarrassing to candidates who do not win. We have had residents say they did not want to run and risk losing and having the loss announced publicly. I hope this change will encourage more residents to consider running for the Council.
- 2) Candidates for Village Council are required to sign an Ethics Statement (as well as current Council members and Village employees) developed by our Ethics Committee to disclose possible conflicts of interest. The State of Maryland adopted a Conflict of Interest Statement a few years ago that required all candidates and elected officials to include financial holding information. The Village

successfully petitioned the State for a waiver given the size of our Village and the difficulty already in recruiting candidates to run for Council. For those interested, the Ethics Statement can be found on the Village website under both the Election and Ethics Committee tabs.

While we always need candidates for Council, there are also volunteer opportunities with the Village. Each year, the Village is required to appoint members to the Election Committee, the Ethics Committee and a Tree Supervisor. In addition we have our volunteer Community Engagement Committee, which helps with some of our community events. You can let the Village office or any Council member know if you are interested in volunteering for one of these important Village activities.

REMEMBER: voting is May 10 for Village Council. The Annual Meeting of the Village, as required by the Charter, will follow the voting. At that meeting, the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 will be presented for the 3rd time for comments and/or questions before the budget is considered for adoption. Your input matters!

- Richard Krajeck, Council Chair

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



April 19	Village Council Meeting, 7:30pm
April 25	Variance Hearing for 3407 Thornapple, 7:30pm
April 29	Arbor Day Celebration, 3:00pm - 5:00pm
May 10	Election, Celebration on the Sidewalk, and Annual Meeting

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## SPOTLIGHT

### BE A LEADER!

#### PARTICIPATE IN OUR LOCAL DEMOCRACY!

The volunteers who serve on the Village Election Committee are your neighbors. We encourage you to run for a seat on the Village Council. It's a great way to get more engaged, help make good decisions, and give back to our community.

**There are five members on the Village Council, and three of those Council seats will be up for election on May 10, 2018.**

Many folks have job and family obligations, but serving on the Village Council only takes a few hours a week. The Council members do most of their work by email discussions, with once-a-month Council meetings. Members serve a 2-year term that starts on July 1. If you're 18 or older and a resident of Martin's Additions, you're eligible to serve on the Council.

Getting on the ballot is free, easy, and open. Nominate yourself or a neighbor. If you think you might be interested, please email the Election Committee at [VMAelections@gmail.com](mailto:VMAelections@gmail.com) or call us at 301-654-0176. We'll give you all the information you need.

#### PLEASE DO IT SOON!

#### THE CANDIDATE FILING DEADLINE IS 5 PM ON TUESDAY, APRIL 10.

Candidates are asked to provide a short written statement to give voters some information about their background and discuss what they see as key issues for the community. The Election Committee does not edit the content of the candidates' statements in any way. We print them in the official election packet that is mailed out to all VMA households, and let the voters decide. Each candidate is also asked to fill out a short standard disclosure form from the Ethics Committee. **April 10 is the last day to do your statement and ethics form and get your name on the ballot!**

To nominate a neighbor, please include your name, the nominee's name and email address, and a note from the nominee confirming his/her consent to run. You can also mail nominations to the VMA Election Committee, P.O. Box 15978, Chevy Chase, MD 20825, or drop them off in the Election Committee lockbox at the Village Office. But don't wait - your nominee needs a little time to prepare his or her candidate statement before April 10!

You can read the Martin's Additions Election Rules and Procedures by [clicking here](#).

#### IS THIS YEAR YOUR TURN TO SERVE ON THE VILLAGE COUNCIL?

If you think things are going well, there is an all-too-human tendency to just sit back and let others take care of business. But this may be the best time to get more involved. The Village is in good financial shape - many issues have now been addressed with new policies and procedures - the new streetlights and street-paving projects are mostly done - and this is one of the friendliest neighborhoods around.

If you see some concerns that need attention, that's all the more reason to step up and run for a Council seat!

#### TALKING ABOUT COMMUNITY ISSUES

Here are some examples of current questions that various residents have mentioned:

1. What can the Village do about developers who cause environmental damage to neighboring properties?
2. How can the Village do more to protect our local ecology and wildlife?
3. What can the Village do about developers who are rude to residents and refuse to respond to the residents' concerns?
4. Is there any way for VMA to refuse to issue permits to developers who have a history of violating local, county, or state regulations?
5. Can VMA do more to prevent and correct storm-water run-off problems?
6. What is being done to make the school crossing at Taylor and Brookville safer?
7. Are the postal problems now resolved?
8. Martin's Additions seems to have plenty of revenue and reserve funds these days, so will the Council reduce our local tax rates?
9. Can the new Village Engagement Committee set up a "Green Thumbs" group of local gardeners to have some fun together and do some neighborhood projects?
10. Can the Village sponsor an oral-history project, to interview our older, long-time residents? Could we have our local high school or college students help to do some of the interviews?
11. Should the Village pay for more police patrols?

What neighborhood issues concern you?

The Election Committee hosts the annual Candidates Forum, where residents have the opportunity to raise concerns and ask the candidates to discuss pretty much anything.

**THIS YEAR'S CANDIDATES FORUM WILL BE AT 7 PM ON THURSDAY, MAY 3, AT THE VILLAGE OFFICE. WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**

If there are any particular issues that you would like to have the candidates address this year, please send an email to [VMAelections@gmail.com](mailto:VMAelections@gmail.com) as soon as possible. We'll forward your questions or concerns to the candidates and ask them to respond. If you'd like to submit an anonymous question for the candidates, we'll be glad to do that for you.

And if you'd like to be a candidate, or have any questions at all about the nomination or election process, please send us an email at [VMAelections@gmail.com](mailto:VMAelections@gmail.com), or just call the Election Committee at 301-654-0176. Democracy only works when people stand up and participate.

**RUN FOR OFFICE! BE A LEADER! LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS!**

Warmest regards from your 2018 VMA Election Committee:  
Marty Langelan, Lauren Shweder Biel, Jesse Tampio, Diane Everts, and Susan Post

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## NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

### **Arbor Day Celebration:**

The Village is planning an Arbor Day celebration on Sunday, April 29 from 3:00pm - 5:00pm in the Butterfly Garden at the corner of Cummings Lane and Brookville Road. We will plant a tree in honor of Dan Gardner, a longtime Village resident who passed away at the end of 2017 and who served as the volunteer tree supervisor for many

years. Our Arbor Day celebration will be a family friendly event for young and old. Further details will be forthcoming.

### **Election Rules and Procedures:**

The Election Committee has recommended the following Election Rules and Procedures as an update to the current policy. Proposed changes are underlined below. The Council introduced the policy at the February Council meeting. Residents may send in comments at any time, including at Council meetings. There will be a public hearing prior to a vote at the April VMA Council meeting.

### **Policy No. 2-16-2A**

#### **Election Rules and Procedures**

The Village of Martin's Additions is governed by a municipal Charter that provides for a five-member elected Council to appoint an Election Committee (Committee) that operates according to rules and procedures adopted by the Council, pursuant to Section 602 of the Village Charter. The Committee maintains the voter rolls, accepts and makes nominations of candidates for the Village Council, and oversees the annual election.

#### **Village Council Election Process**

The Election of Council members takes place on a date determined from year to year in accordance with Section 602 of the Charter. Council members are elected to terms of two years. In general, the number of seats open on the Council alternates between two and three seats every other year unless there is a vacancy as provided for in Section 408 of the Charter. All elections are managed by the Committee. The Committee consists of a minimum of three, but preferably no fewer than five, qualified voter volunteers appointed by the Council.

The Council may appoint additional qualified voters as short-term, assistant Election Committee members as needed. Committee members shall complete an Oath, on a form provided by the Village Council. Each year the details of the election cycle for that year are published in the Village newsletter. The following rules and procedures apply:

1. No later than seventy-five (75) days prior to the election, the Committee will open the nominations period and request that declarations of candidacy and nominations of candidates be submitted in writing to the Committee. Any qualified voter may run for office. Residents may nominate themselves or be nominated by another qualified voter. Nominations may be made only by verified qualified voters; anonymous nominations are not permitted. Residents who nominate someone other than themselves must include an email or signed written statement from the proposed candidate expressing his/her consent to be nominated.
2. All nominated candidates shall submit (a) a statement of interest and qualifications, and (b) a conflicts of interest disclosure statement, in a form provided by the Ethics Committee. The Election Committee may specify any standard questions to which all candidates are requested to respond.
3. Nominations and required candidate submissions must be received in writing at least thirty (30) days prior to the election, in order for the candidate to be placed on the

official ballot. No nominations or candidate submissions will be accepted by the Committee if received later than the deadline specified here.

4. Pursuant to Charter Section 602(b), no later than two (2) weeks prior to the election, the Committee shall give public notice of the candidates for office and provide, or provide access to, the written statements of interest and qualifications and shall designate the date of the election, the polling place, and time.

5. The Committee may establish a format, date and time for a public forum for residents to hear from candidates. The forum shall be moderated by the Committee at its sole discretion.

6. Pursuant to the Charter and these rules and procedures, each qualified voter may cast a ballot on the day and at the time designated or may vote by absentee ballot. The rules for voting absentee are set forth under "Absentee Voting" below.

7. Blank lines will be placed on the ballot for the purpose of adding write-in candidates at the time of the election. A successful write-in candidate shall be required to submit a conflicts of interest disclosure statement no later than seven (7) business days following the election.

8. In the event that two or more candidates receive the same number of votes where only one can be elected, there shall be a runoff election within two weeks of the original election. The Council may choose to instruct the Election Committee to hold the runoff election by mail ballot.

9. Each candidate may designate one person as an official observer to be present when the ballots are being counted, although such observer may not participate in or otherwise disrupt the counting of the ballots.

## **Who Can Vote?**

Pursuant to the Charter, a qualified voter is "any person who owns property or any resident of Martin's Additions who is eighteen years of age or over." In the case of students, such as college or boarding school students, a student who resides elsewhere during the school year but who maintains a permanent address in Martin's Additions, is deemed a resident and entitled to vote in the Village Council election. Voters in Martin's Additions need not be registered to vote in Montgomery County or in the State of Maryland. The Committee will utilize the most recent electronically available Village qualified voter contact information to verify residents' names and addresses. Any voter not listed in the data should be prepared to show a driver's license, a utility bill or other documentation acceptable to the Committee in its sole discretion showing his/her Martin's Additions address when he/she comes to the polls. Questions regarding eligibility to vote at the polls or otherwise should be directed to the Chair of the Committee, who will refer the matter to the Committee for determination.

## **Voting Locations**

Voting will be conducted from 5:00-8:00 PM on Election Day in front of the Village Office at 7013B Brookville Road, if weather permits. If the weather is inclement, voting will take place in the Village Office with appropriate accommodations to be made by the Committee for accessibility concerns. All qualified voters are encouraged to vote by casting their ballots in

the polling area. Write-in candidates are permitted. All voting is by secret ballot and election procedures are designed to ensure that voters have the opportunity to cast ballots in privacy. A street festival, "Celebration on the Sidewalk," traditionally takes place during the voting.

### **Absentee Voting**

Residents may apply for an absentee ballot. To ensure privacy, absentee ballots will be assigned randomized control numbers and will not reflect any voter information on the ballot. Control numbers will be maintained by the Committee and will be utilized by the Committee for purposes of authenticating absentee ballots received. Absentee ballots may be requested from the Committee using any of the following methods:

(1) by coming to the Village Office (7013 Brookville Road, Suite B) in person to complete an absentee ballot application provided by the Committee, or

(2) by sending a request via

(a) email to [VMAelections@gmail.com](mailto:VMAelections@gmail.com) or

(b) mail to the Committee's P.O. Box.

Such correspondence will be considered to be a ballot application and must contain the qualified voter's full name and permanent address in Martin's Additions together with a stated preference for receiving the absentee ballot by mail or e-mail. If no such preference is stated, the request will be deemed to have specified a delivery preference of mail through the United States postal service. Following verification that the requester is a qualified voter by the Committee, an absentee ballot and instructions will be mailed or emailed, as specified, to the requesting voter.

Absentee ballots may be requested on an individual or household basis by the qualified voter or a member of his or her household; provided, that if the absentee ballot request states e-mail as a delivery preference, each voter for whom an absentee ballot is requested must have a separate individual e-mail address for receipt of such absentee ballot, and such e-mail address must be provided with the request for each such qualified voter. The Committee will not accept absentee ballot requests from any person or by any method except as described in this Absentee Ballots section.

Absentee ballots can be requested starting 21 days prior to election day.

Absentee ballots must be received by the Committee by election day by one of the methods below. The Committee takes no responsibility for late ballots. Requests for absentee ballots should be made sufficiently in advance of the election to allow time for delivery. Delivery times cannot be guaranteed. Completed absentee ballots must be returned to the Committee according to the following procedures:

(1) by mailing via the United States postal service the completed ballot to the Committee post office box as indicated on the absentee ballot instructions, to be received by 3 p.m. on election day.

(2) by personally dropping the absentee ballot in the slot in the locked ballot box in the VMA office no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the election. The ballot must contain the assigned control number on the outer envelope to be considered eligible. Security of the locked ballot box will be maintained by the Committee and only designated

members of the Committee, who do not have access to the control numbers, will have access to the contents of the ballot box. Residents should not ask Village staff to handle completed ballots at any time.

(3) by submitting the ballot in person at the polling place on Election Day during regular voting hours following verification by the Committee of the resident's identity and the ballot's control number.

## **Records**

All election records, including nominations, absentee ballot requests, and ballots, shall be maintained at the Village Office, in accordance with the Village's Document Retention Schedule. Ballots shall be securely stored until such time as they may be destroyed in accordance with the Document Retention Schedule.

## **Electioneering**

### **1. Candidates' election materials:**

(a) Residents may distribute candidates' information to Village residents, provided that such distribution complies with applicable laws, including Sections 7-208 and 9-106 of the Village Code and the United States postal service regulations (for example, no unstamped non-postal material in residents' mailboxes).

(b) All candidates' brochures and election materials must prominently state that they have been paid for by (or on behalf of) the candidates.

(c) Use of the Village logo and/or letterhead on election campaign materials is prohibited. Candidates' materials may not imply, suggest, or give the impression of any official endorsement by the Village of Martin's Additions.

(d) Candidates' campaigns may give residents token gifts that display candidate information, provided that such gifts do not exceed \$1 in fair market value.

2. Yard signs: Residents may display candidates' yard signs, provided that the size, location, construction, and duration of such signs comply with the County's sign ordinance (Article 59-F of the Montgomery County Code).

3. On Election Day, the Election Committee shall set and enforce a reasonable "No Electioneering Zone" around the polling place (ballot table) of no greater than a 100-foot radius. Sound amplification systems such as bullhorns will not be permitted.

**Policy Number: 2-16-2A**

**Action/Adoption: April 19, 2018**

**Effective Date: May 9, 2018**



### **Resident Directory 2018:**

The Village Office is putting together the 2018 Village of Martin's Additions Resident Directory. The directory will follow the same format as in previous years, with residents' names, addresses and phone numbers listed. In addition, we're working on a digital version that will be accessible to Village residents on the website. We are also asking for your email addresses to ensure that our office records are up-to-date, and we have everyone in our communications system. Emails will not be published in the directory.

A link to the the Resident Information Form is below, and hard copies have gone out to those of you who receive this newsletter via postal mail. ***We have not received the form from many of our residents, and we ask once again that if you have not sent in your form, that you please do so, even if the information in the previous directory has not changed. The form requests additional information that the office would like on file, but will not be included in the directory.***

Please return it to the Village office in person, by postal mail, or via email to the Village Office at [avm@martinsadditions.org](mailto:avm@martinsadditions.org) as soon as possible. We will publish the 2018 directory as soon as our records have been updated.

**[\\*\\*\\*RESIDENT DIRECTORY FORM\\*\\*\\*](#)**

### **Waiting on WSSC:**

As WSSC continues to delay its sewer rehabilitation process, the Village has begun drafting a letter to be sent to WSSC's Board of Directors and our representatives in Annapolis to help move the project forward.

Thank you for your patience while we wait for WSSC to finish their work. In the meantime, please let the office know if there are potholes that need to be patched up.

### **Misc. 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](mailto:architecturalphoto@mac.com)

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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 March 15, 2018**

7:30PM*	Call to Order: Krajeck
7:31 PM	Opportunity for Resident Comments: Krajeck
7:45 PM	Committee Updates
7:55 PM	Action on Council Meeting Minutes of March 15: Krajeck
7:57 PM	Building Administrator's Report
8:05 PM	Treasurer's Report: Alexander
8:10 PM	Public Hearing and Action on Policy No. 2-16-2A: Election Rules and Procedures
8:35 PM	Update on Small Cell Tower Legislation: Bolt
8:40 PM	Manager's Report: Trollinger
8:55 PM	Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Krajeck
9:05 PM	Adjournment: Krajeck

Audio recordings and written minutes for Council meetings up through February are available on the Village website.

\*PLEASE NOTE: the times listed on agendas are merely placeholders, and a rough approximation of how much time will be spent. All agenda items may be subject to lasting more or less time than is indicated, depending on the discussions that take place.

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## BUILDING BLOCKS

### **Streets & Sidewalks:**

- The Village is in the midst of a Village-wide sign inventory.
- The cold weather has prevented us from putting in any signs, but we expect to complete installation by the end of March.
- Traffic studies have been completed on Quincy Street and Shepherd Street - an assessment will be given as part of the Manager Report at the April Meeting.
- Additional traffic studies will be conducted on Cummings Lane and Thornapple Street.

### **Brookville/Taylor Intersection**

Many residents in Martin's Additions and Section 3 have raised concerns over the years about the Brookville/Taylor intersection - cars frequently roll through the stop signs, and it can be dangerous for pedestrians. VMA, Section 3, and State Highway Administration have been working together to develop a solution to redesign the intersection and move the stop signs closer together in all four directions. The redesign will reduce the distance pedestrians will have to cross the street, and increase visibility in all directions. It will also involve moving the handicap parking spot that is currently illegally beyond the northbound stop sign.

State Highway originally planned construction work to incorporate redesign plans for the Brookville/Taylor intersection in fall of 2017. Village staff has met with representatives with State Highway, along with staff from Section 3. However, the project was been delayed in order to incorporate into their plans a fix for ponding issues across the street. State Highway is on "Winter Shutdown" until April 15. However, they are meeting with their contractor on April 9th, when they should have an up-to-date schedule on project start time.

### **3407 Thornapple - Variance Hearing Scheduled**

A public hearing will be held by the Village Council at the Village Office on Wednesday, April 25, 2018 at 7:30 pm to consider the variance request of Dejan Bujak, owner of the referenced property, to build a single family house with attached garage.

The applicant seeks a variance from the provisions of Section 7-402(e)(2) of the Village Code which provides, in pertinent part, that "No rear wall or rear projection of any main building shall be located farther than eighty (80) feet from the established building line, or the twenty-five (25) foot front building restriction line, whichever is greater, or closer to the rear lot line than twenty (20) feet." According to the materials submitted for the record, the EBL front setback from Thornapple Street is 31.9 feet; therefore the rear of the building cannot be farther than 111.9 feet from the front property line.

The applicant has submitted three options for the Council to consider. The first would have the rear building line of the proposed house located approximately 165 feet from the Thornapple Street front lot line to comply with Montgomery County Code 4.4.9.B.2, which requires a lot width of 60 feet at the front building setback. Therefore, a rear setback variance of approximately 53.1 feet would be required, as reflected on the attached site plan.

The second alternative proposal would have the rear building line of the proposed house located 151.7 feet from the Thornapple Street front lot line; therefore a rear setback variance of approximately 39.8 feet would be required. This proposal would also require a front setback variance of 12.5 feet to be granted by Montgomery County.

The third and final alternative proposal would have the rear building line of the proposed house located 131.4 feet from the Thornapple Street front lot line; therefore a rear setback variance of 19.5 feet would be required. This third alternative proposal would also require a variance from the provisions of Section 7-402(e)(3)(ii) of the Village Code which provides, in pertinent part, that "a wall plane or projection of a main building that extends forty-four (44) feet or more to the rear from the front building line shall be setback at least an additional" 6 feet for the sum of both sides, and 2 feet for each side. The required additional side setback for the rear portion of the house is approximately 24.3, but a combined setback of approximately only 22.1 feet is proposed. Thus, a side setback variance of

approximately 2.2 feet would be required. This proposal would also require a front setback variance to be granted by Montgomery County.

As the plans are presently drawn, the applicant would also require a variance from the provisions of Section 7-402(d) of the Village Code, which provides, in pertinent part, that "The length of any side wall plane of any main building shall not exceed forty-four (44) feet" without an offset measuring at least 3 feet in depth for a length of at least 5 feet. An offset only 2 feet in depth is proposed. Thus, a variance of 1 foot is required (for all three alternative proposals). The applicant has stated in the application that, if required, they "will coordinate with VMA staff to ensure this is adequately addressed..."

At this hearing, Village residents will have an opportunity to express their views regarding the variance request. If you are unable to attend the hearing but would like additional information or would like to voice support of or objection to the application, please contact this office at 301-656-4112 before the meeting. Written comments may be submitted to the Council via mail, electronic mail, or facsimile transmission, provided such comments are delivered before 5:00 pm on the date of the hearing. Comments received thereafter will not be considered.

**Doug Lohmeyer - Building Adminsator's Report:**

6701 Brookville Rd.

The applicant has submitted a building permit application to add an addition at the rear of the existing house. The staff has completed a preliminary review of the application and is waiting for the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services (MCDPS) building permit approval.

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 Ln.

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.

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.

3501 Shepherd St.

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

3510 Taylor Street

The staff has noticed that the existing brick retaining wall within the Village right of way is collapsing, is a safety hazard, and is in need of immediate repair. Staff been in contact with the homeowner about obtaining a permit.

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 staff issued a building permit to relocate the existing house from the adjacent lot and add improvements to the old structure. The improvements include a new curb cut and driveway. The work appears to be completed. The applicant has poured a new driveway and apron and replaced a section of damaged curb. However, several sections of ex. curb have chips and cracks and I recommend they also be replaced. MCDPS has release their 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. 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 staff met with the owner's attorney and engineer regarding the siting of a new house on the lot. The owner's attorney feels the Village Code is in conflict with the County Code regarding building setbacks and that the County Code should be followed. The staff and Village attorney feel the Village Code is more restrictive, but not in conflict. The applicant has submitted a waiver application and additional information. A waiver hearing will be scheduled.

Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) - North Delfield St.

The staff has contacted the MCDOT maintenance department about a repairing the existing storm drain inlet at the north end of North Delfield St. MCDOT is not sure who owns the damaged inlet and they are still investigating the situation.

Maryland State Highway Administration (MSHA) - Brookville Road

MSHA maintenance staff is investigating the water ponding at the northeast corner of Brookville Rd. and Bradley La. MSHA was recently contacted and they are still looking into a solution for the ponding water. The staff at MSHA is meeting with the selected contractor and will advise the Village of the proposed start work date.

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HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK

**MANNA UPDATE:**

**March: A Very Good Manna Month**

Despite the brisk, often bone-chilling, winds and the surprise Spring snowstorm, March turned out to be a very good month for the Martin's Additions-Manna food drive. Early in the month, Debbie Brown transported 230 pounds of shelf-stable items to the Manna warehouse in Gaithersburg and a few weeks later, after the snow melted, the Kirschtens took out another 212 pounds. That means that

through the first quarter of the year, we've delivered slightly over 1,400 pounds of food items to Montgomery County's largest food bank, well on the way to our annual goal of 5,000 pounds.

So let's keep the momentum into April. Please leave your donations in the box by the stairs to the Village Office or on the Browns' porch (3404 Taylor St.) or the Kirschtens' porch (3406 Turner Lane). Far too many of our neighbors throughout the County are deemed "food insecure," which means they often don't know where their next meal will come from. Manna helps to fill that gap and we help Manna to keep its shelves stocked. Thanks to all of you who give so generously - and welcome to any Village newcomers.

### **MONTGOMERY COUNTY GREENFEST, Saturday, May 5:**

The 4th Annual Greenfest, Montgomery County's largest environmental festival, will take place Saturday, May 5 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The free event will be held at Jesup Blair Local Park (900 Jesup Blair Drive, Silver Spring). Online registration is open for exhibitors and vendors interested in having a display during the festival.

Greenfest is designed to create opportunities for residents, businesses, nonprofits and neighbors to come together, share ideas and learn about environmental initiatives. This year's event will offer activities to appeal to the whole family, from hands-on learning opportunities, live music and dance performances, and tree climbing for kids. Montgomery Parks is this year's site host; all the activities and exhibitors will be under pop-up tents in Jesup Blair Local Park.

Greenfest generally attracts over 1,000 attendees. The 2017 event, hosted by the City of Gaithersburg, featured participants mingling with exhibitors from across the County and enjoying cooking demonstrations and music, while children explored an interactive "Stream Maze" and games.

GreenFest is planned by a coalition of partners; including Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, Montgomery Parks, WSSC, the cities of Gaithersburg, Takoma Park and Rockville; University of Maryland Extension, Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and three local community groups: Bethesda Green, One Montgomery Green, and Poolesville Green.

The GreenFest committee is looking for Outreach Ambassadors to share information about GreenFest with their networks. For more information about the program, please contact [askdep@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:askdep@montgomerycountymd.gov). For more information on GreenFest and to register as an exhibitor, visit [montgomerycountygreenfest.org](http://montgomerycountygreenfest.org).

### **FROM CHEVY CHASE AT HOME:**

Spring is HERE!

If you want to put some spring into your step, check out Chevy Chase At Home's classes and activities, including exercise classes (gentle Pilates [Wednesdays or Thursdays] or Zumba Gold® [Wednesdays]) -



call the office\* about dropping in (registration & fee required). How about all those birds that are showing up in your yard? On April 18, 1:00 pm at CC Village Hall, Karen Stewart will tell us a bit about our most frequent feathered visitors (complete with images and calls). And, on Tuesday, April 24, 2 p.m., CC Village Hall, The Hon. Joan Churchill (ret.) will discuss the nuances in laws, regulations and Executive Orders affecting immigration. These classes and events are open to the public.\*CC@H office: 301-657-3115, 9-3, M-F

## 2nd Thursday Brunch Bunch

Thursday, April 12, 2018  
10 - 11:30 a.m.

Pull up a chair and join fellow members & neighbors for a chat. Bring a friend to learn more about our dynamic group!

Olympia Coffee Shoppe  
7021 Brookville Road

## **WEATHER OUTLOOK:**

It hasn't felt very much like spring lately, with below normal temps and snow showers. Then there was the big windstorm on March 2, causing downed trees and numerous power outages. The good news is we missed the big snows that parts of the mid Atlantic and northeast experienced all winter. The weather we've had in March is normal for February. We actually had 2 days in late February in the low 80's, which is more typical of June. The outlook for the coming summer is for warmer than average temps and above average rainfall. Also, a couple of tropical storms and hurricanes could impact us in late August and September. Regardless of the weather, have a happy spring.

- 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](#)

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## CONTACT INFO

COUNCIL vmacouncil@googlegroups.com		
Name	Phone	Email
Richard Krajeck, Chairman	301-654-3663	<a href="mailto:rkrajeck@hotmail.com">rkrajeck@hotmail.com</a>
Tiffany Cissna, Vice Chairman	301-656-4112	<a href="mailto:vmacouncil@googlegroups.com">vmacouncil@googlegroups.com</a>
Arthur Alexander, Treasurer	301-718-9787	<a href="mailto:arthur.alexander@att.net">arthur.alexander@att.net</a>
Susan Fattig, Secretary	301-951-9578	<a href="mailto:susan.fattig@gmail.com">susan.fattig@gmail.com</a>
Katya Hill, Member-at-Large	301-718-1920	<a href="mailto:ka2shaz@gmail.com">ka2shaz@gmail.com</a>

OFFICE STAFF		
Name	Phone	Email
Matt Trollinger, Village Manager	301-656-4112	<a href="mailto:manager@martinsadditions.org">manager@martinsadditions.org</a>
Tina Lurie, Assistant Village Manager	301-656-4112	<a href="mailto:avm@martinsadditions.org">avm@martinsadditions.org</a>

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Village of Martin's Additions

301-656-4112 (office)

301-656-0030 (fax)

[www.martinsadditions.org](http://www.martinsadditions.org)