

Martin's Edition

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

February 2020

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FROM THE VICE CHAIR

Dear Residents,

As the Council continues its service to the community and works to make the office transition as seamless as possible, we appreciate the words of encouragement and support so many residents have offered. Please see below for a few important updates.

VMA Office Staffing

- Should you have an inquiry about Village business during this time, please email manager@martinsadditions.org or call the office at (301) 656-4112 and leave a message. As we continue to see temporary short-term and long-term support, the Council we will continue checking emails, voicemails, coordinating regular contract work, etc.
- Reminder: The advertisement for the full-time Village Manager position is open and we have spread the word with the help of the Maryland Municipal League and

Leadership Montgomery. We hope that you are sharing with your networks as well. Application details [here](#).

VMA Requests for Proposals (RFP)

- The solicitation period for RFPs for a Financial Processes and Procedures Review / Internal Control Audit closed today at 5 PM. Several responses were received. The Council will review and award a contract as soon as practicable.
- The solicitation period for firms or individuals with experience in assessing an organization's cyber security posture is open and may be found [here](#). Please share with qualified candidates.

Again, we appreciate your support, especially during this period of transition for the office. It is great to live in such a community!

On behalf of the Council,
Tiffany Cissna
Vice Chair

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UPCOMING EVENTS



January 29	Council Meeting in open session to entertain a motion to enter into closed session, 3:00 PM
February 17	Presidents' Day - Office Closed (waste and recycling pick-up will remain on the regular Monday, Tuesday, Thursday schedule)
February 20	Monthly Council Meeting, 7:30 PM

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SPOTLIGHT

DON'T MISS OUT! YOU CAN STILL SIGN UP!

The VMA Composting program began on Wednesday! For those still interested in signing up, please insert the code "VMACOMPOSTS" when asked for a "Coupon code or referral" on the Compost Crew's website registration page [here](#).

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NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

Village Manager Search

The advertisement for the full-time Village Manager position is open and we have spread the word with the help of the Maryland Municipal League and Leadership Montgomery. We hope that you are sharing with your networks as well. Application details [here](#).

Minutes from Council Meeting on January 16, 2020 Posted

Minutes from the January meeting are now available on the Village website [here](#).

Reminder: Should you have an inquiry about Village business or need assistance with a Village matter, please email manager@martinsadditions.org or call the office at (301) 656-4112. While the search is on, the Council will continue checking emails, voicemails, coordinating regular contract work, etc.

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AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING(S)

**Village of Martin's Additions
7013 Brookville Road (Suite B, 2nd floor)
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3263**

Thursday, February 20, 2020
3:00 PM

3:00 PM The Council will entertain a motion in open session to enter into a closed session, in accordance with Sections 3-305(b)(1) and 305(b)(7) of the Open Meetings Act (Maryland Code, General Provisions Article), to discuss personnel matters that affect one or more specific individuals and to obtain legal counsel regarding the same.

----Draft Agenda for the February Monthly Council Meeting----

**Village of Martin's Additions
7013 Brookville Road (Suite B, 2nd floor)
Chevy Chase, MD 20815-3263**

Thursday, February 20, 2020

The Village Council may entertain a motion during the open meeting to close a portion of the meeting, in accordance with Section 3-305(b) of the Open Meetings Act (Maryland Code, General Provisions Article)

7:30 PM Call to Order: Chair

7:31 PM Opportunity for Council to hear residents' comments: Chair

7:41 PM Committee Update(s)

7:50 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer

7:55 PM Discussion and Adoption of Election Committee Procedure Changes

8:00 PM Financial Matters: Treasurer

8:05 PM Manager's Report: Staff

8:20 PM Opportunity for Council to hear residents' comments: Chair

8:30 PM Adjournment: Chair

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BUILDING BLOCKS

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

FROM: Doug Lohmeyer

DATE OF MEMO: January 16, 2020

SUBJECT: Building Administrator's Report

7204 Chestnut St.

The Village issued the building permit on April 3, 2019. The construction of the additions is ongoing. The staff has requested a certified "Wall Check" that indicate the setbacks for the additions at the front and right side of the house. A variance was previously granted for those additions.

The homeowner has also requested a right of way licenses agreement for the new white address post, which is being processed by the staff.

7210 Chestnut St.

The Village issued their building permit on Oct. 11, 2018. The applicant estimates the project will be completed in 2 to 3 months. The Village building permit has been extended. The applicant has poured the new driveway along the left side of the lot. The proposed driveway and other improvements cannot exceed the 30% non-vegetative cap in the front yard. The staff will monitor the progress.

3521 Cummings La.

The Village issued their building permit on April 8, 2019. The MCDPS closed their building permit in Dec. and the staff is in the process of closing out our building permit.

3508 Shepherd St.

The original building permit has been closed and the applicant's performance bond has been returned. The Village has issued a building permit to the new owner for the construction of an enclosed back porch and balcony at the right rear of the house. The new addition conforms to the Village Code setbacks and does not exceed the R-60 building coverage cap.

3412 Taylor St.

The Village building permit has been issued on Feb. 4, 2019. The house construction is ongoing. The applicant has raised the elevation of the house because of a high ground water condition. The height survey indicated the new roof peak is 6 inches higher than what the Village Code permits.

A "Stop Work Order" was issued in Nov. The home builder has decided to modify the roof to lower the peak, so it conforms to the Village Code. The modification has been reviewed by MCDPS. In Dec., the builder was notified that the "Stop Work Order" was still in effort and they were authorized to make the modification to only lower the roof peak. The modification has been completed and the builder has provided the staff with a certified height survey indicating the height of the roof peak, with the singles in-place, is 32.89 feet and the mean height is 25.59 feet. The Village Code maximum heights are 33 feet and 28 feet, respectively. The staff is removing the "Stop Work Order".

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.

3407 Thornapple St.

The Village issued their building permit on May 30, 2019. Work has begun on the new house construction. The applicant has submitted a "Wall Check", which indicated the new house is in conformance with the approved site plan and the Village Code.

Miscellaneous Items

The staff is presently working with the following projects:

1. The MSHA staff is investigating the ponding water situation at the Brookville Rd. and Quincy.
2. The MSHA staff is reviewing the ponding situation at Brookville Rd. and Cummings La.
3. The staff has been in contact with three property owners regarding future improvements to existing house in the Village.
4. The staff is interviewing GIS/IT contractors to update and maintain the Village in-house GIS system.

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HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK

Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) in Friendship Heights:

The [MVA](#) mobile office will begin its second year of service in [Friendship Heights](#), between 10 AM and 2 PM on the dates listed below to provide limited MVA services during the first half of 2020. The MVA mobile bus parks on Friendship Boulevard adjacent to the the Village Center. If you need a list of services the mobile service offers please visit this [link](#) or contact the MVA Call Center at (410) 768-7000

- Tuesday, February 25, 2020
- Tuesday, March 24, 2020
- Tuesday, April 21, 2020
- Tuesday, May 19, 2020
- Tuesday, June 23, 2020

Chevy Chase At Home:

MEDICARE NOW, ETHIOPIA AND MORE IN FEBRUARY WITH CC@H

CC@H presents an important program on What You Need To Know About Medicare...Now. Sherill Mason, R.N., principal of Mason Advisors, LLC, is an experienced analyst of federal health care policy. On Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2020, 2 to 4 p.m., she will bring her expertise to the Chevy Chase Village Hall to discuss known and possible changes to Medicare, after which she will welcome questions.

And on Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2 to 4 p.m. our intrepid world traveler and expert photographer Jan Augustine will transport us from the CC Village Hall to Ethiopia, with perhaps a stop or two at one of her other recently visited spots (the Balkans, Madeira). This program promises to be informative and entertaining, and a great antidote to Cabin Fever!

Brunch Bunch will meet at the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road on Thursday, Feb. 13, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Drop in, buy a cup of coffee and join the CC@H table for some stimulating conversation with neighbors.

On Sunday, Feb. 23, 3:30 to 5 p.m., all interested prospective members are cordially invited to a Wine and Cheese Open House to learn more about Chevy Chase At Home and its benefits. Please call the office at 301-657-3115 for directions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our excellent exercise programs begin their winter sessions in February. The schedule is in the process of being finalized.

Chevy Chase At Home (CC@H) is a non-profit organization that helps local seniors "age in place." Full members have access to many exciting cultural, educational, social and health & wellness events. They also enjoy a broad array of volunteer-provided services, including home safety visits, rides to medical and other appointments, and computer assistance. All adults (60+) may join as Members, and adults of any age may become Associates and Volunteers.

Chevy Chase Library:

Please check out what the library has to offer by clicking here: [Chevy Chase Library](#)

Weather Outlook:

December 2019 and January 2020 have been well above normal for the temperature and below normal for both rain and snow. Going forward into February, more seasonal temperatures are expected, but it should be much drier than normal through most of February, even though February is generally our snowiest month, averaging around 5 inches.

Some noteworthy big snowstorms that have occurred in February:

- 19 inches - February 18-19, 1979;
- 18 inches - February 5-6, 2010;
- 17 inches - February 16-17, 2003; and
- 17 inches - February 11-12, 1983.

With the weather pattern we're having this winter, it doesn't appear that we would get any really big snowstorms. The coldest temperature every recorded in

Washington, DC was on February 15, 1899 when it was minus 15 degrees and the warmest temperature was 84 degrees on February 25, 1930. This shows some of the biggest extremes in the temperature will come in February. It also means the sun is getting higher in the sky and the days are getting longer as each day passes and that is a good sign.

-Keith Allen (Turner Lane)

[Keith Allen, a 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

VMA COUNCIL MEMBERS		
Name	Phone	Email
Tiffany Cissna, Vice Chair	202-536-7424	cissnafamily@gmail.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
Todd Mann, Member-at-Large	301-642-6665	toddsmann@gmail.com

NEWS

The VMACouncil@googlegroups.com and any other VMA Gmail accounts are no longer active. Please see below....

The [Maryland Open Meetings Compliance Board](#) has recently stated that an e-mail discussion can be considered a "meeting" under certain circumstances if the discussion concerns the Village business. The Open Meetings Act requires "meetings" to be open to the public. Accordingly, e-mail discussions among a quorum (three) or more of the Council may violate the Act, if deemed a "meeting."

Due to this ruling and the advice of legal counsel, the Village Council has discontinued the use of the single google-group e-mail address that was previously used to correspond with all Council members at one time. Residents are still encouraged to e-mail the Council members. VMA Council wanted residents to be aware that a quorum of the Council may not engage in certain substantive discussions over email. (Please note that e-mails are considered public records, and generally open to public inspection under the Public Information Act).

VMA OFFICE STAFF		
Name	Phone	Email
Vacant, Village Manager	301-656-4112	manager@martinsadditions.org
Vacant, Assistant Village Manager	301-656-4112	avm@martinsadditions.org

Notes:

To receive e-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 our monthly newsletter, *Martin's Edition*, in the mail, please contact the Village office.

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

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Village of Martin's Additions

301-656-4112 (office)

301-656-0030 (fax)

www.martinsadditions.org



Village of Martin's Additions | 7013 Brookville Rd, Suite B | Chevy Chase | MD | 20815