

# Martin's Edition



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

June 2018

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## FROM THE CHAIRMAN

The new Village fiscal year starts July 1 - that is also the time when the Code of Ordinances requires that the volunteers of Village standing committees be appointed. Please let any Council member or the Village staff know if you would be interested in serving - or have any questions about the committee function - on the Elections Committee, the Ethics Committee, the Community Engagement Committee or as the Village Tree Supervisor. Current members are eligible for reappointment and are

encouraged to reapply. Participating on any of these committees requires a small time commitment and is an excellent way to be introduced to aspects of Village management. The Village relies on volunteer commitment of residents.



As you have seen in the ListServ, there have been incidents of car theft and cars broken into in our Village. With summer vacations coming up, it is important that you let your neighbors know you will be away and ask them to take in your mail (or stop it at the Post Office), pick up newspapers and any other material/boxes that would trigger your house as unoccupied. Don't leave garage doors open or bicycles/toys/scooters, etc. in the front yard or visible from the street. Please keep your lawns mowed so that the house does not look unattended. And while being sure your car doors are locked doesn't always protect them from vandals, we know from experience, it helps.

Be a good neighbor! It is the first step we can all take to make your Village a safer place to live. Have a great summer!

- Richard Krajeck, Council Chair

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## UPCOMING EVENTS



June 4	Community Engagement Committee Meeting, 8:00pm
June 9	Shredding Event, 9:00am - 12:00pm
June 21	Village Council Meeting, 7:30pm

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## SPOTLIGHT

### Shredding Event:

Mark your calendars! Once again the Village will join Section 3 and Section 5 to provide a shredding service to residents. It will take place from 9 AM -12 PM on Saturday June 9 at the intersection of Brookville Road & Taylor Street. Limit of 5 boxes or bags per family.

Acceptable items include any documents you no longer need/want including those with staples or paper clips. Please do not bring:

- Three ring binders
- Spiral Notebooks
- Heavy metal clips
- Metal clasps or Clamps
- CD's or DVD's
- Floppy Disks

### A Message from VMA Police Office Nick Picerno:

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.

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## NOTES FROM THE VILLAGE OFFICE

### Reminder About Lawn And Yard Maintenance:

Now that spring is finally here, we would like to send out a gentle reminder that the Village has ordinances pertaining to lawn growth and that residents are responsible for keeping their yard and the right-of-way in front of their property neat and trim.

Per Section 7-203 of the Village Code:

**Maintenance of Yards and Vacant Lots**

(a) The owner of a yard or vacant lot, or his designated agent or lessee, shall maintain such yard or lot in a safe and sanitary condition. Every yard and vacant lot shall be kept free from reasonable accumulation of rubbish, lawn and garden debris, or hazardous or toxic material, and shall be kept free of garbage. (b) The owner of a yard or vacant lot shall not permit or allow any grass or weeds to grow on such yard or lot to a height in excess of twelve (12) inches above the ground.

If you have any questions, or if there any circumstances that we should be aware of, please contact the Village Office.

The full Village Code of Ordinances can be found online here:

[Code of Ordinances](#)

## **Resident Directory 2018:**

We are still working on the directory. We are putting together a draft which will be sent to residents shortly to do one final proofread and ensure that information is up-to-date before going to the printer. Expect directories to be delivered in the next month or so.

## **WSSC UPDATE:**

Our long wait for WSSC will be over soon! Village staff had a meeting with representatives from WSSC on May 17 and is having another meeting on June 6th. The most recent update from WSSC is that work will begin in two to three weeks. We will send out a notice when we know the exact date.

Raymond Street will be the first to undergo work because of a developing sinkhole related to a manhole that is being replaced. WSSC is going to use a method known as "pipe bursting." Pipe bursting is a trenchless method of replacing buried pipelines without the need for a traditional construction trench. If everything goes well on Raymond Street, we would anticipate them using that technique on the other streets as well. After Raymond, we will circle back to Quincy Street, and then move on to Chestnut and Thornapple.

The benefits of pipe bursting are that it will be quicker, and does not require standard trenching all down the street. Instead, they will make larger holes at the front end and

back end of the lines that they will be working on, and make smaller cuts at each "lateral" (i.e. where the sewer main connects to each house). The downside to this is that it will require them to use steel plates, which we have generally avoided in the past. We received assurance that WSSC would recess and patch around the plates, to keep them in place.

As a frame of reference, work on Raymond is expected to take about two weeks (weather permitting). If WSSC did standard trenching, the work would take closer to 4 weeks to complete.

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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 Village Council  
Meeting June 21, 2018**

7:30PM*	Call to Order: Krajeck
7:31PM	Opportunity for Resident Comments: Krajeck
7:45PM	Committee Updates
8:00PM	Action on Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2018: Krajeck
8:05PM	Discussion on Traffic Studies: Cutro
8:10PM	Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer
8:30PM	Financial Matters, including possible budget amendments: Alexander
8:45PM	Code of Ordinance Amendments: Bolt
9:05PM	Discussion regarding waiver of tree subsidy fee: Alexander
9:10PM	Discussion regarding compost pickup: Krajeck
9:20PM	Manager's Report: Trollinger
9:15PM	Opportunity for Resident Comments: Krajeck
9:20PM	Adjournment

#### BUILDING BLOCKS

##### **Streets & Sidewalks:**

- The Village is in the midst of a Village-wide sign inventory.
- Traffic studies have been completed on Quincy, Shepherd, Cummings, and Thornapple Street - [click here](#) and [here](#) for our Traffic Engineer, Joe Cutro's

analyses, which will be discussed at the June Council meeting.

### **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 was on "Winter Shutdown" until April 15. However, they have since met with the contractor to update pricing. About two weeks ago the contractor relayed to State Highway that the new terms were still not good enough. State Highway will be accepting bids for the job for the next two weeks. Section 3 and Village staff met with State Highway's new District Engineer to stress the importance of the work, and has suggested a "backup" contractor if State Highway's first choice does not work out. The District Engineer agreed that it was an important job and we were told that the latest it would begin no later than fall of 2018. VMA and Section 3 staff have continued to correspond with the District Engineer to get the work done ASAP.

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### **HEARD ON THE SIDEWALK**

#### **New Village Signs:**

We have new Village signs on Brookville Road at the intersections of Quincy and Taylor Streets. The signs are not made of wood, so they will not rot, are waterproof and will last for many years.



## **Manna Update:**

Donations Taper Off in mid-May. Let's Pick up the Pace in June!

May has been a reasonably good month for the Martin's Additions-Manna Food Drive. Thanks to \$56 in cash contributions along with a few in-kind donations collected at the Village Election on May 10, a May 15 delivery to Manna's warehouse totaled 158 pounds. And a most-generous \$150 check from one Village household on election night, which will be spent on even more food before the month ends, should boost our YTD total to more than 2,000 pounds - well on the way to our annual goal of 5,000 pounds.

Still, donations of shelf-stable items in the box by the stairs to the Village Office dropped rather dramatically in the second half of May. So let's hope to pick up the pace in June, before everyone heads off on vacation. Pending benefit cuts/work requirements for food stamp recipients could spell trouble for many hard-working Montgomery County residents. So we'll continue to count on your ongoing generosity to make sure that Manna - the County's major food bank -- has the resources to fill in the gaps. As always, you may drop off donations in the box below the Village Office or on the front porch of the Kirschtens (3406 Turner Lane) or the Browns (3404 Taylor Street). Thanks in advance for helping others in need - and enjoy the summer!

## **From Chevy Chase At Home:**

CC@H IN THE SUMMERTIME AND THE LIVIN' IS EASY --- WITH ALEXA!

Have you met Alexa yet? She's Amazon's smart digital assistant, and she may become your new best friend! Amazon Echo and other Alexa devices, as well as Apple's Siri and Google's Assistant let you play music, control your smart home, get the news, weather and more just using your voice. On Tuesday, June 12, Kathleen McGuinness will show us some of the things these virtual assistants can do now and what may be coming in the future, all designed to make your life easier by letting your voice control your world. At the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 2 - 4 p.m.

And don't forget to drop by Brunch Bunch, our informal no-host gathering at the Olympia Cafe on Thursday, June 14, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Pick up something to eat or drink and join the CC@H table for good conversation.

Our final June event has to do with everyone's final event: "Having the Last Word - an Obituary Writing Workshop" will be presented on the evening of Wednesday, June 20, at 7:00 p.m., at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. Sam Sloane has led this workshop numerous times and is able to put a positive and entertaining spin on what might otherwise be considered a somewhat grim subject. Pre-writing your own obit is a gift you give to those you've left behind, and this workshop will help to ensure that you've identified the things that are most important to you rather than leaving it to your loved ones to sort out.

### **Weather Outlook:**

May has finished warmer and wetter than average. In fact, it is in the top five of warmest and wettest. The upcoming summer will continue that trend - warm and wet. Temps will be above normal and rain will also be above average in June, July and August. Some of the moisture will come from tropical activity, possibly the remnants of a hurricane. The number of 90 degree days should be around 40 for the summer.

Please be safe when thunderstorms are around. Always seek shelter indoors when you see lightning. Never go under trees and it's always a good idea to go inside a building or even a car to be safe.

Enjoy summer, and be safe by always respecting the weather elements.

- 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**

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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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Village of Martin's Additions

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