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Martin's Edition

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

Letter From the Chair

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Hoping that everyone enjoyed a restful and peaceful *Easter* and *Passover* and wishing a *Ramadan Mubarak* to those observing the holy month.

As our kids return to school following spring break and with warmer weather upon us, I couldn't help but reflect on the respectful and thoughtful exchange during the April 7 forum (if you missed it, you can listen to it

here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=IyOULtJAKPE) that included all five candidates for the three seats up for election on the VMA Village Council. In the coming days, you will receive your mail-in ballots and I hope that you will take the time to pick your candidates and drop the envelopes in your nearest mailbox. The hardworking volunteers on the Election Committee will continue to send you reminders that will point to the

May 2022

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May 23 deadline when all ballots must be received by the election vendor. Once, again, thank you to all the candidates for your enthusiasm to serve our beloved community.

And as I was compelled to take my first Claritin of the 2022 allergy season earlier this morning, I hope that nothing stands in *your* way to enjoy this wonderful weather and the many outdoor opportunities in and around our neighborhood.

Respectfully,

Andrew

Calendar of Events

May 12 - VMA Council Meeting, 7:30 PM

May 13 - A Wider Circle picks up donated items

May 14 - Bulk Trash Pick-up

May 23 - Deadline for all ballots to be received by the election vendor, 5:00 PM

May 30 - VMA Office Closed in Observance of Memorial Day



Martin's Matters Spotlight: Election 2022

The 2022 Election Period is well underway and we have a number of big milestones coming up!



As mentioned in last week's Wrap-Up, ballots will be going out shortly. After a conversation with the vendors, ballots will begin being mailed out within the next two days. You'll receive a notification email when the ballots have been mailed. The ballot envelopes will look like the photo above.

The ballot envelopes have tracking numbers associated with them, so if you have a question about your ballot, you can reach out to the Committee and the Village Office to get information about the current tracking on your ballot.

If you have not received a ballot by the end of next week, please reach out to the Election Committee (VMAElections@martinsadditions.org) and we will get an update for you. The ballot instructions should be included in the ballot envelope, and can also be found on the ELECTION WEBPAGE.

Additionally, if you have any questions about your information or status on the Village voter roll, please reach out to the Village Office to confirm.

Ballots must be received by the Election Vendor no later than the evening of May 23. Alternatively, if you prefer, the Committee will be on the sidewalk in front of the Village Office from 5:00-8:00 PM on the evening of May 10 with a dropbox to collect completed ballot envelopes from residents to be conveyed to our Election Vendor. For additional details, please consult the Election Plan. Thank you all!

Notes from the Village Office

Village Council Meeting Highlights

The Village Council received the Building Administrator's report about ongoing building projects in the Village.

The Village Council heard an update from the Ethics Committee on their work about the conflict of interest forms and their year-end report and encouraged residents to attend its meeting on Tuesday.

The Council heard an update from the Elections Committee regarding their recent work in preparing for the 2022 election. The Election Committee is going to host a meeting on Thursday on the votecounting procedures.

The Council also heard an update from the Community Engagement Committee regarding utilizing the street captains and hosting upcoming events, especially the Fourth of July event.

The Council introduced an ordinance to make the Ethics Committee members' terms staggered.

The Council introduced committee guidelines to provide committee members with a resource to help in serving as a volunteer for the Village.

The Village Council received a report from the Treasurer on



Agenda for Council Meeting Thurs. May 12, 2022, 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).

7:31 PM Building Administrator's Report: Lohmeyer

7:36 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

7:46 PM Committee Updates: Kauders

7:56 PM Financial Matters, including Public Hearing and Action on FY 2023 Budget Ordinance (No. 2022-3-1) and Tax Rate Resolution (No. 2020-3-2): Alexander

8:11 PM Manager's Report: Anderegg

8:21 PM Opportunity for Council to Hear Residents' Comments: Kauders

8:31 PM Adjournment: Kauders

financial matters.

The Village Council received the Village Manager's report, which updated them on Village operations, including the traffic improvements and utility work taking place in the Village. The Village is undergoing a review of the Brookville Road sidewalk in preparation for presenting a concept to the state to improve the sidewalk on Brookville Road while WSSC is doing their water main replacement.

Audio from the April 21 VMA Council Meeting can be found here.

Utility Emergency Points of Contact

Several residents have asked questions about how best to get in touch with utility companies such as Pepco, WSSC, and Washington Gas. Below is a quick resource for these utilities.

Pepco

Emergency: 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662)

If you see downed power lines or smell natural gas, leave the area immediately and then call Pepco. Representatives are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. https://www.pepco.com/MyAccount/CustomerSupport/Pages/ContactUs.aspx

WSSC

Emergency: 301-206-4002

If you need to report a water or sewer emergency - a broken water main, a broken pipe inside your home or a sewer backup into your basement - call us right away.

https://www.wsscwater.com/customerservice

Washington Gas

Gas Emergency Line: 844-WASHGAS (844-927-4427) - Select option 1.

If you smell gas, leave the area immediately and call 911 or the Washington Gas emergency line.

https://www.washingtongas.com/help/contact



Credit: Chevy Chase Historical Society

A series about residents by resident student reporters as part of the VMA Legacy Project.

Do you have an interesting story to share? Are you a student seeking a unique way of earning SSL hours while contributing to your community? Contact resident Naomi Naierman (nnaierman22@gmail.com) to learn more and participate in the VMA Legacy Project. Journalism mentoring is provided by veteran reporter

and resident Nancy Ferris.

Building Blocks

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

FROM: Doug Lohmeyer

DATE OF MEMO: April 18, 2022

SUBJECT: Building Administrator's Report



3506 Bradley Ln.

Demolition and building permit applications were submitted to the Village office. The Village issued the building permit on Dec. 9, 2021. The Wall Check indicates the walls comply with the approved Site Plan and Village Code.

7200 Delfield St.

The new homeowners propose to add a porch, with steps and a patio on the eastern side of the new house. They have not submitted an application to the MCDPS or the Village.

7220 Delfield St.

The applicants applied to remove the existing house and build a new house. County issued the building permit on April 20, 2021. The Village demolition and building permits were issued on May 17, 2021. The new house construction is ongoing. The applicant will be contacted to see if the building permit will need to be extended.

120 Quincy St.

The homeowner 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. MCDPS issued their building permit on Jan. 5, 2022. The Village issued their permits on Feb. 6, 2022. Exterior work has begun.

162 Quincy St.

The property is for sale and an interested party has contacted the Village regarding making several additions to the existing house. They have not applied to the MCDPS or to the Village.

3500 Raymond St.

The homeowners are considering several additions to the existing house. They have not applied to the MCDPS or to the Village.

3511 Raymond St.

The homeowner plans to build a patio at the rear of the house and to enlarge the ex. walkway at the front of the house. A non-vegetative variance may be required for the

front yard improvements. They have not applied to the Village.

3504 Shepherd St.

The homeowner plans on constructing an addition at the rear of the ex. house. They have not applied to the MCDPS or the Village.

7200 Summit Ave.

The homeowners submitted a Variance Application for additions to the existing house. The variance was approved by the Council on July 16, 2020. The homeowner has applied for a Village building permit and the staff is reviewing the plans. The MCDPS approved the plans on April 12, 2022.

3404 Turner St.

The applicants applied 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 Village Council approved the variance on Sept. 23, 2021. The MCDPS issued their building permit on April 17, 2021. The Village has issued the building permit.

3507 Turner St.

The homeowner plans to build a new addition at the rear of the existing house. The existing house is exempt from the Village Code. However, the addition must comply with the Code's minimum side yard setback. The Village approved the variance for the side yard setback on April 6, 2022. The applicant has not applied for a permit from the County or the Village.

Heard on the Sidewalk



Neighbors Together

Chevy Chase At Home Brings

CC@H is a member organization providing social and educational programs to neighbors of all ages and support services to seniors. You can learn more at www.chevychaseathome.org.

Upcoming Events Open to the Community

Navigating Life's Journey: Hospice, Death With Dignity, and Grief Support (Friday, May 6, 1 to 2:30 p.m.)

The Navigating Life's Journey series

Weather

May is a beautiful month but can also be a wet month. Temperatures start off in the low 70s but then end up in the low 80s in the last week of the month. May averages nearly 4" of rain. The highest temp ever recorded in May was 91° in 1991. The coldest low temp was 34°. It's a month when thunderstorms can disrupt outdoor

Manna Project Remains on Track

Missed submitting a March update on the Village's food drive so here's a summary of our efforts for the last two months. In March, we made two trips to the Manna Food Center warehouse in Gaithersburg, delivering 306 pounds of nonperishable items, and in April (so far) we've delivered



gathers expert panelists to explore what you need to know about each stage of aging. In this seventh session, we will discuss how to plan for your care - and your loved ones' well-being - at the end of life's journey. A panel of local professionals will speak on hospice, death with dignity, palliative care, and grief support. Hosted by Chevy Chase At Home in partnership with Charles E. Smith Life Communities and Ingleside. Register for the Zoom link here:

https://www.chevychaseathome.org/content.aspx?
page_id=4008&club_id=559717&ite
m_id=1641073

CC@H Guest Speaker: Fiona Hill on "Finding Opportunity in the 21st Century" (Tuesday, May 31, 11 a.m. to Noon)

Fiona Hill attracted national fame when she testified during President Trump's first impeachment trial, but her fascinating life story begins earlier, as she details in her new book, "There Is Nothing for You Here: Finding Opportunity in the 21st Century." The title quotes Hill's father as he encouraged her to leave England's struggling coal-mining country. Hill managed to go further than her father ever could have dreamed. She studied in Moscow and at Harvard, became an American citizen, and served on the National Security Council. But in the heartlands of both Russia and the US, she saw grim reflections of her hometown and similar populist impulses. Hill will discuss her book, in which she shares lessons learned, and explains that only by expanding opportunity can we save our democracy. Part of Chevy Chase At Home's Guest Speaker Series. Register for the Zoom link here: https://www.chevychaseathome.org /content.aspx? page id=4008&club id=559717&ite

m id=1675969

hail-prone month. Humidity doesn't usually become noticeable until the very end of May. Looking ahead May should be warmer than normal with average rainfall. A weather oddity that occurs in May is a frontal boundary that comes off the ocean and produces low clouds, drizzle, and much cooler temps. These are called backdoor cold fronts. They can bring an abrupt end to very pleasant May days. Temps in the 70s and 80s can wind up in the 40s and 50s very quickly. Enjoy the warm sunny days ahead. There is no place prettier than where we are right now in May. But we do need a little help from Mother Nature to accentuate it.

activities and is a

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.

another 224 pounds. That puts our YTD total at 1,298 pounds – somewhat ahead of last year's effort but well behind the prepandemic totals, which for several years exceeded 5,000 pounds.

With the price of groceries and other necessities going through the roof, many Montgomery County families continue to need help putting food on the table and still be able to pay other bills (rent/mortgages, gas, utility bills, etc. Last year, Manna distributed 5.3 million pounds of food to an estimated 45,210 participants, providing a \$100+ boost in monthly food budgets. Its "Smart Sacks" program also gave nearly 4,500 students with bags of nourishing food to tide them over on weekends, when school breakfast and lunch programs aren't available. And it made more than 4,700 home deliveries to seniors and other community residents who are unable to drive or access public transportation.

So please, keep giving! Martin's

Additions residents have been incredibly generous over the years and we (and Manna) are ever so grateful. Your may put your items in the boxes at the stairs to the Village Office or the Brookville Market. You may also leave things on the front porch at 3406 Turner Lane. We will get the goods to Manna in a timely manner.

Keep our community walkable; please patronize the businesses in our Village!

Please also keep in mind these "Friends of the Village:"

<u>A Wider Circle</u>

<u>Chevy Chase at Home</u>

<u>Friends of the Library, Chevy Chase Chapter</u>

<u>Live and Learn Bethesda</u>

Manna Food Center

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 <u>webform</u>. 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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