



# THE QUARTERLY

JUNE 2023 / VOLUME 55 / NUMBER 2

## SECTION 5 COUNCIL

Greg Chernack, Chair  
Josh Galper, Vice-Chair  
Maryann Luongo, Treasurer  
Sean Downey, Member  
Philip Giordano, Member

## IMPORTANT SECTION DATES

- Tuesday, July 4  
Annual Section 5 Parade and Party 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- No Council Meetings in July or August
- Saturday, September 9  
Fall Bulk Trash Collection
- Tuesday, September 12  
Town Council Meeting

## A Message from the Town Council - Annual Election Results

Three of the five seats on the Town Council were up for election this spring. We had six people run for the three spots. This was the first time the Section has had a contested election since 2010. We had a great turn-out with 209 total ballots cast!

The Council would like to thank all the candidates and the residents for their enthusiasm. We also are especially grateful for our dedicated election tellers, Balinda Hinds, Kristina Lowell, and Brooke Thomas for their work in conducting an excellent and organized absentee and in-person election. Incumbent council members, Greg Chernack and Philip Giordano, were re-elected, and Sean Downey was elected as a new member. Our long-time Vice-Chair, Pat Xeller, is retiring from the Council. The Council would like to thank Pat for her many years of superb work. She is a wonderful asset to the Section, and her wise counsel will be greatly missed.

## Important Tax Bill Information - PLEASE READ

As longtime residents are aware, at the close of each Fiscal Year the Town Council reviews the Section's financial reports and determines whether the Section is able to provide residents with a credit/rebate for that year. **This year's vote occurred at the June 20 meeting, and the Council has decided to give each household a \$700 credit.** The credit is distributed through a rebate to each resident's upcoming year's property tax bill (these bills will be received by residents in July 2023).

In most cases, property tax payments are made for a resident through a mortgage escrow account. If this is the way you make your payment, there is nothing further you need to do, and you will automatically receive the \$700 rebate.

**However, if you pay your property tax bill directly to the County (not through a lender) it is important that you subtract \$700 from the total amount listed on your PAPER BILL. Do not use the amount listed on the online bill. Please refer to the paper bill. This often leads to confusion and possible late fees and penalties.**

Please email the Town Manager with any questions.



## SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE



### Fourth of July Parade and Party

Don't miss the annual Fourth of July parade led by a Chevy Chase fire engine! The day begins at 11 a.m. in front of 3807 Williams Lane. We will gather for the Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic songs, and a short but star-spangled stroll down Williams, Brookville, Thornapple, and ending up on Underwood (between Dalkeith and Thornapple Place) with a lunch and party.

All Section residents, friends, family, and pets are welcome. We will have hot dogs, hamburgers, and veggie burgers from Rocklands Barbecue. Lunch will be served starting at 11:30 a.m. and be available until 1 p.m. Stop in and grab a quick bite, or stay for the moon bounce and water slide! Fourth of July festive attire is encouraged. Don't forget to decorate your bikes, strollers, and wagons.

Please email your RSVP to the Town Manager: [manager@chevyCHASESECTION5.ORG](mailto:manager@chevyCHASESECTION5.ORG) so we have a general headcount for food.

However, if you find you are available and have not RSVP'd, please come anyway!

### Police Officers Offering Summer "House Checks"

Going away for more than a few days? Our Section 5 Police Officers have offered to do courtesy house checks while residents are away for an extended period.

Please email the Town Manager with your address and the period of time you plan to be away. During their regular patrol shift, one of our officers will walk around the perimeter of the house looking for anything out of the ordinary; i.e., open windows or doors, individuals on the premises without authorization, etc.

It is also a great idea to let a neighbor know of your plans so they can keep an eye out for anything unexpected. Residents are also encouraged to stop all newspaper and mail deliveries while you are away.



### NO TRASH COLLECTION—JULY 4

Since this year's July 4 holiday occurs on a Tuesday, there will be no trash collection that day.

The regular collection schedule will resume on Wednesday with recycling, followed by trash on Friday.

### Council Adopts Ordinance Regarding Possible Purchase of Property

At the June Council meeting, ordinance 4-23-1 was formally voted on and approved. This ordinance gives the Council the authority to move forward with a possible purchase of property at the foot of Windsor Place. While the Council now has the authority to make the purchase, the Council has not yet made a decision on whether to proceed with the purchase.

As background, for some time, the Council has been interested in the possibility of acquiring land in the Section that could be used for a green space for residents. While the Council has been interested in purchasing property, it has proved difficult to find an appropriate parcel, at an acceptable price, that remains available given the often-fast-moving real estate market. To this end, the Section was made aware of a piece of property listed for sale at the foot of the cul de sac on Windsor Place. The property is almost a half-acre of undeveloped land. The land has some environmental restrictions including a small creek that runs across it. The Council is currently working with a land attorney to better understand any easement and usability issues. Depending on this outcome, the Council may submit a contract.

Note: The land purchase ordinance was formally introduced at the April meeting, and full paper copies were mailed to all residents as part of the annual meeting documents in late April.



## WSSC Brookville Water Main Replacement Project

WSSC has completed the water main installation in Section 5. Crews are expected to return later this summer to do both concrete repair work and asphalt repaving to the areas that were affected. The contractor would like to do all the repaving work at once. This will mean there will be short periods of time where there is no street parking. If you plan to be away for an extended period of time this summer, and you live in the affected work area, please remember:

-Please park all of your home's vehicles in your driveway. This is always the best option.

-If driveway parking is not possible, please consider leaving a key with a trusted neighbor who could move your car if needed.

Please reach out to the Manager at [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org) with concerns.

## Lawn and Leaf Work

In the market for a new leaf blower or other type of lawn equipment? The Council strongly encourages residents to consider buying electric. Electric equipment tends to be quieter and better for the environment.

At a minimum, please thoughtfully choose your work hours, especially on the weekends and holidays.

## Section 5 Opt-in Composting Program

In December 2020, Section 5 introduced a new composting program in partnership with the Compost Crew. We are happy to report that we now have 70 homes participating. We hope that residents enjoy the service and find it worthwhile, but if for any reason you are not, or you find that you are regularly missing pick up, please consider discontinuing your service so that the Section will no longer be charged. We appreciate your help and cooperation!

For more information on the program or to sign up, use the link below: <https://compostcrew.com/chevy-chase5/>.

This information is also listed on the Section 5 website's home page.

## How To Report Utility Issues

### Power Outage or downed line?

Call PEPCO at 1-(877) PEPCO-62 / 1-(877)-737-2662

If power is restored, but then goes out again in a matter of minutes, you should call PEPCO again to be certain the new outage is registered.

### Water Issues?

If you see a possible water main break, please do not assume it has been reported.

Contact WSSC by phone 301-206-4002 or email [EmergencyCallCenter@wsscwater.com](mailto:EmergencyCallCenter@wsscwater.com).

## Sign up for Alert Montgomery

Alert Montgomery is the official emergency communications service for **Montgomery County, MD**. During a major crisis, emergency, or severe weather event, Montgomery County officials can send event updates, warnings, and instructions directly to you on any of your devices.

For more information and the link to register, see the FAQ tab below.

<https://member.everbridge.net/1332612387832009/faq>

For help signing up, call Montgomery County 3-1-1 from inside the county or 240-777-0311 from outside the county. *Inform the operator you need assistance with Alert Montgomery.*

## SECTION 5 OF THE VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE

### Welcome to New Residents

We are pleased to welcome the following new neighbors who have recently moved to Section 5:

- Karin Bencala and Sarah Longwell -  
3612 Thornapple Street
- Caitlin and Brendan Cannon -  
3540 Woodbine Street

We also mourn the loss of Thornapple resident, Brian Kadow, who passed away on March 24. The Section extends our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Ellen.

### Building Permits

- 7404 Brookville Road - Repair and resurface existing driveway / Permit Approved
- 3707 Thornapple Street - Replace existing deck / Permit Approved
- 3709 Williams Lane - Replace retaining wall along driveway / Permit Approved
- 3509 Windsor Place - Replace section of their fence / Permit Approved

#### Do I Need a Section 5 Permit?

- The majority of renovations
- Sheds or accessory buildings
- Fences - including replacements and/or substantial repairs
- Driveway projects
- Patio projects
- Right-of-way projects
- Dumpsters or PODS
- Drainage projects, including sump pumps and new downspouts

ALL REQUIRE A PERMIT

Looking to take out a tree? Most public and private tree removal also REQUIRES a permit.

Please contact the Town office before you begin. We will work with you to make sure you have the necessary information and avoid a costly mishap.

### Tree Removal Permits

- 7315 Brookville Road - Private Tree Removal
- 3809 Leland Street - Private Tree Removal
- 3706 Williams Lane - Private Tree Removal
- 3802 Williams Lane - Private Tree Removal
- 3707 Woodbine Street - Private Tree Removal

### Reminder for Dog Owners

Please do not place dog waste bags in another resident's personal trash that is left at the curb for pick up. Our trash contractor will not pick up small loose bags and so it leaves the resident the unpleasant task of removing your dog waste bags from the bottom of their trash cans.



Please be a courteous neighbor and use the public trash receptacles provided for this purpose instead.

Thank you for your continued cooperation!

### Section 5 Email Alerts and Notices

Please make certain the Section has at least one current email address for your household on file. Email is often used to communicate timely and important information.

Are you new to Section 5? Please contact the Town Manager at [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org) so that we can welcome you appropriately!