



# The Quarterly

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Section 5 Council: Andrew Smith, Chairman; Peter Gray, Vice-Chairman; Karin Flynn, Treasurer; Chris Richardson, Secretary; Alec French, Building Inspector.

## REPORT OF THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING Section 5 Streets

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As an incorporated municipality Section 5 is entitled to and responsible for maintaining our internal streets. Money designated for this purpose is given to us by the State of Maryland. In the past this money was put into a general fund that often contributed to an end-of-year surplus that was used to help pay real estate taxes of our residents. Recently, however, the State has required evidence that the road maintenance contribution was indeed used for maintaining roads necessitating a separate budget category for this money. Because many of our roads had not been resurfaced for 17 years, and because we anticipated reduced funding from the State in this (FY2010) and future fiscal years the Council decided to repair and resurface Thornapple, Dalkeith, and Underwood Streets, Williams Lane and Thornapple Place. The cost was estimated to be \$250,000. \$90,000 was available in the FY2009 road budget. The deficit would at least be made up in part by FY2010 Road Funds, but in view of the questionable availability of State funds we decided not to help with real estate taxes – a decision that provoked some comment. Most repairs and resurfacing were finished before December, 2009 at a cost of \$210,000.

Clearing the streets after the snow storms required expenditures far exceeding our budget. The final cost is \$56,000. The Council approved funding for snow removal not only on Section 5 streets and sidewalks but also sidewalks along Connecticut Avenue and Brookville Road. Fortunately, through Frances's efforts, Section 5 will be able to recoup some of the costs through FEMA, which will pay 75% of snow removal costs over a 48 hour period for both of the snow storms. Thus, Section 5 will pay for only 25% of the cost associated with the December storm. Part of the reason we have had good snow removal, and good services in general,

is that Section 5 pays its bills on time and has a good relationship with its contractors. Frances Higgins can take much of the credit for this situation.

**Traffic Control**

Some residents are concerned that driving speeds and vehicle volume on Section 5 streets threaten the safety of our children. Acting on these concerns, the Council arranged for a presentation by a County traffic engineer describing the various methods of controlling speed and volume, somewhat euphemistically called “traffic calming” devices. Subsequently, a request for proposals (RFP) was written to solicit contractors for plans to control traffic in Section 5. As a practical matter, such plans would be limited to the use of speed bumps or limited access at certain times of the day, or both. In an attempt to identify potential contractors Frances found two companies that expressed interest in the work, but so far no contractor has submitted a proposal. A letter has been received from a contractor pointing out that, among other things, any traffic control plan adopted by Section 5 must be consistent with the “Manual of Uniform Traffic Control” to ensure safety and to not expose the Section to liabilities.

**Safety/Crime**

Safety is a continuing concern among Section 5 residents. At the June, 2009 meeting Commander Hamil of the County police described the organization of the department in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase area. He said that crime usually results from the activities of a few individuals and that the arrest of just one individual often causes the crime rate to plummet. The Council decided to contract with the Village of Chevy Case police to patrol Section 5 for 20 hours each month. Patrols were to be made in both day and night. Slightly more specific hours were later given to patrol 4 hours at internal intersections and 4 hours between 4:00 and 5:00 pm. The remaining 20 hours were to be divided between day and night as

Chief Gordon of the Village Police saw fit. Recently, The Village Police have notified the Council that they will no longer be able to provide patrol service after May 31<sup>st</sup>. Frances is currently seeking to arrange for patrols to be made by off-duty County police with an increase in patrol time.

**State Requirements**

The State required Section 5 to develop a harassment policy. John Higgins wrote one for us based on one written for another town. It was adopted by the Council and apparently found adequate by the State. The State also required a Section 5 debt policy. Procedures for borrowing money are written into our Charter, and these also were found acceptable.

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**TRASH CONTRACT**

The Council has awarded the new trash contract to Montgomery County Sanitation & Recycling, Inc., which is our present hauler. This contract is for three years and begins July 1, 2010.

**RATS**

If you have recently had a construction project at your home, you should inspect your basement to be certain that there are no entryways for rodents to enter your house. You should take a flashlight and in the basement walk around the outside foundation of your house to detect any holes.



### **Requiescat in Pace**

**Robert Dunn**, a Woodbine St. resident for 20 years, died February 8, 2010, with his family at his side. Robert was a professor at GWU for 41 years. Professor Dunn will be missed. Section 5's sympathies are extended to his family.

**Norman Nisenoff**, a long time Woodbine St. resident, died this last winter after a long illness. Norman will be missed. Section 5 extends its deepest sympathies to his family.

### **SECTION 5 RESIDENT RECEIVES HER B'NAI MITZVAH**

Esther Israelow, a long time Underwood St. resident, received her b'nai mitzvah at the Beth El Congregation in Bethesda. She was in a class of 14 women and five men that included converts to Judaism and those who had never had the ceremony. Esther was the only 95 year old in the class. She proved an inspiration to those in her class because of her age and dedication. Mazel tov Esther!



### **NEW DONATION POLICY**

At the May 11th Council meeting the Council voted to award \$4,000 to each of the following organizations: the B-CC Rescue Squad, Ellen's Run and Rosemary Hills Elementary School, and \$500 to the Chevy Chase Fire Board. The rescue squad will place the donation in its general operating fund; Ellen's Run will use the donation to help defray the cost of setting up the run; and the elementary school will use the donation to purchase white boards for its classrooms. There is \$12,000 in the donation budget item for FY 2010-11 and the three donations total \$12,000. Several Section 5 residents attended the May 11th Council meeting and expressed their views concerning donating public tax monies to charities.



### **FOURTH OF JULY**

**Where:** Williams Lane & Conn. Ave  
**When:** Sunday, July 4th 2010, 11:00am  
**Who:** Everyone in Section 5  
**What:** Parade and fun activities

## NEW SPEED LIMIT FOR SECTION 5



At the May Council meeting the Council enacted a 20 mph speed limit for Section 5's streets. Previously, Section 5 did not have its own speed limit and thus the County's speed limit of 30 mph was the enforceable speed limit for our streets. The Council believed that 30 mph was excessive.

## TREE CITY USA AWARD



Section 5 was recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry. It is the fourteenth year that Section 5 has earned this national designation. Section 5 has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community: a functioning tree board, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

## WSSC

Like most of the nation, WSSC faces a looming crisis because of an aging infrastructure. The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that \$1.6 trillion is needed over a five-year period to bring the nations' infrastructure to a good condition.

### Consider these facts:

- 45 percent of our water mains are 25-50 years old.
- 23 percent of the mains are over 50 years old.
- By 2026, it is estimated that approximately 50 percent of our water mains will reach or exceed their useful life. Wastewater mains still have a substantial life span, but many are in need of rehabilitation.
- In FY09, WSSC replaced 35 miles of new water pipe.
- In the next ten years an estimated \$3 billion will be needed to pay for water and sewer pipe replacement.

## SAFETY FROM FRAUD

- Sign all credit cards prior to activating them.
- Take only the credit cards you need with you.
- Do not keep check cashing cards in your checkbook.
- Keep purses or bags closed tightly
- Keep your glove compartment locked or keep your vehicle registration on you as it contains vital personal information.
- When carrying large amounts of cash, keep it in several different places instead of all together.
- Never reveal your social security number to strangers or telemarketers.
- Never throw out anything that contains personal information without first destroying it--thieves search through trash

in hopes of finding such material. Though it sounds farfetched, it really happens.

### CRIME UPDATE

The County Police Second District Bethesda has experienced a significant increase in auto thefts recently.

#### Most of them involve keys:

- Car is left running outside a business or home.
- Keys left in the car overnight in front of a residence (with doors unlocked).
- Unlocked and occupied houses were entered overnight and keys taken.
- Keys left in unsecured locker at health club.

PLEASE properly secure your vehicle and vehicle keys and

Immediately report all suspicious activity to 301-279-8000 or 911 in an emergency.

### What to Do When the Lights Go Out!

Hopefully we won't have that problem this summer; however, **should you lose power, be certain to contact Pepco as soon as possible.** Their computers record calls and it is the quickest way to get attention. The number to call--write it on your Section 5 directory--is: 8-877-727-2662.

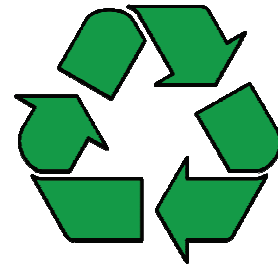
### FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS POST OFFICE WILL NOT CLOSE

Thanks to a serious community organizing effort which involved collecting over 3,400 signatures and lobbying at the federal, state, and local levels, the U. S. Post Office on Wisconsin Avenue across from Saks Fifth Avenue will remain open.

### "ALERT MONTGOMERY" SOURCE FOR EMERGENCY INFORMATION

With the memories of winter and possible weather-related emergencies, Section 5 residents, workers, and frequent visitors to Montgomery County are encouraged to sign up for direct and timely electronic alerts about severe weather, traffic problems and other emergencies that may affect your daily plans. Go to <https://alert.montgomerycounty.gov>.

You may designate that alerts be sent to one or more of your electronic devices, including cell phones, text pagers, and wireless devices, along with home and work emails.



### RECYCLING CORNER

#### Do You Know How to Recycle These Items?

- 1. Appliances:** Many stores will recycle your old appliance when you purchase a new one. Goodwill accepts working appliances. Go to [www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org), or you can contact Steel Recycling Institute to recycle them at [www.recycle-steel.org](http://www.recycle-steel.org).
- 2. Athletic shoes:** One World Running will send still-wearable shoes to athletes in need in Africa, Latin America, and Haiti [www.oneworldrunning.com](http://www.oneworldrunning.com). Nike's Reuse-a-shoe program turns old shoes into

playground and athletic flooring:  
[www.nikeruseashoe.com](http://www.nikeruseashoe.com).

**3. Batteries:** Rechargeable batteries can be taken to Strosniders Hardware in Bethesda for recycling or contact [www.batteryrecycling.com](http://www.batteryrecycling.com). Regular dry cell batteries can be safely disposed of in your household trash.

**4. Clothes:** Wearable clothes can go to our local Goodwill outlet or shelter. Donate wearable women's business clothing to the nonprofit organization Dress for Success, which gives them to low-income women as they search for jobs: [www.dressforsuccess.org](http://www.dressforsuccess.org). Offer unwearable (but clean) clothes to local animal boarding shelter facilities, which often use them as pet bedding.

**5. Compact fluorescent bulbs (CFL):** Take them to an IKEA store for recycling. You can also take them to Home Depot stores. Check this website for other disposal sites:  
<http://www.recycleabulb.com>

**6. Computers and electronics:** Staples and Best Buy take these items.

**7. Foam packing peanuts:** Local pack-and-ship stores will likely accept these for reuse. Or call the Plastic Loose Fill Producers Council to find a drop-off site: 1-800-828-2214.

**8. Used oil and anti-freeze collection:** Go to this website to find a convenient location,  
<http://www.menvcom/montgomeryoil.html>.

**9. Phones:** Collective Good will refurbish your phone and sell it to someone in a developing county:  
[www.collectivegood.com](http://www.collectivegood.com). Staples stores also recycle cell phones.

**10. Ink/toner cartridges:** Staples accepts empty cartridges and gives you \$3.00 for each one (provided you have a rewards card)---the check is sent to your home.

**....And a Great General Resource:** Check out this website: [www.earth911.com](http://www.earth911.com), it is a great resource for recycling items like small appliances, TVs, computers, cell phones, etc. By using the search feature you can find out where to take a wide array of recyclables.

#### **Please Cover Your Paper Recycling Bin**

On windy days please weigh down all your papers, cardboard and light plastic items. This extra effort saves chasing debris all over the neighborhood. Also remember that styrofoam chips ARE NOT recyclable. Place them in the regular household trash.

#### **DON'T LEAVE RECYCLING BINS AT CURB**

Please put the recycling bins out on Sunday evening and return them to their storage place Mondays. Wind can toss them quite a distance, possibly damaging property and at the least breaking the bins.

#### **Pepco Launches Paperless bills**

Pepco customers can now sign up for a Green Bill, a new online billing and payment system and stop receiving a paper bill. With Green Bill, customers voluntarily register through the My Account portal at [pepco.com](http://pepco.com) and check the box indicating they no longer want to receive a paper bill in the mail. Green Bill customers will automatically receive a monthly e-mail stating their bill is ready to view and pay.

#### **SHARE WHAT YOU NO LONGER NEED**

Don't throw it away! **A Wider Circle** is a charity located in Bethesda. It would be delighted to have your household goods.

This wonderful nonprofit charity, which comes to pick up items, serves needy people who have very little. Call 301-657-1010 to donate; visit [www.awidercircle.org](http://www.awidercircle.org) to learn more.

### **REDUCE UNWANTED MAIL OPT OUT OF CATALOGS**

Finally, a way to remove your name from the mailing lists you don't want. Stop the waste, reduce the clutter, and save trees. Join over one million people making a difference. It's simple: [www.catalogchoice.org](http://www.catalogchoice.org) to start today.

### **TOSS OUT YOUR INCANDESCENT BULBS NOW!**

Many of us in Section 5 have replaced a few of our incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lamps (CFLS). Why not consider changing all the incandescent bulbs in your house to fully realize the benefit of current technology? After all, the incandescent bulb is the same inefficient contraption that was invented more than 100 years ago, putting much of its energy in heat, not light. How many other 100 year old electrical devices are you still using today? CFLS save you money!

### **WHO WAS HARRY MARTIN?**

Martin's Additions was entrepreneur Harry Martin's idea, and he assembled the Brookeville Road properties in Chevy Chase starting in 1896. In 1916, Martin's 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Additions to Chevy Chase became special taxing districts. After a referendum, they were incorporated into the Village of Martin's Additions in 1985.

Courtesy of [Bethesda Magazine](#)

### **EXPANSION OF CHEVY CHASE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Montgomery County Public Schools is conducting a feasibility study for an addition to Chevy Chase Elementary School. Student enrollment at elementary schools in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster has increased dramatically in the past two years. Additional space will be needed in several cluster elementary schools to accommodate growing enrollment. A Feasibility Study Committee (FSC) will include representatives of the school, PTA Civic Associations, neighbors, government agencies, the study architects (Muse Architects) and staff from MCPS Division of Construction. FSC work session meetings are scheduled in the afternoons and evenings to allow for maximum staff and community involvement. To participate you may contact Dennis Cross, Project Manager, Montgomery County Public School Division of Construction 240-876-4586.

### **Wisconsin Place Community Recreation Center**

This state of the art Community Center is located at 5311 Friendship Boulevard in Chevy Chase and houses a regulation sized gymnasium, a weight room/exercise room, 2 activity rooms, a conference room and a child's play room. There is also a silver sneakers program where residents who are 55 and older may use the facility free of charge Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

A three month pass to use the Weight Room & Gym at the center is \$75, \$110 for six months and \$180 for a one year pass.

The center also offers classes in everything from arts and crafts to dance and exercise. For a complete list of classes, please visit <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/re/c/currentguide.pdf> or call 240-777-8088.

Hours of operation are: Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 9:30 pm, Friday and Saturday 9:00 am to 6:00pm, and Sunday 12:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

### **Street Light Out?**

Please call **Pepco** at 8-877-737-2662 or visit their Web site at [www.Pepco.com](http://www.Pepco.com) to report a street light out. You will need to provide the nearest address to the pole. The bulb should be replaced within 72 hours according to Pepco.

### **Update on Property at Northeast Corner of Bradley and Connecticut Avenue**

Stephen and Patricia Edelen have applied for a Special Exception to enlarge their current family daycare program operated out of their residence from 8 to 24 children. The larger group child daycare center requires a special exception from the County.

The Edelens propose to offer a bi-lingual daycare program following in the style of the Reggio-Emilia educational approach to learning for children ages 2 through 5.



### **JUNE COUNCIL MEETING**

What: Council Meeting  
Where: 5906 Conn. Ave. Village Hall  
Who: Section 5 Residents  
When: June 8, 2010, 7:30pm

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

**Section 5  
Of the Village of Chevy Chase  
P.O. Box 15140, Chevy Chase, MD 20815**