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

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# The Quarterly



## ADVANTAGES FOR SECTION 5 BEING AN INCORPORATED MUNICIPALITY

Prior to 1981 Section 5 was a special taxing district and did not enjoy the benefits of an incorporated municipality. In 1981 the Council decided to write a Charter, presented it to the residents for their approval of this Charter, and thus it became a municipality. This incorporation process gave Section 5 the authority to offer and maintain the excellent level of services residents enjoy today.

The first advantage of being a municipality is that governmental decisions are made by a grass-roots government. Section 5 residents even under the old form of government prior to 1981 maintained its own streets and trees and received tax monies from the County government; however, Section 5

did not have the same degree of protection as a municipality has against challenges to its authority by the State and County. For example, Friendship Heights is currently a special taxing district and is not able to prevent the County from making decisions about its day to day operations.

Section 5 is governed by a Council of five residents, who are elected for two year terms. They are given the task of making decisions that help make our community a better place to live, in accordance with our Charter.

On the administrative side, the Council oversees public safety, such as street lighting (purchased from Pepco) and police services (currently by both the County and additional police patrols), as well as traffic safety, including proper traffic-control signage and maintenance of streets and sidewalks. Section 5 also contracts with a side-or-rear garbage pickup twice weekly, along with a weekly yard waste and recycling pickup, twice yearly bulk trash pickups, public tree maintenance, leaf removal in the fall, and snow removal in the winter.

On the legislative side, Section 5 produces and administers rules and regulations embodied in resolutions that are published for comments by residents and then voted upon by the members of the Council. These resolutions state the authority of Section 5 to oversee building, health and welfare codes.

Section 5 pays for these services with the State income tax monies which it receives every year. These monies would go to the County if the Section were not incorporated. Section 5 also receives a small revenue from the State for maintenance of its roads; however, this amount has been substantially reduced in the last year because of the

deficits which the State has experienced. Section 5's real estate property tax is presently at zero and has been at zero for the last ten years.

The greatest advantage of being a resident of a municipality is the ability to pick up the telephone and talk to someone who can DO something. The volunteer elected Council members and the Section manager enjoy providing these services effectively.

### **SECTION 5 TO RECEIVE REIMBURSEMENT FROM FEMA**

The Council is pleased to report that Section 5, working with FEMA was able to collect \$8,437.50 to cover the total costs of snow removal for the December 2009 snow storm. Also, FEMA has agreed to pay \$12,382.50 of the total costs for the two February storms. This reimbursement from FEMA was most welcome because the Council had budgeted \$10,000 for snow removal for FY 2009-10 but ultimately spent \$55,000. Much of this amount spent was to remove the snow from the public sidewalks and to employ bobcats to push the snow from curb to curb on the public streets. Many residents called the Section 5 office to thank the manager for Section's stellar job of snow removal. In fact, Section 5's ability to authorize these much larger snow removal expenditures is a perfect example of the above mentioned advantages of our neighborhood's incorporation as a separate municipality.



## **JULY 4th CELEBRATION**

Many Section 5 residents showed up at 11:00 am Sunday, July 4th to march beneath the banner on Williams Lane that read "Through these portals pass the world's greatest neighbors in the world". The Chevy Chase Fire Truck led the parade down Williams Lane to Brookville Road and finally to Underwood St. where ponies, a slip and slide, cookies and drinks were waiting for the greatest neighbors. Fun was had by all.

## **NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS**

Lydia Lee Feinberg was born August 16, 2010, to Elizabeth Mone and David Feinberg of Underwood St. Congratulations!

Welcome to Kristina and Gregory Lowell. They have recently moved into 7 Leland Ct. with their two children, Greta age 2 and Sylvia age 6 weeks. The Lowells' telephone is 202-431-6562.

## **RODENTS IN SECTION 5**

There have been more calls from residents that they have experienced rats coming into their homes. The main solution is to eliminate their food sources. Here are some actions that you may take to prevent their entry:

- DO NOT store garbage outside in plastic bags. Plastic garbage bags are not rodent-proof. Plastic bags should be used in outside garbage cans with tight fitting lids.
- DO NOT allow birdseed to accumulate on the ground.
- DO NOT leave pet food outside. Store pet food or birdseed in containers with tight fitting lids.
- DO NOT place food scraps in compost piles.
- DO remove any piles of debris or building material such as old brick, boards and wood piles that may provide shelter for rodents.
- DO clear brush, weeds and heavy ground covers, especially around foundations.
- DO pick up dog feces and dispose of it properly. Rats are attracted to it as a food source.

## **SECTION 5 RESIDENT SERVING IN AFGHANISTAN**

Mark Kromer, son of Sarel Kromer of Woodbine St., is currently serving at Bagram Air Force Base in Afghanistan. There is a web site <http://www.greenbeanscoffee.com> where people may send a cup of coffee to a service person. Section 5 residents may send a cup of coffee and let Mark and his colleagues know that they are thinking of him and appreciating the work which he and other service people are doing. It means a great deal to the men and women over there to know that they have our love and support back home.

## ELLEN'S RUN

What: Ellen's Run 5K Run, 3K Walk  
When: Sun., Oct. 10, 2010, 9 am  
Where: Candy Cane Pavilion, Chevy Chase, MD  
Who: All parents, students, faculty & community members  
Why: To benefit B-CC HS Community Scholarship Fund & Mental Health Assoc. of Montgomery County  
Ellen's Run is an annual race held in memory of **Ellen Vala Schneider**, mother of two B-CC HS graduates and a tireless volunteer in a wide range of community programs. Ellen died in Feb. 2006.

## HAZARDOUS SIDEWALK

If there is a block of sidewalk in front of your house that is depressed and collects rain water and doesn't drain properly, please call or email the manager, 301-986-5481 [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org). These sidewalk areas will be replaced.

## LOST PETS



The following are helpful tips from the Montgomery County Animal Shelter if you have lost a pet.

- Act quickly because the shelter holds stray animals for about 6 business days before putting them up for adoption.
- Initiate a search if your lost pet has not been taken/reported to the shelter, quickly.
- It is critical that all household pets be tagged with a name, address and telephone number.
- Post a notice on Section 5's web site as well as its blind email list by calling the manager 301-986-5481 or by email [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org).

If your pet has a Home Again micro-chip, immediately call 1-888-466-3242.

If you find a pet, notify the County Shelter immediately so that the information can be communicated to the owner if he/she calls.

## Day Care at Northeast Corner of Bradley and Connecticut Avenue

Stephen and Patricia Edelen received a Special Exception from the County to enlarge their current family daycare program operated out of their residence from 8 to 24 children. They will offer a bi-lingual daycare program following in the style of the Reggio-Emilia educational approach to learning for children ages 2 through 5.

## MVA ON WHEELS

The schedule for MVA on Wheels visits to the Friendship Heights Village Center, 4433 South Park Avenue is:

Monday Sept. 27	Monday
Oct. 25	
Monday Nov. 22	Monday
Dec. 20	



**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS MATERIAL**

A permanent collection site for household hazardous waste is set up at the Shady Grove Transfer Station at the intersection of Rt. 355 and Shady Grove Road. The hours are 1 - 5 PM Thursday and Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM Saturday and 9:30 AM - 5 PM Sunday. Household hazardous waste includes insecticides, herbicides, pesticides, paint thinner, swimming pool chemicals and oil-based paints. For questions, call the County at 240-777-6410.

**SAVING ENERGY MONEY AT HOME**

Insulate your home when:

- You have an older home and haven't added insulation. Only 20% of homes built before 1980 are well insulated.
- You are uncomfortably cold in the winter or hot in the summer--adding insulation creates a more uniform temperature and increases comfort.

- You build a new home, addition or install new siding or roofing.
- You pay high energy bills
- You are bothered by noise from outside--insulation muffles sound.

**RECYCLING: DID YOU KNOW?**

- By recycling one aluminum can you'll save enough equivalent energy to run a computer for three hours or a TV for two hours!
- By reducing your paper usage and preventing a single ton of paper waste you'll save 15 to 17 mature trees!
- By recycling one glass bottle you'll save enough equivalent energy to operate a 100-watt light bulb for four hours!

Courtesy Waste Management



**JUST A THOUGHT . . ABOUT WIND POWER**

Did you know you can reduce your carbon footprint by getting some or all of your electricity from wind power providers? Two companies, Clean Currents and Washington Gas Energy Services (WGES), offer this service. One benefit is that you will be locking in your rates for the duration of your

contract. Check out their web sites and see what they offer! The Clean Currents website is [www.cleancurrents.com](http://www.cleancurrents.com) and the WGES website is [www.wges.com](http://www.wges.com).

### **A SHADE COOLER**

*A tree cover can help towns beat the heat*

The extreme temperatures this summer in Section 5 caused residents to seek refuge in air-conditioned buildings. Although this helps people keep cool and ward off such heat-related illnesses as asthma, heat stroke, and dehydration, it also has untoward side effects. Air conditioners may cool the indoors, but they generate heat outside and may make temperatures climb still further on hot days, especially in towns. They also guzzle electricity, which requires more burning of coal and other fossil fuels that pollute the air and cause yet more suffering for those with heart and lung ailments. The good news is that we can do better to beat the heat.

In Chicago, just prior to a lethal 1995 summer heat wave in which more than 700 people died, a study found that the urban landscape—the assortment of buildings and green spaces in the city made a difference in how much Chicagoans felt the heat. The 50.8 million trees within the city limits cut air temperature by more than two degrees.

The study found also that just one shade tree could trim 7 percent from the annual cost of cooling a well-insulated home. Most trees also scrub the air of pollutants, and the study found that trees soaked up more than 1,00 tons worth of air pollution per year, including particles that trigger asthma attacks and heart arrhythmias.



### **FIRE SAFETY FREE SMOKE DETECTOR PROGRAM**

One year ago, Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Service (MCFRS) initiated a proactive fire safety campaign designed to ensure that all county residents have **working smoke alarms** in their homes. Every Saturday afternoon, the women and men of MCFRS go to various neighborhoods in their communities knocking on doors, handing out fire safety information, and offering to check residents' smoke alarms. If you are not at home, you will find a notice hanging on your door knob letting you know they were by with a list of safety tips and a number to call if you would like them to stop by your home on another day to check your alarms.

They have gone into approximately 20% of the homes whose doors they knocked on. Of that number, approximately 50% of those did not have a working smoke alarm! The good news is that they will before the visit is complete!

Why is it important to have working smoke alarm in your home? About two-thirds of home fire deaths occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms and they can reduce your risk of dying in a fire in your home by almost half.

Here are some updated numbers (through the end of November 2009)

from their door to door campaign: 31,417 homes visited; 97 smoke alarms installed and, 1,119 batteries installed. So there are about 2,000 homes in Montgomery County that are now a little bit safer as a result of this important program. Do not wait for them to stop by your home. Take a moment now to "Put A Finger On It" and test your smoke alarms to make certain they are working. SAVE THE DATE!

### **CHEVY CHASE AT HOME**

CHEVY CHASE AT HOME WILL HOST ITS GALA OPENING EVENT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14th from 4 to 6 PM at the Chevy Chase Village Hall. Mark Shields, a resident of

Chevy Chase Village and a noted (and funny) political commentator, will deliver the opening remarks. You are all invited to enjoy festive refreshments and the opportunity to learn more about CC@ H and our plans to launch our services early in 2011. Come and be part of Chevy Chase history as we embark on this exciting endeavor to enhance the inter-generational life of our community. Find out how YOU can participate and make a difference. We hope to see our neighbors both young and old -- not only those who may need our services, but also those who would like to help deliver them. THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE CHEVY CHASE HOME!