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**TAX TIME AGAIN, REMEMBER:
Section 5 of the Village of Chevy Chase
Maryland Tax Return**

Section 5's largest source of revenue is a portion of the State income tax paid by Section 5's residents. Unfortunately, Section 5 will not get its share of income tax unless its name appears on the Maryland income tax form in the box marked, "City, Town or Taxing Area". Also, remember to write "Montgomery" in the "Maryland County" box. A sample of the form appears below. Please don't forget to complete these sections when filing your taxes and if someone else prepares your taxes, please remember to instruct that person to complete those two lines.

BUILDING AND FENCE PERMITS

A REMINDER TO RESIDENTS: A Section 5 permit is required to erect any dwelling or other building or to make any material structural alterations or additions to an existing building. Also, there is a Section 5 ordinance requiring a permit for the erection or replacement of a

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fence. Fences must be built so that they are in compliance with the town's fence ordinance. Residents are also required to show a copy of their fence plans to their abutting neighbors. A copy of the ordinance is available by calling the manager or on the town's web site.

At the February Council meeting the Council discussed the fence ordinance revision which was passed in 2004. The Council determined that this revision was passed with only two Council members voting to pass it. According to the Charter three Council members must vote to enact an ordinance revision. A copy of the fence ordinance which was in effect before the 2004 revision is included with this newsletter.

COUNCIL MEETING

Council meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30pm at the Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue. The February Council meeting will be held March 14, 2006. Everyone is welcome. The Council members as well as the manager are available by telephone for anyone who has concerns.

NEW COUNCIL MEMBER

Peter Gray, a long time Section 5 resident, has agreed to serve on the Council to complete the remaining term of resigning Council member, Stuart Rudikoff. Congratulations to Peter.

SNOW, SNOW, SNOW

Please remember if it snows or the forecast calls for snow, park your cars off the streets and into the driveways so the plows can do their work. If the snowfall is deep, please clear a safe path to your household trash cans.

HOLIDAY COLLECTION

As usual Section 5 residents were very generous this year when they contributed to the holiday collection for the trash company employees. The town collected over \$2,000 to be distributed among the company's employees. The employees extend their heartfelt thanks to the town's residents for their generosity.

RANK, ENROLLMENT HIGH AT B-CC HIGH

Our neighborhood public high school, Bethesda-Chevy Chase, continues to grow and thrive. The number of students has gone up steadily in recent years, from 1,061 in 1997 to 1,695 this year, an increase of 60 percent. Almost two-thirds of students are white, 16 percent African-American, 14 percent Hispanic and 7 percent Asian, making B-CC one of the most ethnically diverse high schools in Montgomery County.

Among County public schools, B-CC has the highest percentage of students enrolled in at least one honors-level course (92%) and the highest percentage of students taking at least one foreign language (85 %). The SAT mean score for the class of 2005 is 1183 (total), the school's highest score ever. Comparable scores for County public schools are 1101 and for the nation, 1028.

Newsweek magazine recently ranked B-CC the 29th best public high school in the country (out of 27,000). The basis for this ranking was the number of Advanced Placement (AP) and/or Baccalaureate (IB) tests taken by all students at each school in 2004, divided by the number of graduating seniors at that school.

MVA ON WHEELS

The Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration offers a mobile service at the intersection of North Park Avenue and Friendship Heights Blvd., near the Friendship Heights Village Center. For details of the services offered at the MVA on wheels, call the MVA at 1-800-950-1682 or go to the website at: www.mva.state.md.us/location/montcty.htm. The mobile unit is usually in front of the Village Office on the fourth Monday of each month. The dates for 2006 are:

March 27
April 24
May 22
June No mobile MVA service

BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR TO THE POTOMAC RIVER By George Wyeth

How can you, as a homeowner, be an environmentally good neighbor? You might be surprised at how many things you can do that will benefit both our immediate neighborhood and the entire Potomac River watershed. The Potomac Conservancy has a new book titled "Good Neighbor Handbook". This handbook provides practical and useful advice on topics such as:

- Avoiding invasive plant species that upset the ecological balance
- Creating habitat for birds and wildlife
- Using the right amount of fertilizer
- Controlling excessive storm water runoff.

It's important to recognize that many of these steps are only effective if many homeowners become good neighbors. If we don't act as good stewards when we garden, build or maintain our properties, no one else can take care of the environment for us.

For an advance look at the handbook, visit www.potomac.org/pdfs/good_neighbor_handbook.pdf
Courtesy Somerset Town Journal

B-CC HIGH SCHOOL USED BOOK SALE

Preparations for the B-CC High School PTSA Used Book Sale and Café are under way. The sale date is Sunday, March 26, 2006, and all the community is invited. If you would like to donate books to the sale, please contact Peggy Hsieh McIntosh at 301-951-8605 or peggyhsieh@yahoo.com. There will be periodic book drop-offs and arrangements can be made to pick up books from your home. Book donations are tax deductible.

SECTION 5'S WEB SITE

Residents may access the Council meeting minutes on the town's web. A copy of the entire Charter is on the web site as well as a copy of the Fence Ordinance and Building Permit requirements. <http://users.starpower.net/sfovcc>

Requiescat in pace

Ellen Schneider, a woodbine Street resident, died in February. Ellen, her husband, Matt and two sons have lived in Section 5 for many years. Her friendly smile and loving nature will be missed. The town extends its deepest sympathy to the family.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Andrew Smith, Chairman; Ira Rosenbaum, Vice-Chairman; Margy Abbott, Treasurer; Farooq Hussain, Secretary; Peter Gray; Building Inspector