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**Section 5 Council:** Chris Richardson, Chairman; Greg White, Vice-Chairman; Tim Hanlon, Treasurer; Scott Livingston,, Secretary; Nancy Pines, Building Inspector.

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# The Quarterly

## JULY 4TH 2014 CELEBRATION

At 11:00 a.m. on Friday, July 4th, Section 5 residents gathered in front of Kathy and Tim Lynch's house at 3807 Williams Lane to celebrate the Fourth. Selected portions of the Declaration of Independence were read to remind us of our special freedoms that are stated in that document. After the reading and the Pledge of Allegiance Peggy Hawkins and Ken Emigholz led the residents in singing the National Anthem and other patriotic songs.

After the singing the marchers led by the Chevy Chase Fire Engine began the parade by walking beneath the very famous old sign strung across Williams Lane. This sign reads: "Under this sign goes the best people in the whole world." The parade continued down Williams Lane to Brookville Road and then onto Underwood Street where Big Country Amusements had ponies, a water slide and a moon bounce for the children. There were also cookies and drinks. A special thanks to the Underwood Street residents who furnished the electricity for the games. A good time was had by all.

## SECTION 5 PROPERTY TAX CREDIT

At its June 10, 2014, Council meeting, the Council voted to provide a \$700 real estate property tax credit to each of the 225 households and one restaurant in Section 5. This credit is possible because Section 5's income exceeded expenses in FY 2013-14 by \$161,506.

Because the County real estate property tax bills for FY 2015 are created on July 1, 2014, the \$700 tax credit will not appear on your account until September 1, 2014.

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## HISTORY OF SECTION 5

Section 5 was created from a mosaic of the Williams family land holdings centered on Williams Lane. The Williams family's holdings began as a small subdivision which was independent of the Chevy Chase Land Company. In 1890 the Chevy Chase Land Company purchased land from J. M. Williams which is along Connecticut Avenue between Leland and Woodbine Streets.

Richard Williams purchased 212 acres of the No Gain estate in 1830 and in 1840 constructed a farmhouse facing Brookville Road. Mr. Williams married about 1845 and with his wife, Julia, raised five children on this farm. After 1868 his daughters Bettie and Ariana were married and Mr. Williams built houses as wedding gifts for them near his own house. These buildings are still in existence and face each other at 3806 and 3807 Williams Lane.

In 1890 J. M. Williams, an heir to Richard Williams, sold most of the farm to the Chevy Chase Land Company but retained 33 acres along Williams Lane and Brookville Road. In 1894, John Frank Ellis purchased 14 1/2 acres of Williams' No Gain tract and filed a plat for a 69 lot subdivision called "Otterbourne" and named its main streets Douglas (now Underwood) and Percy (now Taylor). Otterbourne is the name of the plains in Scotland where the armies of Lord James Douglas and Sir Henry Percy met in their fabled battle for which a poem was written. This poem was titled "Cheviot of the Chace" . By 1931 most of the No Gain tract in Section 5 had been developed as the J. M. Williams Subdivision with houses

fronting Williams Lane and Underwood Street.

Architectural styles in Section 5 reflect its evolutionary development from farmland to suburb and include folk Victorian farmhouses and cottages, Four Squares, Craftsman Bungalows, and Period Revival houses in the Tudor and Georgian styles. Many of the houses built between 1892 and 1920 are frame of construction and represent the work of craftsman builders. Houses fronting Woodbine, Glendale, and Leland Streets and those on Thornapple and Underwood Streets and Williams Lane in the block adjacent to Connecticut Avenue were built on Chevy Chase Land Company's lots platted after 1923 and are usually brick and more uniform in their Period Revival designs.

## COUNCIL ADOPTED BUDGET AND TAX RATES FOR FY 2015

At the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, May 6, 2014, Section 5's Council adopted the proposed FY 2015 budget for Section 5. That proposed budget had been presented at both the March and April Council meetings to allow residents an opportunity to make comments. A copy of the budget is available on Section 5's web site.

About fifteen years ago the Council decided to reduce the local property taxes to \$0.00 per \$100 of assessed property value because Section 5 received sufficient funds from its State income taxes to meet budget expenditures. In the years since then the Council has continued to keep the local property tax rate at zero. Section 5 services budgeted for FY 2015 will remain at the same levels as the current year.

## **SECTION 5 BUILDING PERMITS**

Making construction plans? A permit from Section 5's Manager is required before proceeding with the following activities:

- Removing, destroying, or impairing a tree on private property with a trunk at least 24 inches in diameter at 4.5 feet above ground level. (A permit is not required for normal, reasonable trimming or tree care, or in an emergency when the tree constitutes an imminent hazard to persons or property.)
- Erecting or demolishing any structure, or making material structural alterations or additions to a building.
- Constructing, rebuilding, or re-constructing any off-street parking area.
- Constructing or replacing (but not re-surfacing or repairing) more than 50% of an existing driveway, driveway apron, or curb cut.
- Excavating, grading yards, installing a sump pump, or a new sump pump discharge.
- Blocking or closing a street or sidewalk in connection with construction activities.
- Constructing, altering, replacing, or enlarging a fence or wall.
- Installing an electronic dog fence.

Failure to comply with these permit requirements may result in a fine, suspension or revocation of a permit, or other administrative sanctions

Please contact the Section 5 manager with any questions at 301-986-5481 or by email at [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org).

## **SUCCESSFUL SHREDDING EVENT SATURDAY JUNE 21ST**

On Saturday, June 21st a shredding truck was set up at the Brookville Market parking lot along Taylor Street. Section 5, Martins' Additions and Section 3 shared the cost of this service. Those who were waiting with boxes lined up by car or on foot on the west side of Brookville Road. A police officer was on site to direct traffic. The boxes were removed from the cars by the shredding company's uniformed personnel and placed into the shredding machine. The lines moved quickly. There was no charge for residents. Many residents in line expressed their appreciation for Section 5 providing this service.

## **LEAF COLLECTION**

Mark Peyton's vacuum truck will again collect Section 5's leaves on Mondays. He will begin Monday, October 20, 2014, and his last collection will be Monday, December 15, 2014. All leaves should be raked to the public strip not into the street. Please make certain that your leaves are not contaminated by cans, sticks, bottles or rocks. These items will clog Mark's machine and in some cases put it out of commission. In fact, once someone placed a bicycle chain in the leaf pile and it destroyed the blades on Mark's vacuuming machine.

## **RECYCLING BINS**

Please take a look at the inside of your recycle bins, especially the green one and if the residue from your recyclables has collected there, please wash it. Our trash hauler can refuse to collect the recyclables if the bins are soiled.

### **NEED NEW RECYCLING BINS?**

Please call the manager 301-986-5481 or email her at [manager@chevychase5.org](mailto:manager@chevychase5.org)

### **INVASION OF THE EMERALD ASH BORER**

This little green monster is responsible for the illness and death of tens of millions of ash trees in the United States and Canada and it's spreading at an alarming rate. Not only does the Emerald Ash Borer have a financial impact on local governments, but it creates a public safety issue as dead ash trees rapidly become brittle and can fall or drop branches in public spaces.

If you have an ash tree in your yard, you should have it inspected to determine if it has ash borers and then have the infected tree treated or removed.

### **SECTION 5 COUNCIL MEETING**

Section 5 Council meetings are held every **second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm** in the Village Hall located at 5906 Connecticut Avenue. The Council Meeting Agenda is posted on Section 5's web site [www.chevychase5.org](http://www.chevychase5.org). Please feel free to contact Section 5's office to place an item on the agenda. Copies of minutes from previous Council meetings may be found on Section 5's web site.

The next Council meeting will be held September 9, 2014, at the Village Hall located at 5906 Connecticut Ave. at 7:30 pm.

### **SECTION 5's INSURANCE RATING**

Section 5 has its insurance coverage with the Local Government Insurance Trust (LGIT), a company that insures most of the municipalities in the State of Maryland. By banding together back in 1988 the municipalities were able to create this company that offers very low rates of insurance and also excellent coverage. If the Trust has money left over at the end of the year, it is divided among the municipalities according to the number of claims which a municipality submitted. These excess funds allow the Trust to reduce the insurance premiums for the following year. In FY 2014 Section 5 did not submit any insurance claims. This award will guarantee that Section 5 will pay a lower premium for FY 2015.

### **A REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS**

The County animal control code requires that you keep your dog on a leash whenever your dog is not on your property. Please make certain to clean up after your dog. Help us keep our sidewalks and public strips clean from dog waste.

### **HOUSE NUMBER VISIBLE**

Please look at your house number and make certain that it is easily visible both day and night, from the street. Could an ambulance or fire truck find your house in the dark?

## SECTION 5 TRASH HOLIDAYS

There are 6 holidays which Section 5's trash hauler celebrates: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, July 4th, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. When these holidays fall on a Monday, the recycling will be collected on the following Tuesday along with the regular household trash. **Also, recycling will not be collected on Martin Luther King's Birthday which, of course, always falls on a Monday because the County's collection center is closed; recycling that week will be collected on Tuesday.**

## HOW TO PROPERLY DISPOSE OF USED COOKING GREASE

The Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission has experienced many sewer overflows, about 50% were grease related. Eighty percent of grease-related overflows happened near residences. Overflows send millions of gallons of untreated wastewater into local creeks and rivers that flow into the Chesapeake Bay.

Incorporating hot water and/or liquid soap into the grease isn't enough to counteract the effects that used cooking grease can have on the sewer lines. Down in the cold drain, hardening at 50 to 55 degrees, the grease turns into a sticky blob, catching all other food products and plugging the line.

How is one able to properly dispose of used cooking grease? Once it has reached room temperature, used cooking grease should be transferred to a container and placed in your regular household trash receptacles. Used

cooking grease should never be used in compost because it attracts wild animals.

## 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).

## DONATE BUILDING SUPPLIES

The following organizations accept donations of reusable or new building materials. Please visit their websites or give them a call. For large items, both organizations will arrange special pickups. Community Forklift: <http://communityforklift.com> or 301-985-5180; Habitat for Humanity: <http://www.habitat-mc.org> or 301-947-3304.

## BIKES FOR THE WORLD

Jordan Roumell is making it his mission to get the word out about "Bikes for the World". His organization collects old or unutilized bikes for many purposes. Find out more at : <http://www.bikesfortheworld.org>. The nearest collection center is **City Bikes** located at 8401 Connecticut Ave. phone 301-764-1777. Donations to Bikes for the World are tax deductible. A \$10

contribution is requested at the time of bike donation to help with repair and transport costs.

### **CHEVY CHASE @ HOME ACTIVITIES**

**Sept. 2, Oct. 7** Mini-Mingles 2:00 - 4:00pm Small groups, member-initiated. Murder Mysteries discussion Group, Barbara Coleman; Making a Family Calendar on Your Mac, Marion Robertson; Ha! Ha! Humor Group, Peter Gray; Computer Games, Fran Pitlick; Travel Discussion Group, Mary Gorman; Old House Tips, Tom & Eileen Collins; Tech Support - Fran Pitlick, John Barnes; Understanding Dreams, Sandy Geller (**Oct. 7**)

**Sept. Sat. 2 - 4 pm.** For Members and Volunteers. Come celebrate our 5th Anniversary! Share ideas about future possibilities.

**Sept. 16** Social Security Update 7:30 - 9:00 pm Dalmer Hoskins will discuss recent changes in Social Security law that you will want to know as well as differences among various countries. This event will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Ave.

**Oct. 19** Guitar Master Class with famed Brazilian guitarist Carlos Barbosa-Lima. 1 - 4:00 pm. Event held at Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Ave.

**Oct. 26 Sun.** Open House 2 - 4 pm Mark Shriver, guest speaker. This event will be held at the Chevy Chase Woman's Club.

**Nov. 18** How to Take Care of Your Hands if You Have Osteoarthritis Janet Platt, ORT, Sibley Hospital. 2:00 - 4:00 pm This event will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Ave.

**Wednesdays 10:30 to 11:30am,** Gentle Pilates resumes Sept 3; 8 weekly

sessions with Irene Hoegel Advance registration & payment is required for the sessions; classes held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church, 7001 Connecticut Ave.

**Sept. 18** Balance & Fitness Class 2:30 to 3:30 pm Starting Sept. 18 Irene Koegel will instruct this class in 8-weekly sessions. Advance registration and payment required. Classes will be held at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Ave.

### **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.

### **RECYCLING: DID YOU KNOW?**

- By recycling one aluminum can, you will save the 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 will save 15 to 17 mature trees!
- By recycling one glass bottle, you will save the equivalent energy to

operate a 100-watt light bulb for four hours!

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

Don't throw it away! A Wider Circle charity, which is located in Bethesda, would be delighted to have your household goods. This wonderful nonprofit charity serves needy people who have very little, get back on their feet. They will pick up items at your home free of charge Call 301-657-1010 to donate; visit [www.awidercircle.org](http://www.awidercircle.org) to learn more.

### **WATCH THAT SIDEWALK**

Please be careful not to park across the sidewalk when you park in your driveway. Pedestrians, baby strollers, and bikers are forced into the street when they can't pass the obstruction of your car.

### **HOMESTEAD CREDIT CERTIFICATION**

To be eligible for the County's Homestead Credit you must certify with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation that your property is your principal residence. Failure to timely certify will disqualify you from eligibility for this credit which caps the amount of increase in your taxable property tax assessment to 10% each year. You can check whether you have applied for the Homestead Credit by going to this website: <http://sdat.resiusa.org/RealProperty/Pages/default.aspx> and check the Homestead Application Status for

your property. To apply, please fill out the form on this website: <https://sdathtc.resiusa.org/homestead/>.

This is real money for Section 5 residents. In 2013 the County voted to give owners of a principal residence a credit \$692. This is the amount which the State legislature voted for the last few years. You must be registered to receive this credit.

### **PROTECTING YOUR FINANCIAL HEALTH AND YOUR CREDIT RATING REQUIRES SENSIBLE SECURITY HABITS**

Identity theft is the fastest growing crime in America. The number of identity theft incidents has reached 9.9 million a year, according to the Federal Trade Commission. The National Crime Prevention Council offers the following tips:

- Do not give out your personal information unless you initiate the contact or know the person or company with whom you are dealing. Also, never disclose personal information, such as a Social Security number or bank account number in response to an email. Legitimate businesses will not ask you to do this.
- Do not disclose your credit card number to an online vendor unless it is encrypted and the site is secure. Look at the first part of the Web address on your browser. It should read <https://>.
- Do not write your Social Security number or telephone number on checks or credit card receipts.
- Remove all documents with personal information from your hard drive before discarding your

computer or sending it in for repair.

- Shred discarded documents, including preapproved credit card applications, bank statements, store receipts and utility bills. "Dumpster divers" can gain access to your personal information if such items are thrown in the trash.
- Cancel all credit cards that have not been used in the last six months. Open credit is a prime target for thieves.
- Order your credit report at least twice a year and report any mistakes to the credit reporting agency in writing.

### **CRIME UPDATE**

In July, the Second Police District had only one robbery bringing the total for the year to 22 which is the exact same number reported for this time last year. However, there were 123 vehicles entered where property was removed. Of these 123 vehicle robberies, 88% were left unlocked. In the others where force was used to gain entry, it was primarily because expensive items were left in plain view such as laptops, wallets, purses, etc. There has been an increase of 7.7% in this category so far this year. In June, 30% of stolen cars were taken with a spare key left inside the car.

The police have reviewed suspects on video and watched as they tried door handles and then moved on to the next car when they discovered that the car was locked. The police have talked to suspects after they were arrested and the suspects have told the police that they liked to commit this crime here in Chevy Chase because

"most people leave their cars unlocked and there is good stuff."

In July there were 19 residential burglaries. Of these burglaries, 6 involved property such as bicycles taken from open garages.

These crimes can be prevented by simply locking your car and not leaving a spare key inside the car. You should also lock your garage door, especially at night.

You should be a good neighbor and when you see a garage door that has been left open, you remind your neighbor about the number of thefts that are committed from unlocked cars and garages. Call the police when you see a strange car or person in the neighborhood especially late at night.

### **LEAF BLOWERS**

Leaf blowers emit a tremendous amount of noise and some of your neighbors find this noise irritating. Please be aware of the noise that your leaf blowers make and limit the amount of time that they are used.

### **REMEMBER: DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED**

It seems that some drivers just can't help it---they just **MUST** make or answer that call or read that text while they are driving. It seems that it is very much like a drug addiction. When that smart phone vibrates or makes a noise, some folks have no will power---they go to the phone the way Pavlov's dog reacted to the ringing of the bell. If this describes you. **STOP IT!** You are endangering yourself and others. It's selfish, it's unsafe, and by the way, it's illegal.



If you cannot trust yourself to refrain from handling your smart phone while you are in control of a vehicle, then either turn it off or put it out of reach before you start driving. If you absolutely must communicate using your smart phone while you are in your car, then stop in a safe place (a parking lot or a side street---NOT in a place that will

impede traffic), put the car in "park" and make/receive that communication. PLEASE!