



Section 5 Council: Peter Gray, Chair; Chris Richardson, Vice-Chair; Greg White, Secretary; Tim Hanlon, Treasurer; Nancy Pines, Building Inspector.

The Quarterly

PEPCO'S TREE PRUNING

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Certainly everyone in Section 5 has noticed the Asplundh Tree Service trucks, employed by Pepco, pruning and removing trees along Connecticut Avenue. In fact these trucks may be seen all over the County as the men are vigorously trimming and removing the trees that are along the side of the street where the electric wires are located. It seems that Pepco has decided to remove or trim every tree that is even close to the wires

It is true that power outages are sometimes caused by falling limbs or entire trees; however, there are many outages caused by old and outdated power lines and electrical equipment. Pepco has done a very poor job over the last two decades maintaining its infrastructure and now has decided to remove many trees rather than engage in a vigorous program of updating its power structure.

A Pepco arborist has applied for permits to remove seven public trees and six private trees in Section 5 that are threatening the power lines. The Council has engaged Section 5's arborist to inspect the designated public trees. Section 5's arborist has agreed that these trees should be removed, if and only if, Pepco removes the large leaders which Pepco says present a danger to the power lines. Once a large leader is removed, the tree can become a safety hazard and then the entire tree will need to be removed.

In addition to Pepco's tree removal program Pepco intends to prune a 7 foot halo in each of the public trees along Section 5's streets to remove any possible hazard to the electric wires. Section 5's arborist has said that if all these limbs are removed to create a halo of this size, the trees will die because they will not have

sufficient leaves and limbs to maintain their structures. Section 5 has filed a formal complaint with the Maryland Public Service Commission asking the Commission to mediate Section 5's complaint concerning the 7 ft. halo. The PSC has notified Pepco of our complaint and has asked Pepco to propose an acceptable alternative. As yet Pepco has not filed a response to our complaint. The Pepco arborist has, however, acceded to our insistence that there be no further pruning of Section 5 trees until this matter is resolved.



JULY 4TH 2011 CELEBRATION

Please join Section 5 residents in front of Kathy and Tim's house at 3807 Williams Lane at 11:00 am July 4, 2011 to sing patriotic songs, recite the pledge and march in the annual Fourth of July parade. Everyone is invited. The parade will end at the corner of Thornapple Pl. and Underwood St. where there will be ponies, games and refreshments.

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 Wednesday. Also, recycling will not be collected on Martin Luther King's Birthday which always falls on a Monday because the County closes the recycling center;

recycling will be collected on the following Wednesday.

Please contact Section 5's manager before you start your home improvement project to verify permitting requirements: 301-986-5481.

CHEVY CHASE LAKE SECTOR PLAN

Montgomery County has begun a development review of Chevy Chase Lake (CCL)--the area where the Capital Crescent Trail intersects Connecticut Avenue--with an eye to increasing the size and height of buildings in anticipation of the arrival of a Purple Line light-rail stop at that location.

As a nearby neighbor of Chevy Chase Lake, Section 5 is concerned about this development because of increased traffic on Connecticut Avenue and diverted traffic onto Brookville Road, and because of the usefulness and convenience of the retail services currently available at Chevy Chase Lake. Section 5 has joined with 22 other neighboring municipalities and civic associations to form the Connecticut Avenue Corridor Committee. The goals of the group are to exchange information and to advocate more effectively with the Planning Board staff and the land owners.

Section 5's manager participated in one of the six one-hour sessions conducted by the County Planning Board on March 12th at the Chevy Chase Library. These sessions were held to allow residents an opportunity to share their thoughts on a vision for the future of Chevy Chase Lake. The County Planning Board will collect the data from these sessions and provide a report to the attendees.

BROOKVILLE ROAD SIDEWALK UPDATE

The Brookville Road sidewalk construction project has been completed. The project involved the constructing of 6 retaining walls and fences, 38 handicap ramps, the shifting of 1,500 linear feet of the Brookville Road roadway to accommodate the sidewalk along the east side of the roadway and the excavating for the sidewalk bed. Now that the sidewalk project has been completed the State has plans to repave Brookville Road between Western Avenue and East West Highway. Section 5 residents use this portion of Brookville Road often and are extremely grateful to the Village for this construction project.

AMERICA'S MOST AFFLUENT NEIGHBORHOODS

The Jonas Brothers' Texas hometown tops the list. Section 5 made the list. The following is a list of the 10 most affluent neighborhoods: 1) Town of Westlake, Tex. median income \$250,000; 2) Village of Kenilworth, Ill. median income \$247,000; 3) Mission Hills, Kans. median income \$243,000; 4) Popponesset Island, Mass. median income \$243,000; 5) Village of Plandome, N.Y. median income \$239,000; 6) Village of Newlett Neck, N.Y. median income \$237,000; 7) Village of Munsey Park, N.Y. median income \$233,000; 8) Village of Plandome Manor, N.Y. median income \$234,000; 9) North Beach, Fla. median income \$233,000; **10) Village of Chevy Chase Section 5, MD. median income \$233,000.**

Courtesy of **FORBES 2/14/11**

PEPCO OUTAGES

When you experience a power outage, you **MUST REPORT** the outage. Do not depend on your neighbor to report the outage. Pepco prioritizes repairs and determines the source of the outage based on the number and location of homes that report an outage. **To report a power outage** with no life-threatening situation call: **1-877-737-2662 and press one.** **To report an emergency life-threatening situation** call **1-877-737-2662 and press two.**

CRIME ALERT

Some time during the night of February 26th someone stole the copper downspouts from La Ferme Restaurant. This was done after the restaurant closed at 10:30pm. The owner reported the theft to the police. It has also been reported that the copper downspouts were stolen from All Saints Episcopal Church at Chevy Chase Circle.

Please Lock Your Vehicles

Montgomery County Police reminds residents to lock their vehicles and put away valuables. Often thieves are able to take articles from cars because they are unlocked with valuables like GPS devices sitting in plain view. This is an open invitation to potential thieves.

HOME SECURITY SURVEYS

Included with this newsletter is a copy of the Montgomery County Public Safety Home Security Survey.



You should use this survey form as a tool to identify areas of security that need attention. Simple remedies can make your home safer and more secure.



U.S. CENSUS REPORT

The U. S. Census Bureau released the results of the 2010 Census for Section 5. The data include Section 5's population and housing totals, race and age. These characteristics and statistics about Section 5 will be available every year, thanks to the American Community Survey (ACS).

To view a summary profile of Section 5 there are numerous resources available to you such as:

- Contact the Partnership and Data Services Program 1-800-238-1374.

- Visit www.census.gov to view and download ACS data
- Download the ACS Handbook, for State and Local Governments.

NEW HOMES FOR OLD BIKES

Bikes for the World (BfW) is a project sponsored by the Washington Area Bicyclist Association whose mission is to collect valuable but unwanted bicycles and related material--parts, tools, and accessories--in the U.S. and deliver them at low cost to community development programs assisting the poor in developing countries. If you have a bike you would like to donate, please bring it to City Bikes, 8401 Connecticut Avenue, 301-652-1777. A \$10 donation is suggested to defray shipping to overseas charity partners. For more information, please visit the BfW website, www.bikesfortheworld.org.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

The Household Hazardous Waste receiving area at the Shady Grove Solid Waste Transfer Station is located in the recycling drop-off section of the Public Unloading Area, 16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood MD 20855. Please use the Car Entrance to the facility. The drop-off is open daily 9 am to 5 pm (Monday - Sunday). Household Hazardous Waste can only be received during these hours -- please do not drop off this material at other times. Batteries are accepted (alkaline batteries may be put in regular trash), fertilizers with herbicides, fluorescent light tubes and bulbs, including CFLs, herbicides, insecticides, mercury containing items, oil-based paints, paint thinners, pesticides, used motor oil and most other oils. For more information visit the website,

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/recycling.

DONATE CHILDREN'S BOOKS TO UNDER-SERVED LOCAL SCHOOLS

Capital Book Share is always looking for new and **very gently used** children's books (absolutely NO textbooks) for kindergarten through 6th grade children attending under-served schools in the metro DC area. Call 01-775-3057 to arrange for a pick-up of your books and to get more information or visit their website at capbookshare.wordpress.com.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT MATTERS

Storm water runoff is created whenever it rains or snows. In undeveloped areas, this runoff is generally harmless as it soaks into the ground and gradually joins local streams, rivers, lakes and estuaries. However, in developed urban and suburban areas such as Section 5, the runoff can be much more destructive. Section 5 has many driveways, streets, rooftops and other impervious surfaces and thus the precipitation doesn't soak into the ground but rather causes erosion.

Storm water from our homes enters Section 5's drainage system and ultimately finds its way to the Chesapeake Bay. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has indicated that restrictions on runoff will be required to meet pollution reduction goals for the Bay. Section 5 residents may help curb the runoff through using on-lot capture and treatment practices.

Some of these storm water management practices are: rain gardens, rain barrels and cisterns, permeable driveways, green roofs, tree plantings,

dry wells and conservation landscaping. Each of these practices hold the storm water on site and reduce the volume of water and pollutants draining into local streams.

Courtesy of Martin's Edition

DO NOT SMOTHER TREES WITH EXCESSIVE MULCH



Adding too much mulch at the base of a tree actually smothers the tree. Excessive mulching is one of the most harmful gardening practices. Section 5 has to pay someone every year to remove excessive mulch from the public trees. PLEASE instruct your gardener not to place too much mulch around the public trees. Mulch should not cover any part of the tree trunk.