



# The Quarterly

MARCH 2010  
VOLUME 45 NUMBER 1

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

## Inside this Issue

Tax Time

Holiday Gift Fund  
Snow Storms

Annual Meeting/Election  
Parking and Driving Courtesy

Charitable Giving

Upcoming Council Meeting  
Building Permits

Icy Sidewalks

Reminder to Dog Owners

Trash Holidays  
Section 5 Going Green

Bike Recycling

U. S. Census

Speed Cameras

Zoning Survey Results

Crime Alert



**TAX TIME  
PLEASE  
WRITE IN:  
"Section 5"**

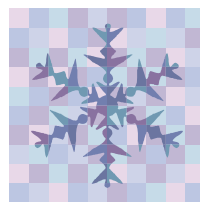
## On your Maryland Tax Return

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 receive its share of income tax revenue 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. 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.

## HOLIDAY GIFT FUND

As always Section 5 residents were very generous this holiday season in their response to the holiday gift fund for the collectors of the town's trash and recyclables. Residents donated \$2,900 and the Council contributed additional money to equal \$5,000. This money was equally divided among the four employees. The men send their heartfelt thanks for your generosity.

## BIG DECEMBER SNOW



Mark Peyton's snow plowers deserve a special thanks for all the hours they spent behind the plow.

The biggest challenge was where to put the snow. The Council voted to hire NZI Construction Co. to bring in its

bobcats and a dump truck to move the snow to the curb and then to haul it away. This cleared our streets curb to curb and made on-street parking much easier.

Montgomery County Sanitation and Recycling, Section 5's trash hauler, was able to get in to collect the recyclables and household trash even though some communities were without trash collection. The Council also voted to pay extra to have household trash collection on Saturday, December 26th the day after Christmas.

Colonial Landscape Co. was on hand with its many shovelers to remove the snow and ice from Section 5's sidewalks. This made it much easier to get around the town.

## AND YET ANOTHER SNOW STORM IN FEBRUARY

Just when we thought that we had already experienced the big snowfall of this winter we were hit again with more snow that we knew how to manage. But again Mark Peyton, NZI Construction Inc., and Michael Cousins with Colonial Landscape, Inc., stepped up and managed to plow, shovel and move the snow so that Section 5 streets and sidewalks were the best cleared in the area. A special thanks goes to these workers.

## SECTION 5 ANNUAL MEETING/ELECTION

Section 5's annual meeting and election will be held April 13, 2010 at the Chevy Chase Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Ave. Peter Gray and Chris Richardson are running for re-election, but any resident may run. Contact Frances

Higgins if you are interested in serving on the Council.

### REQUIESCAT IN PACE

**John Leonard**, a resident of Williams Lane for 50 years, died peacefully at home, Jan. 2, 2010, with his family beside him. He was 97 years old. John's smile and kind words for everyone will be sorely missed. Section 5's sympathies are extended to his family.

On Monday, Jan. 25, 2010, **Charles Mathias** of Leland Street died. Senator Mathias served in the U.S. Senate from Maryland for many years. He and his wife Ann lived for many years on Leland St. Senator Mathias will be sorely missed. Section 5 extends its deepest sympathies to the Mathias family.

On Dec. 10, 2009, **Gordon Ritchie**, 96 years old and a long time resident of Underwood Street, died. Gordon had moved to the Classic Residence on Connecticut Ave. Gordon will be sorely missed.

### PARKING AND DRIVING COURTESY

Please refrain from parking cars opposite other residents' driveways unless there are no other spaces in the area. While this is a common courtesy year-round, drivers who park in these locations when the roads are slick, not only inconvenience their neighbors when they are trying to back out onto the street, but also place their own vehicles in greater jeopardy.

If vehicles are parked illegally, call the police at 301-279-8000. You do **NOT** need to identify yourself to file a report.

As you know, our streets are narrow. Please remember that traffic on the side of the street where no parking is allowed, has the right

of way. That doesn't mean that courtesy doesn't work both ways.

### CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

Section 5's Council has approved new guidelines for charitable contributions. These guidelines specify that residents may make charitable requests in any time of the year, but all grants will be made during the May Council meeting following the approval of the charitable expenditure budget in April.

### UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council meeting will be held March 9, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, 5906 Connecticut Avenue. Everyone is welcome. There is handicap access to the meeting room. Please note that the March meeting will begin at 7:00pm for Mr. Jakubiak's presentation on zoning issues.

### SECTION 5 BUILDING PERMITS

Making construction plans? You need permits from Section 5 as well as Montgomery County before any work may begin. Please contact the Section 5 Manager with any questions at 301-986-5481 or e-mail [manager@chevychasesection5.org](mailto:manager@chevychasesection5.org).

### ICY SIDEWALKS

Although we all hope it will not snow as much as it has the last couple of months, it is very likely we will see more below freezing temperatures. If you find icy patches on the sidewalk in front of your home, please consider sanding the icy surface. Kitty litter is also very effective and environmentally friendly, salt on the other hand can

cause too much salt in the run-off that will eventually end in the bay.

### 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. Also, please make certain to clean up after your dog. Help us keep our sidewalks and yards free of dog waste.

Please considerate of your neighbors and don't allow your dog to remain outside and bark for excessive periods of time. Your dog's barking may not annoy you but it may be troublesome to your neighbors.

### TRASH COMPANY HOLIDAYS

New Year's Day; Memorial Day; July 4th; Labor Day; Thanksgiving; Christmas.

### SECTION 5 GOING GREEN

#### What you can do to help protect our environment:

##### At Home:

- Save energy by moving to more efficient lighting. Change the 5 lights that you use most frequently to CFL bulbs.
- Turn off lights, use dimmers, timers, and motion detectors.
- Save energy and money. Tune your heating and cooling equipment.
- Bury a Smart Thermostat.
- Weatherize your home. See [www.ase.org/taxcredits](http://www.ase.org/taxcredits).

- Look for Energy Star labels when purchasing new appliances.
- Get a home energy audit--most utilities provide this service at no cost.
- Unplug appliances when not in use. TV, VCRs, and IPOD chargers draw "phantom" load power.
- Use your dryer less--get a drying rack or hang a clothes line.
- Replace your washer with a low-energy, low-water use machine.
- Make sure your dishwasher is full before you use it.
- Turn down your water heater thermostat to 120 degrees.
- Take shorter showers and install a water efficient shower head.
- Buy local products.
- Avoid goods with unnecessary packaging.
- See EPA's Green Scapes programs for tips on how to improve your lawn. [www.epa.gov/greenscapes](http://www.epa.gov/greenscapes).
- Tell family and friends that energy efficiency is good for their homes.
- **On the Road:**
- Buy smart--check out EPA's Green Vehicle Guide and Fuel Economy Guide [www.epa.gov/greenvehicles](http://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles)
- Check your tire pressure--under inflated tires reduce fuel economy and lead to higher emissions.
- Use public transportation and carpool as much as possible.
- Walk or bicycle.
- **At the Office:**
- Turn off computers and peripherals at the surge

protector when not in use, such as overnight.

- Kill the lights at quitting time.
- Look for Energy Star Products.
- -Encourage employees to use public transportation and carpool.
- -Let employees work at home.
- **As Citizens:**
- -Tell your elected representatives in the US Congress and Statehouse that climate protection is important to you and you want action.
- Establish an Environmental Committee in Section 5 and identify changes that reduce energy consumption.
- Join marches and public action meetings to let your legislators hear your voice.
- Invest in "Green" Funds and clean energy stocks.

**BIKE RECYCLING**



Bikes for the World 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 United States and deliver them at low cost to community development programs assisting the poor in developing countries. Please visit the BFW website, [www.bikesfortheworld.org](http://www.bikesfortheworld.org) for details.

**U.S. CENSUS COMING**

This month each Section 5 household will receive a census form by mail asking 10 basic questions to determine the number of people living in your home, and each person's name, age, sex, and race. Completed forms are to be mailed back by April 1, 2010. If you do not return the form by that date, census takers may visit you between April and July.

To protect yourself against identity theft, fraud or other scams, ask to see the census taker's official government badge and personal ID before answering any questions. Census takers are not permitted to enter you home, unless you ask them.

The 2010 Census does not collect information about your income, taxes, or any other financial data. Anyone who asks for such information or for your Social Security number is not an official census taker. Do not open any email attachments asking for census information. The U.S. Census Bureau does not ask for information by email.

**SPEED CAMERAS**

The Montgomery County police have reported that the County's SafeSpeed program has resulted in slower vehicle speeds and fewer collisions. Over the past two years fatalities resulting from vehicle collisions in the County have decreased 50% on County roads; however, the number of vehicles has not declined.



County police believe that there is only one

explanation for this fact: speed cameras are improving safety because they are slowing drivers.

Locally, since the beginning of the Chevy Chase Village SafeSpeed Program, the Village Police report that they have seen a 38% reduction in speed and an 8% reduction in collisions on Connecticut Avenue. At the onset of the program collisions dropped on average from 12 to 14 per month to 3 or 4 per month.

According to the Federal Highway Administration, almost one of every three traffic fatalities is related to speeding. The greater the vehicle speed at the time of impact, the more severe the injuries that result. The County's first 11 speed cameras have reduced roadway speeds by 22% and crashes by 25%. Even one-quarter mile from the cameras, crashes are down by 15%. The cameras also are working to deter aggressive drivers and improve safety for other drivers and pedestrians.

Courtesy Martin's Additions newsletter

**CRIME ALERT**

Detectives from the County Police Financial Crimes Section have served an arrest warrant on a man for victimizing a 55-year-old Wheaton woman in a criminal scheme where he and an accomplice posed as licensed home improvement contractors.

An arrest warrant is open and active for Leslie Alberto Irias of Leesburg, VA. The County Police urge residents to choose a construction contractor who is licensed in the State. To verify a contractor's license access [www.montgomerycountymd.gov](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov) and click on "Consumer Protection".

**ZONING SURVEY RESULTS**

Last October, residents were asked to provide the Council with their views on whether or not to enact new zoning regulations. While 57% of respondents were opposed to more restrictive zoning regulations than the County's, 60% were in favor of regulating front yard non-vegetative surfaces (the maximum percentage of the front yard that may be paved).