

Hi

SPRING 2004

Neighbor!



NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS
OF THE ROCK CREEK WOODS COMMUNITY

NewsBriefs

Don't Miss the Neighborhood Plant Sale on April 24th!

Our friend from Behnke's, *Helmut Jaehnigen* who helped us with planting of the young cherry trees and the forsythia bushes along the Black Path, has a greenhouse where he grows many varieties of annuals. He has graciously offered to hold a flower/plant sale here in the neighborhood on **Saturday, April 24** from **8 to 10 a.m.** Rain or shine, the sale will be on the front lawn of the *Good Shepherd Church*. Knowing our neighborhood well, Helmut will bring a good selection of flowers/plants (grown in large 4.5 inch pots) that grow well in partial shade which will include Alyssum, Begonia, Impatiens, Salvia, and Cannas, to name a few. He has also agreed to answer any plant questions you might have.

Forsythia Fund Donations

As of Tuesday, April 6, our RCWCA treasurer, *Milt Socolar*, had received several donations for the "forsythia fund" from the following people in the neighborhood
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The opportunity to get to know your neighbors is one of the appealing aspects of Rock Creek Woods and one of the things that keeps it such a vibrant neighborhood. In this issue, we are featuring a resident who's been a favorite in the neighborhood since its beginning and a family who joined the community in the past year.

Sylvia Goodstein (4015 Rickover) fills every day with enjoyment. She was drawn to the windows, the design, the light and the people in a Goodman neighborhood, so we have been privileged to be part of her life experience since 1959. Sylvia grew up in Brooklyn, NY and moved here "temporarily" in 1940 to work at the Census Bureau. She has progressed through many jobs and experiences from the War Department and the Dept. of Agriculture through raising two adopted children then receiving a masters degree in library science at the Univ. of MD and returning to work as a professional librarian to becoming a massage therapist during her semi-retirement.

Sylvia is drawn to openness on all levels, human as well as natural. She feels she has been supported and nurtured in the Rock Creek Woods environment. She enjoys 2 book clubs, line dancing, a recorder group, her many long time friends and the fun she finds in each day. Sylvia is planning on moving to Leisure World in the coming year. She is looking forward to this as another unique turn in the road of her life. We're happy she'll be right down the road.



—Valerie Campbell

David Brown, Leigh Shamblin and their children, **Hailey**, age six, and **Evan**, age eight, moved into 3945 Rickover last July after owners Rebecca Bridgeman and Dahman Ferhat and their children left to take a foreign service post in Almaty, Kazakhstan. David and Leigh were working in Almaty, and met Rebecca through David's work as the General Services Officer at the USAID Mission to Central Asia. When Rebecca learned that David and Leigh were moving to Washington for training, she asked if they would be interested in renting her house. They agreed.

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You're



WHAT: Wine Tasting
WHERE: Marcis residence at 3926 Rickover Road
WHEN: Friday, May 14th at 8:00pm

Confused by the many different types of Italian wines? Don't know the difference between a Barbaresco or a Chianti or where they come from or what they taste like? Then this tasting may be for you.

Julie and Dick Marcis will be hosting a tasting of selected wines from northern Italy. This function will be an informal and fun review, tasting and discussion of some noteworthy wines from the Tuscany, Piedmont and Veneto regions of Italy. This will include a white wine, four red wines and a sweet dessert wine.

This event is open to everyone and you needn't hesitate attending because you consider yourself a wine novice. Perhaps the only prerequisite is an interest in learning more about wine and/or an appreciation of things Italian.

There is a \$15 per person fee to cover the cost of the wines. Proceeds over costs will be donated to the Rock Creek Woods Association. Call Julie or Dick at 301-962-3233 to reserve your wineglass for this event.

Several members of the Rock Creek Woods community have expressed concern about persistently barking dogs. All dogs bark and they do so for a variety of reasons, among which are boredom, lack of exercise, lack of attention and/or hunger. However, barking for whatever reason becomes a nuisance when it persistently occurs or continues to such a degree or extent that it unreasonably interferes with a neighbor's quiet enjoyment or use of property.

What can one do about a neighbor's dog or stray dog that is making excessive noise?

The first course of action should be to talk to your neighbor directly to raise your concerns and discuss any possible solutions. Often people may not be aware that a problem exists, especially if the dog is barking while they are out. A non-confrontational approach works best. You may want to suggest temporary use of a citronella collar or anti-bark collar that are available from many vets and pet shops.

If together you and the dog owner cannot solve the problem, the next step is to register a complaint with the Animal Services Division of the Montgomery County Police Department by calling 240-773-5900. It is important to give Animal Services as many details as possible, including: the address of the house where

Dealing with Barking Dogs



the dog is kept; the frequency and description of noise; any discernible pattern (for example, does the dog bark at night or while the owner is at work?);

how long the nuisance has been occurring. Animal Services Division will send an Officer out to talk with the owner of the offending dog. If the barking or howling persists, call Animal Control again and request they mail you an affidavit, which is a request for issuance of Order to Correct or Civil Citation.

The Affidavit requests specific information about the offending dog's behavior. You identify yourself and sign the affidavit (under penalty of perjury). Animal Services will investigate the formal complaint and, if they find sufficient justification, can serve an Order to Correct on the owner of the dog. If the Order is not complied with, a \$100 penalty can be imposed on the owner. This will usually take care of the problem but in more serious, ongoing circumstances, a dog owner can be summoned to local court.

The bottom line is that we all must cooperate to live in a peaceful community. Diplomacy should always be the first course of action. But if diplomacy fails, there are actions you can take to remedy barking dogs.

*Introductions
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David and Leigh met in North Carolina where they still own a home. In August 1992, before their children were born, they took the step that led to their "international postings". They each made a list headed "Everything I want to do Before I Die." The entry that topped both their lists was "living and working overseas." They considered whether they should do something about that right away or wait until they'd had children and were more established in their careers and decided they should act immediately. They ultimately accepted an offer from the MBA Enterprise Corps, a kind of "peace corps" for MBAs. Leigh and David were assigned to Slovakia as volunteers where Leigh worked in a fire extinguisher plant and David worked in local schools as an English instructor. In late 1994 they returned to North Carolina where Evan and Hailey were born.

The family moved back overseas

Rock Creek Recipes

from your neighbors and friends



Betsy Binckes will be collecting recipes from the neighborhood to share and eventually publish in a neighborhood cookbook. If you have a special recipe you'd like to share, contact Betsy at 301-946-5902 or e-mail jbinckes@aol.com.

The following recipes are from Sarah Eresian.

Mohambra (red pepper dip)

2 pounds red bell peppers
(about 4 medium)
1 to 2 T canola oil
1 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup chopped walnuts
1 T ground cumin
1/8 teaspoon ground red pepper
3 garlic cloves, minced
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon honey
pita crisps

Cut bell peppers in half lengthwise, discarding seeds and membranes. Place pepper halves, skin sides up, on a foil-lined baking sheet; flatten with hand. Broil 3 inches from heat for about 12 minutes or until blackened. Place in a zip-top plastic bag, seal. Let stand 15 minutes. Place peppers in a food processor and process until smooth.

Place a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat and add oil, onion, and next 4 ingredients (onion through garlic); sauté 8 minutes. Stir in bell pepper puree, salt, and honey; cook 5 minutes. Cool. Place onion mixture in a food processor and process until smooth. Serve with pita crisps.

Notes: There are all kinds of variations to this recipe. I like to add peeled steamed eggplant when everything goes in the food processor. If you use eggplant, add some lemon juice.

You can vary the dip according to your own taste by adding more garlic, lemon juice, a drizzle of olive oil, fresh hot red pepper, cayenne, salt, black pepper, etc. If you have

Middle Eastern ingredients available, the traditional recipe calls for pomegranate molasses in place of the honey.

Bottled roasted red peppers [drained very well] can be used in this recipe although it tastes much, much better with fresh roasted peppers.

Keeps in the refrigerator for 1 week in airtight container.

Pita Crisps

Split pitas, lightly drizzle olive oil on top.

Sprinkle on any or all or none of the following: salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder, paprika, minced parsley, etc. etc.

Bake on cookie sheet at 350 for 12-15 minutes. They should be crisp and lightly toasted. Let cool completely, break into bite-size crisps and store in an airtight container.

to Kazakhstan in 2001. David worked in the Management Services office at USAID and Leigh was Dean of the MBA program at the University of International Business in Almaty and eventually Chief of Party of EDNET, a project focused on capacity building in business and economics for teachers throughout central Asia.

During their stay in Rock Creek Woods David has been a stay-at-home dad and has had more opportunities than Leigh to meet the neighbors. Leigh has been completing the training program in USAID's private enterprise office and at the same time, her doctorate in adult education. Both Evan and Hailey speak Russian by virtue of their time in Kazakhstan and will soon have the opportunity to use their knowledge of the Cyrillic alphabet to learn a new language when the family moves to Macedonia this August for a likely stay of three or four years.

David says they've never lived in a place like Rock Creek Woods and were pleasantly surprised when they arrived. They joke about having a choice between light and privacy in a house with so many glass walls and the \$415 heating bill they had this winter when David was away working a six-week contract in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and they heated the downstairs for the visit of their friend Galya from Almaty. Galya was astonished, coming from a country where the houses are built with thick stone and masonry walls, that people here can charge so much for their houses when they don't even build them well enough to keep out the cold!

David and Leigh have thoroughly enjoyed their time in Rock Creek Woods and both say that everyone has been fantastic and want to express their gratitude for such good neighbors.

—Barbara Everett

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hood: **Pati Young, Dolores Battle, John and Barbara Everett and May and Joe Nakamura. Cordie and Neil Goldstein** also made a donation to cover the planting fee for the ten bushes that were put in at the end of March. These generous donations have covered the complete cost of this Spring's planting with some money left over to be used for the planting the last ten forsythia bushes to be put at the bottom of the Black Path this coming fall or next Spring. Any more donations for the next planting are most welcome.

Black Path Clean-up

The **Black Path** clean-up day went amazingly well. The weather was perfect, there was a nice turn out and even though many of us were too busy to eat too much, the brunch items served by members of the church were wonderful. Specific people from the neighborhood who deserve a great big thank you include **Carla Haner, Darryn and Steve Miller, Judy Kelly and Bill Karas, May Nakamura, Gregory Arms, Kathy Gillard, Dolores Battle, Paul Kaufman** and a couple of new neighbors **David Brown and Don Byrne**. The whole project was a cooperative effort amongst members of the Church of the Brethren, members of the Templo Rosa de Saron, members of the Rock Creek Montessori School and the above mentioned locals. Take a Spring walk from the top to the bottom and all around the Black Path to see the great results! Thanks to all who participated.

—Cordie Goldstein

Thanks from the Local Community



December 9, 2003

Rock Creek Woods Civic Association
c/o Ms. Kelly Pelz
4009 Ingersol Drive
Wheaton, MD 20902

Dear Ms. Pelz,

I'm writing to you on behalf of the Community Based Shelter to thank you [and members of your community] for the generous donation that you brought to our shelter. The toiletry items and cosmetics that you brought to the shelter were greatly appreciated by the residents.

The Community Based Shelter serves the homeless population of Montgomery County and it gives us great pleasure and pride to see that our community is caring enough to reach out to those in need. Donations from thoughtful, generous people are necessary for the success of the Community Based Shelter. Thank you for helping us in our endeavors.

Sincerely,
Priscilla Fox-Morrill
Director of Shelter Services

A NOTE FROM KELLY:

Community Ministry is already asking people to contribute to their annual drive to supply **school materials** for kids whose families will have a hard time affording them. They are asking for the following items: *back packs, boxes (or otherwise) of pencils, wide-lined paper, notebooks, rulers, erasers, etc.* These items can be left on the black bench on Kelly's porch through June and she will deliver them to Women's Interfaith Clothing Center. Also personal hygiene items, such as *tooth brushes and tooth paste, cosmetics, combs, brushes, soaps* can be left there and they will taken to the shelter on Wilkins Lane or to Shepherd Table. **Thank you!**