

Hi

WINTER 2005

Neighbor!



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

NewsBriefs

Cherry Tree Report

We will be adopting the same preservation program for young cherry trees that has been used successfully by



Kenwood. We will be using Chemlawn to spray our trees twice in the Spring, one month apart. A flyer will be issued in March by **Dave Roth**. This is a voluntary program and residents will have an opportunity to indicate whether or not they want their trees sprayed but everyone is urged to participate so we can save as many trees as possible and maintain the beauty of the neighborhood.



Thanksgiving in February

This year, *Thanksgiving in February*, sponsored by Community Ministries, will be on **February 1**. Participating restaurants donate a portion of their profits from that day to local organizations that feed the needy. Several restaurants in the Kensington/Wheaton area are participating including

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Roseanne Clausen, *President of the Rock Creek Woods Civic Association*, announced that on December 15, 2004 our neighborhood was designated **Rock Creek Historic District** and was entered into the National Register of Historic Places, a division of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior. Two other Maryland communities designed by Charles Goodman, Hammond Woods (Wheaton) and 7906-7914 Takoma Avenue (Takoma Park) were also listed in the National Register on that date.

Roseanne has received a certificate for the neighborhood which indicates that we are listed in the National Register. According to the letter she received, certificates are also available for individual homes by calling 410-514-7644 and speaking to Jan Gowing.

It's Official!

At the most recent *Rock Creek Woods Association* meeting there was a suggestion that the recognition be

National Register Update

added to the sign at the entrance to the neighborhood and that possibility will be explored.

In addition to the prestige of the listing, residents are eligible for a tax credit on renovation/restoration projects. For those interested in the tax credit, the application process is described on the web site for the Maryland Historical Trust: <http://www.marylandhistoricaltrust.net>.

Neil and Heather Cox are the first to apply for the credit and will be sharing their experiences with other members of the community to help find ways to advise residents on navigating the complex process. The RCWCA hopes to get together with the other Goodman communities and invite staff from the MHT office to come and answer questions. We'll notify everyone if that meeting takes place.

The primary focus of the tax credit program is on maintaining the original look of the houses. Because funds are limited, the standards to qualify are set fairly high. The minimum cost of an eligible project is \$5,000.

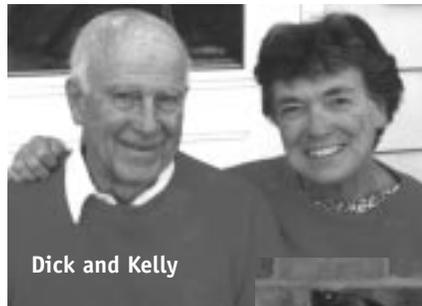
You can read about the history of our neighborhood and why it is considered historically significant by going to the Maryland Historical Trust website listed above and clicking the "What's New" section at the bottom of the home page. Congratulations, everyone!



Getting to Know You

Continuing our regular feature on getting to know your neighbors... we introduce some faces you may have seen and a few newcomers. Say hello!

What you first notice when you meet them is the mischief and twinkle in the eyes of both **Dick** and **Kelly Pelz**. Long a fixture in the Rock Creek Woods neighborhood, the Pelzes moved into 4009 Ingersol when there were only 5 or 6 houses in the neighborhood. They hadn't intended to buy a house since they were only "sticking around" another year. But Kelly found out that you could buy a house for \$25k, 10% down, free membership at Pleasantview Pool and any changes you wanted to make to your house construction as part of the deal. A favorite neighborhood pastime was getting together with your neighbors, supervising the building of the rest of the houses and picking up stray bricks in the evening to make brick and board bookcases for your own house.



Dick and Kelly



Maeve and Eamon

Kelly grew up in a suburb of Chicago, the youngest of two brothers and a sister, and graduated from the University of Chicago where she met Dick. Dick, his twin and two older brothers moved a lot but settled in Westchester County, a suburb of New York City. Dick began college at Northwestern U., but was interrupted by the war. After 20 months of flying a twin engine C47 with passengers and freight, he returned to complete his education and begin law school at the University of Chicago. After finishing law school, Dick and Kelly moved to Seattle with the first of their 5 children.

Politics beckoned and the family moved to Montgomery County so Dick could work for Seattle Congressman Don Magnuson. So began a life-long commitment to politics and kids for both Dick and Kelly. Kelly was active in all three school levels in the PTA, a volunteer for Head Start for 7 years and editor for the Head Start newsletter for 6 years. Kelly is well-known in Democratic circles, first as President of the Women's Suburban Democratic Club, then as an assistant to Neal Potter for 9 years when he was on the County Council and then as County Executive. She was a Mondale delegate to the '84 convention and has worked

tirelessly on Democratic campaigns and as a precinct chair.

Dick continued in the political environment with a job in the Interior Department under Secretary Stuart Udall as the top lawyer specializing in the sale of electric power from government dams. He transferred to the Department of Energy, but resigned in '86 to protest the Reagan Administration proposal to privatize the public power program. Retirement has provided time for Dick's interest in juvenile problems in Montgomery County, serving for 9 years as a member of the Juvenile Court Committee and its successor, the Commission on Juvenile Justice. He has also served 7 years as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, CASA, working with two different boys.

The Pelzes have recently celebrated their 80th birthdays and 50 years in Montgomery County. They plan to move to Seattle later in the year. This sparkingly duo will be truly missed.

We have new neighbors at 4015 Rickover Road. Sylvia Goodstein moved to Leisure World and her house was sold to **Cathleen Horan** and **Rob Smith** who are the parents of **Eamon** and **Maeve**, 21-month old twins.

Both Cathleen and Rob originally

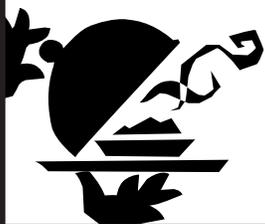
hail from New York — he from Westchester and she from Queens — but they have spent the last six years living in D.C. where Rob is a Commander in the Coast Guard. He is currently working in Congressional Affairs. Cathleen is a clinical social worker who works part-time in a substance abuse clinic in Silver Spring. The couple also have two cats who share the house. They have just completed extensive work on their backyard to make it more child-friendly. They added a brick patio, steps on both sides and a play area with wood chips. They also had a stone retaining wall built around the parking area in front.

New landscaping is beginning to take shape and a variety of birds are gathering at 4005 Rickover. This is just what **Neil Klopfenstein** had in mind in moving to Rock Creek Woods. He'd looked in the neighborhood before and when the Hudson house became available he decided it was time to leave apartment living in Adams Morgan for some outdoor space. His commute to the State Department isn't too bad and he likes the community feeling here.

Welcome to bird watching Goodman-style, Neil.

Rock Creek Recipes

from your neighbors and friends



Having a meal at the Everett's is always a treat and Barbara and John entertain with considerable aplomb. Their meals are always an adventure in good eating. When Barbara served me her Baked Tomato Spaghetti I was amazed at how satisfying and wonderful this simple-to-prepare dish was. She served it with a green salad and white wine. I have repeated this recipe numerous times and it has been well received by all members of my family.

While surfing the internet for recipes one day I found a similar dish, Fusilli with Roasted Tomatoes, Asparagus, Shrimp and Garlic. This recipe was found at www.recipecotage.com/pasta/fusilli-tomatoes.html and is a nice variation on Barbara's dish. Because I am always trying to find some interesting vegetarian dishes to share with my daughter and son-in-law, I left out the shrimp without affecting the quality. Any pasta can be used and I personally prefer linguini.
—Betsy Binckes

If you have a special recipe you'd like to share, contact Betsy at 301-946-5902 or e-mail jbinckes@aol.com.

Barbara Everett's Baked Tomato Spaghetti

12 medium size Roma tomatoes, firm and ripe
Salt and pepper
3 to 6 cloves of garlic, minced
1/2 cup chopped parsley
1/2 cup olive oil
1 lb. spaghetti
2 Tablespoons butter, at room temperature
1/2 cup fresh whole or 2 tablespoons crumbled dry basil leaves
Grated parmesan cheese

Cut tomatoes in half lengthwise and place cut sides up in a 9" x 13" baking pan or dish. Sprinkle lightly with salt and pepper. Mix garlic,

1/3 cup parsley, and 2 tablespoons olive oil: pat mixture over cut sides of tomatoes. Drizzle 2 tablespoons of olive oil over tomatoes. Bake in a 425 degree oven until browned on top, 60 to 70 minutes.

In a 5 to 6 quart pan, bring about 3 quarts of water to a boil on high heat. Add spaghetti and cook, uncovered, until barely tender to bite, 8 to 9 minutes. Drain.

In a warm large serving bowl, combine butter, remaining parsley and oil, basil, and 4 tomato halves. Remove and discard most of skin from the 4 halves; coarsely mash. Add pasta and mix. Add remaining baked tomatoes and pan juices. Gently mix, adding salt, pepper, and cheese to taste. Makes 9 cups, or 6 to 8 servings.

An Invitation

Tasting of Sparkling Wines

WHAT: Tasting of Sparkling Wines
WHERE: Marcis residence at 3926 Rickover Rd.
WHEN: Friday, March 11th at 8:00pm

Sparkling wines are not just for the holidays but anytime!

Julie and Dick Marcis will be hosting a tasting of selected sparkling wines from various countries. If you're like most people, you buy a sparkling wine maybe once a year for the holidays or for some other special occasion. But sparkling wines are not just for the holidays — they are fun to serve and enjoy throughout the year.

This event will consist of a tasting and comparison of various sparkling wines, including a classic Champagne as well as a Cava from Spain,



Franciacorta and Prosecco from Italy and a California sparkling 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 sparkling wines and/or an appreciation of the finer things in life.

Attendance is limited to 14 people so reservations are required. There is also a \$15 per person fee to cover the cost of the wines. Any net proceeds will be donated to the Rock Creek Woods Association.

Call **Julie or Dick at 301-962-3233** to reserve your wineglass for this event.

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Hollywood East, China Gourmet, and Nova Europa. For a list visit: www.community_ministrymc.org.

Gather a group of friends, go out for dinner or lunch and help feed the hungry at the same time!

Snow Removal

Please be aware that Montgomery County requires residents to clear snow and ice from their sidewalks within 24 hours of the end of a snowfall.



Pedestrian safety is a growing problem in our County and is an even worse problem when sidewalks filled with snow and ice force our schoolchildren to walk in the street and force our seniors and disabled to stay indoors altogether. Thank you for your cooperation!

Book Group

For many years now, a wonderful book club has been meeting in our neighborhood. They meet once a month at **Ruth Gruenberg's** house (4018 Ingersol Dr.). The next meeting is on Wednesday, Feb. 9. The book to be discussed is *When We Were Orphans* by Ishiguro. Contact Ruth at 301-942-8707 if you are interested in attending.

Creatures Invade Rock Creek Woods!



A Halloween party was held for some of the neighborhood's smallest residents at the Kennedy's. *Back Row (l to r)* Claudia Deane holding Marina Deane-Gonzalez, Kathy Kennedy holding Lindsay Kennedy, Kaylynn Miller, Mary Kate Kennedy, Kendall Cox. *Front row (l to r)* Eamon Smith and Maeve Smith.

Nature's Corner: Nancy's Garden and the Black Path

"If winter comes, can spring be far behind?!"

It's now time to mark your 2005 calendars for the annual **Black Path Spring Work Day**.

We are going to schedule it fairly early this year — **Saturday, April 2 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Hopefully, it will be warm enough for us to get a lot done so that the area will be ready for the forsythia to bloom, the irises to start popping up and the weeping cherry to open its blossoms for the first time.

All are welcome to participate as people from the neighborhood work together with members of the *Good Shepherd Church*, families from the *Rock Creek Montessori School* and



members of the *Templo Rosa de Saron* congregation.

As in past years, items that will be needed for the clean-up will be rakes, clippers, a chain saw or two, a couple of wheel barrows, and of course, it's always good to wear some kind of garden or work gloves.

The work is really a lot of fun and well worth the time and effort put into it. If you have any questions about this annual event, please contact **Cordie Goldstein, 301-949-9565**.