



EBCA

**EAST BETHESDA
CITIZENS ASSOCIATION**

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

WWW.EBCA.ORG

JANUARY 2011

REPRESENTING THE 1200 HOUSEHOLDS NORTH OF EAST-WEST HIGHWAY, SOUTH OF JONES BRIDGE ROAD, EAST OF WISCONSIN AVENUE AND WEST OF COLUMBIA COUNTRY CLUB.

President's Notebook

By Greg Volz, President

Welcome to the first edition of EBCA's Neighborhood News for 2011. I hope you and your family enjoyed the holiday season.

We kick off the new year with our first General Membership meeting which will be held on Wednesday, January 19th at 7 p.m. in room C-102 at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. We will discuss the MCPS update, the latest news on the National Navy Medical Center realignment, and the Chevy Chase Lake project. You will also have a chance to win a stylish "East Bethesda" t-shirt if you correctly answer the trivia question at the end of the meeting. Come out to the meeting and show your support for EBCA. This is a volunteer organization and you can make a big difference in making this neighborhood association a valuable resource for the 1,200 homes in our area. Come to the meeting, introduce yourself, meet the officers and your neighbors.

The General Membership meeting schedule for the remainder of this fiscal year is Wednesday, March 16th and

Wednesday, May 18th. The May meeting will include our annual elections for new officers. If you are interested in pursuing a position on the executive committee, please e-mail president@ebca.org or come by any of the next General Membership meetings to learn more about the association. All meetings will be held at Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School as a result of the closing of Lynbrook Recreation Center.

If you can spare some time now, we need a newsletter editor pronto! Jay Briar has done a terrific job serving as our newsletter editor for several years. He's ready to pass the typewriter on to another resident. The job entails editing the articles, page layout, maintaining the editorial calendar, and keeping track of the ads. Feel free to contact Jay if you have any questions about the position. Training can be provided. He can be reached at newsletter@ebca.org. This is his final newsletter, so we need a new editor soon!

Continued on page 3...

School Boundaries

By Monica Hayes,
Education Chair

In November 2010, the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Board of Education (BOE) made several decisions impacting our community.

Planning for a new middle school in the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Cluster will begin with a site selection committee this winter and a feasibility study this spring. The middle school site selection and feasibility studies will be factored into the superintendent's fall 2011 recommendations to the BOE for the FY 2013-2018 Capital Budget for design and construction of the new middle school. The boundaries for the new middle school will be developed one and one half years prior to the middle school opening, with community involvement from all cluster elementary schools and Westland Middle School.

Pending further study, the sixth grade students at Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools will remain assigned to their respective elementary schools for the 2011-2012 school year, and MCPS will develop recommendations to strengthen their academic program. MCPS will develop additional options for

Continued on page 2...

**General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, January 19th, B-CC**

**Parks Cleanup
Saturday, April 30th**

Continued from page 1...

providing a middle school program to the sixth grade students of Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase elementary schools beginning in the 2012–2013 school year for a BOE decision, including the feasibility of relocation of the elementary schools' sixth graders to Westland Middle School.

An elementary school boundary study will be conducted this spring with community involvement from Bethesda, Chevy Chase, North Chevy Chase Elementary Schools, Rosemary Hills Primary School, and representatives from the communities of East Bethesda and Paddington Square, to review the school assignments of Bethesda, Chevy Chase, North Chevy Chase Elementary Schools and Rosemary Hills Primary School and to determine the size of additions needed at these schools. The pairings of Rosemary Hills Primary School with Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase Elementary Schools will be maintained and the boundary study will incorporate the future reorganization of Chevy Chase and North Chevy Chase from Grades 3–6 to Grades 3–5. The partial pairing of Bethesda Elementary School grades 3–5 with Rosemary Hills Primary School K–2 for East Bethesda and Paddington Square communities will be addressed in the boundary review, and school assignments for Bethesda Elementary School will be simplified. This will likely result in new elementary school assignments for our community. Implementation dates of the new assignments may need to wait until additions have been completed. Based on the outcome of the elementary school boundary study, a request will be made in the FY 2013–2018 Capital Budget for design and construction of elementary school additions.

Questions? Email Monica Hayes at education@ebca.org.

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Parks Clean-Up: Saturday, April 30th

By Kevin Kraus, Vice President

This winter has been hard on the whole neighborhood, including our parks. Many limbs have fallen from the trees and the melting snow has revealed a variety of detritus on the ground. Your help is especially needed at this time. On Saturday, April 30th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. we will gather to clean the parks of what remains. We will pick up trash, trim broken branches and clean-up flower beds in all three parks and the Lynbrook playground. Several full-grown azaleas will be planted along the drainage ditch between the ball field and the school, an area usually overgrown with vines. For all these projects we need your help. Please come to the old Lynbrook Recreation Center and bring rakes, shovels and wheelbarrows. All volunteers will receive an EBCA T-shirt. RSVP to Kevin Kraus at 301 656 2813 or Kevinkraus@usa.net, especially if you wish to work at Chase and Cheltenham. Advance contact facilitates organizing the groups. Thanks!



John Hughes

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Reward. Do you know of any complaints raised about the dangerous condition of the sidewalk or a small crack in the sidewalk in front of 4327 Kentbury Drive, Bethesda, MD? Please e-mail me at kentburysidewalk@gmail.com or call me at (240) 543-9460, if you have information about this sidewalk or small crack in the sidewalk.

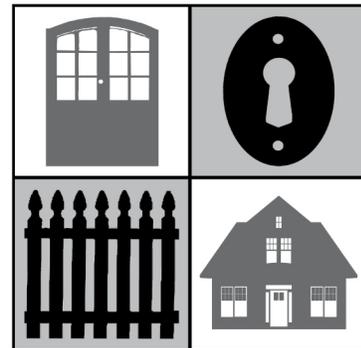
President's Notebook

Continued from page 1...

The EBCA Yard Sale is coming soon. This has been a great neighborhood event in past years. Look for more information on our website, www.ebca.org, and future newsletters. Our tentative date is Saturday, May 21st. We will hold the event on the blacktop at Lynbrook School. If you would like to volunteer to help organize the event, please e-mail president@ebca.org.

We are working on improving our website and providing a PayPal service to help make your dues payment a little easier. Please check out our website, www.ebca.org, for new developments. The membership form is on the back page of this newsletter. Please fill it out and send in your check for \$15 per voting member of your family. Remember, you must be a dues paying member to vote in the election on May 18th. Your financial support helps keep this association going.

Marcie Sandalow



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EBCA - Membership
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EBCA will not share your contact information with anyone outside of the organization.

Inside This Issue

President's Notebook..... 1
 School Boundary Study..... 1
 Parks Report 3

**Park Cleanup Day
 Saturday, April 30th, 8-1**

We will be cleaning up Cheltenham, Chase and Lynnbrook Parks, and any time you can spare will be most welcome. Groups will gather at Cheltenham and Lynnbrook at 8 a.m. to spread mulch and pick up trash and brush so bring rakes, shovels and wheelbarrows. Please PSVP to Kevin Kraus at 301 656 2813 or kevinkraus@usa.net. Advance contact facilitates organizing the groups. Thanks!