

# Hi

SPRING 2017

# Neighbor!



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

## NewsBriefs

### GOODMAN BLUEPRINT UPDATE

Last fall all original drawings in the Rock Creek Woods collection were digitized and are now fully available on the Library of Congress online catalog.

This spring we placed an additional order for eight blueprints, including elevation drawings for Starview, Woodview and Brookview models, as well as two section drawings showing Goodman's 'signature' interiors. Unfortunately there are no blueprints for the Pineview model in the Goodman Archives.

As you know scans for five blueprints have already been delivered. But afterwards, the architects group determined that it would be good to order a second sheet of alternative elevations for each house model. This made sense—naturally most residents will want graphics of what corresponds most closely to their own house.

When the complete set of 8 blueprints become available on the LOC catalog, we hope to put up images and links for download on the RCW web site. —Motoko Lezec

*One of the benefits of living in RCW is the strong sense of community. We pride ourselves on being an open, welcoming group of people in a world where that is hard to find. Part of that effort involves giving you an introduction to the new(er) neighbors. Please say hi next time you see them and make them feel at home.*

**U**rsula Scott purchased 3916 Rickover in mid-2015, gradually fixed it up to her liking and moved in August 2016. Ursula actually has been part of our neighborhood all this past year, getting acquainted with people and taking part in our luncheon group.

Ursula and her husband, Bruce, came to Washington from Texas in 2003. He worked for the Treasury Department and was reassigned here.

## Welcome!

We're glad you're here.

Ursula, trained as a librarian, found work with the library of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Tragically, Bruce died of an aneurysm in 2006. They had been married 35 years. Alone, Ursula thought of downsizing and moving into a condo. While exploring possibilities she saw a Goodman house in Hillandale, fell in love with it and decided that apartment living is not for her. She would stay put until she could find just the right Goodman house, a home from which she could see nature and be part of it.

In 2014 Ursula began a serious house search and, a year later, found the Socolar's house. The large windows were a major attraction. So was the long sloping garden with the tree-lined little brook at the back.

For her home office, Ursula chose a room in the rear of the house with her desk placed under a window, enabling her to look out at this view.

Ursula plans to build a grape arbor over the patio for shade in the summer and will make wreaths from the vines. Hopefully the birds will spare her a few grapes for her table. Once she has settled-in, Ursula wants to share her new home with a cat or kitty. Or maybe even a dog.



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Ursula was born in Freiburg, Germany and came to the USA with her mother in the mid-1950's. They lived in Texas until her mother, a medical doctor and scientific researcher, was invited to join the faculty of Temple University in Philadelphia. Ursula herself studied at Temple, earning a BA in sociology. She went on to the Drexel Institute of Technology to study for an MS in library science. In the 1970's Ursula married Bruce Scott, then in the Air Force. As the Vietnam War wound down, Bruce left the military and took a position with the U.S. Treasury in Washington, DC.

Ursula likes to travel. This September, she drove around New England, including a stay at Cape Cod. On her "big bucket list" is exploring Butan, which is in the Himalayas just east of Nepal. Closer to home, Ursula is an active member of the River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation. She volunteers regularly for Shepherd's Table and similar charities.

—Tom Klein

## Andrew Feldman and Gillian Ruttkay

Meet our new neighbors, **Andrew Feldman** and **Gillian Ruttkay** who recently moved into 3612 Spruell, former home of Sean and Agnes Hogan. Andrew and Gillian had been apartment dwellers; now they wanted to purchase a home. They visited an open house in Silver Spring which was being given by our former neighbor-realtor Judy Kelly. When Andrew and Gillian told Judy why they didn't care for this house and explained what they were looking for, Judy said that they should consider her old home on Spruell Drive which just happened to be on the market. They did so. After a five-minute look-around they signed on the dotted line, and here they are!

Gillian explained that apart from the open layout and large windows, she and Andrew sensed that Rock Creek Woods is a community of like-minded people who hold the same values towards their neighborhood—a place where people know each other and help each other. They quickly developed a sense that their RCW house is really a home.

Andrew and Gillian both grew up in the DC area,

Gillian in Garret Park, Andrew in Potomac. They both went to Elon University in North Carolina, but four years apart. After college, they both chose to settle back in the DC area where they grew-up to be near family and friends.

Gillian has been an elementary school teacher since graduating Elon, presently teaching 2nd grade at Woodacres Elementary in Bethesda. Andrew trained in accounting and corporate finance and now is director of a recruiting firm where he helps companies find suitable accounting and finance staff.

Andrew and Gillian got to know each other through mutual friends. For the past three years, they have been a couple. They are now formally engaged and will marry in July. "School teachers can only marry in the summer," says Gillian.

After school hours, Gillian tutors school children up through the 8th grade. She is also designing an on-line tutoring platform (with the help of a programmer located in Turkey). This platform will bring together parents seeking tutors for their children and teachers who are looking for students.

Andrew looks forward to heading his own business one day. When he has free time, Andrew plays golf and occasionally tennis. Andrew and Gillian both like to travel and during the last school winter break, went to Amsterdam and Copenhagen. This summer they are planning a special trip—a honeymoon in Portugal.

—Tom Klein



## Tony and Lisa Kim and family

Meet Tony and Lisa Kim, their children Libby, Gavin, Aidan and Ella, and also Teddy, the family cockapoo. They are renting the Letizia home at 4007 Ingersol. Like Andrew Letizia, Tony is a military medical physician (Air Force; Andrew is Navy). The Letizias and Kims connected on a website where homeowners in the service can offer their home for sale or rent. Lisa and Tony wanted to live in a neighborhood with a true sense of community, not far from the Walter Reed medical campus. For them, Rock Creek Woods was just the ticket. To make this a perfect match, the Kims wanted a 3-year lease, which is exactly the time that Andrew and Jennie Letizia will be in Ghana.

Tony, born in Seoul, Korea, came to the USA as a 3-year old with his parents and younger sister. He grew up in California and, after graduating from the Air Force Academy in the early 1990's, Tony became an Aerospace Physiologist at Offutt Air Force Base near Omaha, NE. He met Lisa during his time in Nebraska.

Tony eventually decided to become a physician. His first assignment was in CA where he trained in Family Medicine. From there Tony was assigned to Osan Air Base, Korea, and then Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, where he specialized in Flight Medicine. He was responsible for assessing flight crews' fitness to fly and was a general physician to all members of the flying community.

Tony's interest later shifted to Emergency Medicine.

Upon completion of training, the Kims moved overseas again to Osan AB, Korea, allowing Tony and his family to connect with his grandmother and extended family. His next assignment took him to Germany where, for the last three years, he was the Medical Director of the Emergency Department. Tony just finished that tour of duty and is now stationed in Bethesda

teaching Emergency Medicine at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, his alma mater. He expects to retire from the Air Force when this assignment is completed in the summer of 2019.

Lisa grew up in Jeffers, Minnesota, graduated from Augustana College (Sioux Falls, SD) and became a kindergarten teacher in Bellevue, Nebraska. That is where Lisa's and Tony's paths crossed—they both had joined the young adult program at the Lutheran Church in Bellevue. Recognizing they had much in common, they started dating and on the 4th of July, Tony proposed to Lisa at sunset on the cliffs near Palos Verdes, CA. Tony began medical school and Lisa continued teaching Kindergarten in the year that followed until they were married in 1996.

Their first child, Libby, was born while Tony was in medical school. Gavin's birth followed two years later. While stationed in Korea, the couple adopted a Korean baby, whom they named Aidan. Their family became complete in April 2005 with the adoption of Ella, also born in Korea. She was flown from Seoul to Seattle by the adoption agency. Lisa and Tony, who were living in Alaska by that time, flew



on one day's notice from Anchorage to Seattle to receive her.

Lisa has continued her career as an educator since marrying Tony. She taught preschool until Libby was born and then taught English to preschool children in Korea. Beginning with the move to Alaska, Lisa home-schooled the children until they reached high school.

Now that they are settled into RCW, Gavin is enrolled in the 11th grade at Einstein High School. He is an accomplished swimmer and plans to continue with a local team. Aidan and Ella are attending Christ Episcopal School in Rockville. Ella is a 6th grader and Aidan is a 8th grader. Libby graduated high school this past June and rather than enter college directly, she accepted a State Department scholarship via the National Security

Language Initiative, to spend a year in Korea studying language and culture. She looks forward to mastering the Korean language and becoming better acquainted with the culture of her father's family. She will live with a host family and attend a Korean school, being fully immersed in the language.

Tony and Lisa have a variety of interests. In addition to her love of

teaching, Lisa enjoys cooking and being outdoors. She has been involved with "Mother's of Preschoolers" groups, offering a lending ear and hand to women in that stage of life. She hopes to recertify as an educator and return to the classroom. Lisa also looks forward developing new friendships.

Tony, having completed 8 marathons over the years, would welcome the challenge to train again and complete a local run. Tony's interests also include Global/International Health, Humanitarian Assistance, and Disaster Relief. He hopes to work in these areas after he retires.

With their regular moves, the Kim Family has embraced the joys and challenges of each location. Not only are the travels and foods fascinating, but the people they have met and the friendships developed are what have impacted them most significantly.

Tony and Lisa value community and they knew right away that Rock Creek Woods was a friendly community when they visited in May. They are looking forward to getting to know people through church, school, and the Rock Creek Woods neighborhood.

—Tom Klein

## In Memoriam

### Judith Klein 1925-2016



**Judith Klein**, a Rock Creek Woods resident for 51 years, passed away Dec. 13, 2016 from respiratory difficulties and congestive heart failure. She also suffered from dementia.

Judith moved to Rock Creek Woods in December 1965 with her husband, Tom, three teen-aged children from her first marriage (Michael, Margaret and David) and two little ones from her marriage with Tom (Richard, then 5; and Edward, age 3). Judith enjoyed neighborhood activities, the knitting group and luncheon group in particular. She swam at the old Parkland Pool. She liked gardening and made the most of her shaded grounds.

Judith was born in Berlin in June 14, 1925, the youngest of six children. She was able to leave Germany for the UK in December 1938 under the British "Kindertransport Program," and join her older sister, Ulla, who had emigrated earlier that year. During the War, Judith was evacuated with her school to Ely (near Cambridge) and enjoyed a loving relationship with her host family which endured for the rest of her life.

Judith could not attend university after high school in 1943. She found secretarial work in London, shared rooms with a few other girls, met and married Henry Weill (also a refugee from Germany). Judith was a mother of three by her 23rd birthday. The marriage ended in divorce.

Judith wanted a professional career. Thanks to low tuition rates, a maintenance scholarship from the London County Council, and help from her mother, who had recently received a pension from the German government as compensation for the death of her husband, Judith could enroll in the London School of Economics, part-time for two years, then full-time after her mother's pension came through. They lived together with Judith's children in a pleasant flat near Notting Hill Gate.

It was at LSE where Judith and Tom met. He was doing

research for his PhD degree. Tom and Judith married in June 1958 and moved to Clinton, NY where Tom taught Economics. While Judith was organizing her wedding and arranging for emigration to the States, she was also studying for degree exams at LSE. Her results: an honors degree in Economic History.

In June 1959 Judith and Tom moved to Washington, DC where Tom was employed by the International Monetary Fund. In the 1959-60 academic year, Judith studied for an MA in Economics from American University. She was then invited by Prof. William Parker of Yale to become his research associate in a Ford Foundation financed study of changing agricultural productivity in the ante-bellum South.

When that project concluded, Judith joined the Robert Nathan Associates, an economic consulting firm. Unhappy with that work, Judith decided she wanted a simpler career that enabled her to spend time with her younger children as they grew up, and so spent the rest of her working life teaching two courses a term at Catonsville Community College. It was important to Judith that she be home when Richard and Eddie returned from school. Judith was encouraged to apply for a position at the World Bank where Tom was then employed, but decided that a demanding career there would make for too stressful a life and would short-change time with her children.

Judith kept up with economic history by attending regularly monthly meetings of the Washington Area Economic History Seminar, which brought together economic historians teaching at local universities.

Later in life, Judith and Tom spent summers at Bethany Beach, travelled to the UK once a year, and also to Chile and Australia where relatives from Germany then lived. Judith visited her two older sisters regularly in Arroyo Grande, California. During the winter months, Judith took part in water aerobics at the Kennedy-Shriver Aquatic Center, Monday through Friday no matter what the weather.

Arthritis and dementia restricted Judith's travelling the last few years of her life, but she continued to enjoy swimming. Also in the last decades of her life, Judith took pleasure in attending Sabbath morning services at her synagogue.