

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 5C, Single Member District 5C04



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John Salatti, Commissioner

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**Dr. JoAnn Perkins and Commissioner John Salatti Announce that the Grinch Has Been Foiled Again!
World Missions Extension Center CHRISTmas Toy Give-Away Rally Has Been
RESCHEDULED for Tuesday, December 22nd**

Although the weather Grinch may have thought that he could prevent Christmas from coming, it is coming anyway! That Grinch dumped two feet of snow on Washington thinking he could stop this past Saturday's World Missions Extension Center CHRISTmas Toy Give-Away Rally. **WRONG!**

Dr. JoAnn Perkins, Director of the World Missions Extension Center, and ANC Commissioner John Salatti announced today that the Rally for needy children would go on. ***The Rally will now take place Tuesday, December 22nd at McKinley Technical High School starting at Noon.***

As Dr. Perkins said, "We are not deterred by the snow. The Rally is all about kids and letting them know that they are not forgotten at this spiritual season. Yes, we give them material things, but what the children remember, what stays with them long after the Rally is over and the toys put aside, is the spirit of giving, the spirit of caring, the spirit of love. Which are the real reasons for the season; no weather system can stop that!"

Commissioner Salatti seconded that view, "The True Spirit of Christmas is exemplified by reaching out to those neighbors in need. But it's way more than that, this Rally is about building community and bringing diverse parts of the community together. The economy has hit us all hard. I see that all over the neighborhood for both individuals and businesses. But despite the hardships, people are coming out to support their neighbors; I got a call from an unemployed woman who needed help herself, but she also asked me how she could help. I connected her with Dr. Perkins. No doubt in my mind: the Spirit of Christmas is alive and very well. That's why ANC 5C and I have partnered with Dr. Perkins and are working to make this year's Rally a success."

But we need your help to fully overcome the Grinch. Please spread the word throughout your communities about the new date of the Rally. And please come out Tuesday starting at 9:00 to unload toys, meet the children, talk with the families, give out the gifts, and truly feel the love. By sharing some love, you will experience peace on earth and good will to all.

We thank those people who are still donating toys even in the midst of the Great Blizzard of '09. But with the need so great this year, we are still taking donations. We are also looking for eight PS3 players with educational as well as recreational games to donate to the juvenile facility. These youth may be incarcerated, but they are still kids and need to know that the community cares about them. If you know of a source, please contact us. As in the story, the Grinch cannot stop Christmas, it will come. It will come for all, not just for some!

So let the Spirit of Christmas ring out from the World Missions Extension Center's home here in Bloomingdale! Let it ring out in the District and beyond!

Together, Building a Better Bloomingdale