

# Fifth-grader rolls up her sleeves and writes a letter about litter

BY LINDA SAUCERMAN  
EDITOR

"I wanted to go look around and see the construction at Forest Glen and I saw all this garbage around and I thought, 'Well, that's pretty strange,'" says 10-year-old Rebecca Perry.

She thought it was so strange, in fact, that Rebecca decided that evening to clean up the litter around the renovated elementary school at 561 Elm St. Working solo, because her friends were out of town, Rebecca continued her cleaning process into the next evening.

But she did not stop at her school. Rebecca continued down the street and proceeded to pick up litter scattered at the intersections near Forest Glen.

"People should really be careful about littering and people should pick up after themselves and everyone else," Rebecca says.

During her cleaning spree, Rebecca voiced her concerns about litter in Glen Ellyn to her grandmother, Arlene Perry.

"I said, 'Why don't you write a letter to the editor?' and the next thing I know, she had a letter written," Perry says.

The result was a letter written Aug. 22 that was sealed with a gold sticker and mailed to The Glen Ellyn News. The following is Rebecca's letter:

It's everyone's responsibility.

I say this because Forest Glen is where I go to school. And when the year starts, I look forward to a clean and healthy school, so I don't have to walk in litter such as White Hen food and McDonald's (and a lot of it's from the construction workers leaving it lying around Forest Glen). Not only should they clean up after, but also as they work. And it isn't all just them, but also everyone else. So I think everyone should also help pick up the litter like I did the last four days at Forest Glen. Not only there, but also around town picking up someone else's litter, and it's about time we do something about it! So please help me clean up the town.

Rebecca Perry  
age 10  
going into fifth grade  
at Forest Glen



After seeing fast food wrappers and other litter left by construction workers at the District 41 Forest Glen Elementary, 10-year-old Rebecca Perry decided to get her hands dirty and start cleaning. She followed up on her efforts by writing a letter to the editor of this newspaper. (Saucerman photo)