

The ECHO

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association

Volume 58, Issue 6

April 2015

Major Repaving Project Imminent in Randolph Hills

by Mark Nensel

For those of us in RCA-Land who utilize Schuylkill Road to commute to/from Garrett Park Rd., Dewey Rd., Knowles Ave., Beach Drive, Kensington and Connecticut Ave., this spring is about to become a rather troublesome season.

Beginning in March, the Montgomery County Department of Transportation's (MCDOT) Division of Highway Services (DHS) will begin a 'permanent pavement patching project' in the Randolph Hills neighborhoods bounded roughly by Boiling Brook Parkway, Ashley Drive, Schuylkill Road (on both the north and south side of Garrett Park Road) and Troy Road. MCDOT informed affected residents via newsletter, released March 10. According to MCDOT, the project is expected to be completed within eight weeks, weather permitting. Work hours are expected to be between 7am and 5pm, Monday through Friday.

"Generally speaking," MCDOT wrote, "this work is best characterized as noisy and disruptive."

The project comes following an evaluation conducted countywide in which MCDOT surveyed the pavement condition of all Montgomery County roads, identifying and rating the condition of each. The program falls under the county's Pavement Management System, which was inaugurated in 2008.

"Part of Montgomery County's Pavement Management System includes structural permanent patching," MCDOT said, "which is a cost-effective interim solution to maintain roadway structural integrity based on current funding allocations."

According to MCDOT, the overall pavement conditions in Randolph Hills were generally rated as fair, "with some areas ... needing more attention." MCDOT's recommended solution for roadway preservation is a thorough application of Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) full-depth permanent patching.

What to expect? Markings are already in place through the neighborhoods to guide the work crews. First, crews will excavate the distressed pavement with a Gradall excavator, a pavement-milling machine. Next, after the pavement excavation, the sections will be replaced with HMA, which is expected to "yield a service life of between 15-20 years," MCDOT said.

After the HMA is installed in two layers and compacted with a steel-wheeled roller, a layer of smooth-surface HMA will be applied a few days later. This new layer will also be compacted by the roller machine, resulting in a surface matching the level of the existing street.

MCDOT says continuous traffic will be maintained at all times utilizing lane closure and alternating one-way traffic patterns. Additionally, temporary parking restrictions may be implemented on the affected streets; signs notifying residents of impending closures or restrictions will be posted.

Hang in there, RCA-Land. This will all be worth it when it's over!



Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

April 2nd, 2015 8:00pm-9:30pm, Viers Mill Recreation Center

RCA Executive Board Meeting

May 7th, 2015 8:00pm-9:30pm, Viers Mill Recreation Center

RCA Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for 2014-2015

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President's Message

by Brian Hooker, RCA President

April is the beginning of spring and a time of renewal. Thus it is fitting that the April RCA general meeting is also the annual meeting and the time for RCA Board elections. Our civic association volunteers do their best to balance their own, often hectic, schedules with the responsibility of helping to maintain a vibrant and engaged community. I am always thankful for the Board's time and look forward to serving with them, for the community, for another year.

The RCA April meeting just won't be about elections. We will have the Executive Director of Friends of White Flint, Amy Ginsburg, to come give us an update with all that is going on with Pike and Rose, the re-alignment of Executive Boulevard, and the White Flint Mall property. If you haven't been over to Pike and Rose yet to check out the new restaurants, the iPic cinema, or the Amp by Strathmore, I highly recommend you do.

Although spring break is right around the corner for MCPS (April 6-10), the winter thaw hasn't yet completed. Lake Needwood, just up the Rock Creek hiker biker trail, has had to delay the opening of the lake to boating and fishing to at least March 28th. I'm looking forward to getting my family on their bikes and headed up for some fishing and paddle-boating soon. Recently, someone brought to my attention the fact that our RCA Facebook page (facebook.com/randolphcivic) needed a little upkeep. Thus, at our March Board meeting we resolved to do a better job in maintaining the page and hopefully make this another way for folks to get news and stay engaged. Facebook supports pictures and videos which our Yahoo group does not. If you haven't liked our page yet, please do. You'll also see a request in this Echo to fill out a very short survey. We are always endeavoring to learn more about the residents of RCA-land. The survey is short and anonymous.

On a different note, the hearing for the re-zoning of the Montrose Baptist Church property has been postponed once again. It was scheduled for April 24, but it has now moved later to June 19th. There is nothing new to report on the proposed development. Happy Spring!

RCA Telephone Number: (240)668-4722.

Recorded announcements of community events, 24 hours a day. Callers may leave messages.

Membership in the RCA is \$10.00 per year.

The *Echo* is the official publication of the Randolph Civic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 2202, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852. The *Echo* is published 8 times a year and distributed free to all residents of Franklin Park, Hilltop Square, Montrose Park, Randolph Hills, and Randolph Farms. Deadline for submission of articles varies; the next deadline is noted in each issue. If you would like to send an article in for consideration, please email the article to info@randolphcivic.org.

The Randolph Civic Association was formed in 1955 and incorporated in 1958. As stated in the original Articles of Incorporation, the purposes of the RCA are "to stimulate interest in all community problems and improvements that will better the general welfare of the community [and] to pay strict attention to any attempt to lessen the value of property within its borders..."

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

The Ongoing Saga of White Flint Mall vs. Lord & Taylor: a Timeline

By Mark Nensel and Aaron Kraut

What is up with the White Flint Mall redevelopment? As reported by BethesdaNow blogger/writer Aaron Kraut, the lawsuit between Lord & Taylor and White Flint Mall's owners may soon go to trial.

Following nearly two years of legal wrangling – during which the mall has become an eerie vacant

ing 2.87 million square feet of residential space, office space, retail and public areas, as envisioned by developer and White Flint Mall owner Lerner Enterprises -- here is a timeline.

March 23, 2010: The Montgomery County Council unanimously approves the White Flint Sector Plan, which, among other goals, will “create [a] thriving, diverse mixed use center with highest intensity closest to Metro and along Rockville Pike, create new parks and open spaces, [and] transform Rockville Pike into a boulevard with street trees and improved crosswalks.”

October 2012: the Montgomery County planning Board approves Lerner's sketch plan for transforming



WHITE FLINT MALL
SKETCH PLAN SUBMISSION
FEBRUARY 10, 2012

shell with but one remaining tenant, the department store Lord & Taylor -- lawyers representing White Flint Mall have filed a motion to schedule a trial date, saying that Lord & Taylor (L&T) is intentionally delaying the process to “sandbag White Flint's redevelopment efforts indefinitely in hopes of securing a multimillion-dollar payout for the release of its alleged ‘consent rights’.”

To help understand the back and forth of lawsuits and countersuits that have been holding up the mall's promised transformation -- into a 5.22-million square foot mixed-use, town-center-like development includ-

White Flint Mall, the first of three approvals required for redevelopment (a preliminary plan and a site plan must also be submitted and approved).

July 3, 2013: L&T files a lawsuit against the owners of White Flint Mall, asking the Court to stop further demolition. The New York-based department store says tearing down the mall would violate its 1975 lease agreement that brought the store to the then-newly opened luxury high-end mall on Rockville Pike.

August 12, 2013: White Flint Mall owners file a countersuit in federal court, claiming L&T's lawsuit has delayed

(Continued on Page 11)

March Executive Meeting Minutes

By Diane LaGrega Bertocchi

1. Call to Order - Brian Hooker 8:12pm
2. Old Business
 - a. MusicFest: Venue and fundraising for 2015 (Matt Tifford was unable to attend the meeting) Brian Hooker: El Patio should be workable. The quote for El Patio is \$1,240 for 50 people for buffet for evening 5:00pm to 9:00pm. Music Fest is scheduled for Sunday May 3rd, 2015. Brian Hooker makes a motion to request Matt Tifford to ask El Patio for an earlier slot either from 4:00pm to 8:00pm or 1:00pm to 5:00pm and to negotiate a lower price. Amber seconds. Passes 6 to 0. Amber will pursue door prizes for the event.
 - b. The RCA Board discusses the Volunteer of the Year Award.
3. New Business
 - a. 2015 Annual Meeting and Elections (April 2).
 1. Treasurer and Director – As of the start of the meeting we have no nominations. Brian Hooker makes a motion to nominate Mara Greengrass for Treasurer and Chris Moran for Director. Amber seconds the motion. Passes 6 to 0.
 2. Brian Hooker makes a motion to nominate the incumbents for the following seats President, Vice President 1, Vice President 2, and Secretary. Mark seconds the motion. Passes 6 to 0.
 4. April guest speaker – Board members discussed possible speakers for the April annual meeting. The Board agreed to reach out to Amy Ginsburg, the Executive Director of the Friends of White Flint, and ask her to be the guest speaker at the April 2nd meeting.
 5. Social Media Presence - Katy Hall is willing to posts links to the RCA Facebook page. Mara Greengrass is willing to post the Montgomery County Police tweets to the RCA Facebook page. Brian Hooker makes a motion that the executive board insures that the RCA Facebook page is updated biweekly. Jason Ott seconds. Passes 6 to 0. Katy Hall recommends implementing an online survey to learn more about how to reach out to residents that are unable to attend RCA meetings or events. The survey would be posted online and in the ECHO.
 6. ECHO Articles and hotline – Brian Hooker recommends that the RCA board members be notified prior to the ECHO going to print. The RCA board encourages RCA residents to submit articles to the ECHO. Please contact the ECHO editor, Mark Nensel, at marknensel@

yahoo.com for article submissions.

7. Other new business (Hooker) – The last RCA meeting before the summer break will be on Thursday June 4, following the RCF annual meeting and spaghetti dinner.

Standard Business and Reports

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – Passes 6 to 0.

Committee Chair Reports

Membership and Welcome Committee (Greengrass, Hall, Rumbaugh) – The RCA board will table the discussion on membership to the May meeting.

Education Committee (Tedesco) – Viers Mills Elementary Principal selection will be on March 24th, 2015. Patrick Scott will be running for Principal. On March 30th, 2015 there will be Principal interviews.

RCA Meeting Adjournment Brian Hooker makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45pm. Mark Nensel seconds. Passes 6 to 0.



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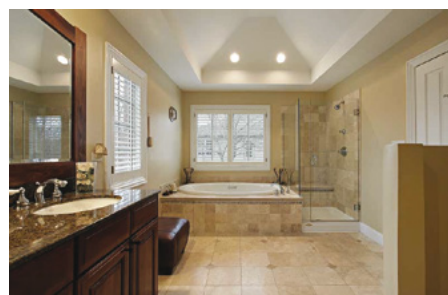
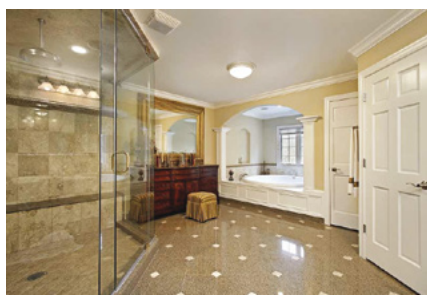
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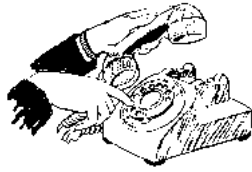
General Note: The RCA gets a lot of calls about code violations (untagged cars, tall grass, etc). Please note that phone numbers for agencies that handle such matters are published on the website. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA reserves the right to not publish any calls that could be viewed as solicitations, personal attacks against neighbors or calls longer than 1.5 minutes due to the time it takes to transcribe and cost to publish. You can always email the RCA at info@randolphcivic.org or submit an article for publication to the Echo editor.

02-21-15 (Sat) at 8:26am. Anonymous. Received via info@randolphcivic.org. Caller expresses concern about many possible future vehicular accident scenarios as a result of the traffic calming measures being put in place at two Boiling Brook Parkway intersections involving large vehicles and as yet unknown, not started, planning around White Flint 2 (<http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/community/whiteflint2/>). *RCA Note: The White Flint 2 sector plan will be an exciting opportunity for RCA residents to re-imagine Randolph Hills Shopping Center and Boiling Brook Parkway. Discussions around the White Flint 2 Sector Plan are scheduled for June 2015.*

03-01-15 (Sun) at 2:03pm. Not Anonymous. Received via info@randolphcivic.org. Hi just wondering the date of the next yard sale please?

03-02-15 (Mon) at 10:07am. Not Anonymous. Received via info@randolphcivic.org. Any idea when this bridge [at Garrett Park Road] is going to be replaced? Every day I just see more pot holes where the rebar is showing. I know you have no say on this, but can the association influence the county to act sooner rather than later, what they do is not important, whether they do one lane at a time like they did the bridge at Cedar Lane, or they close it for a while, I would rather suffer the inconvenience than see the bridge falling when someone is crossing it. Anything the residents of Randolph Hills who use this bridge every day can do to reach the county of whoever is in charge of this, county, park, state. Maybe if you can reach all the residents and then we can start a campaign, it is the squeaky wheel that gets oiled, and the residents of RCA pay taxes just like the residents in Kensington do. Thanks.

03-09-15 (Mon) at 12:19pm. Not Anonymous. Received via info@randolphcivic.org. Hello, Does the RCA still offer reduced memberships to Sam's Club? If not, would it be possible to offer this again to members? *RCA Note: We do not and we are not considering it at this time.*



Bridge Lighting Update

By Matt Tifford

I am happy to report coming improvements for RCA residents. Frank Shore and I have been lobbying for pedestrian path lighting along Garrett Park Road for years. The section of Garrett Park Road between Schuylkill and Beach Drive is an important pedestrian path, connecting the southern end of our community with Rock Creek Park, Viers Mill Local Park, and the Viers Mill Rec Center - the last of particular significance now that it is not just a meeting place for Civic Association meetings, but our polling place as well. This section of road is completely without street lights, rendering the path useless after dark without a flashlight. Happily, our efforts have finally yielded success. From the beginning, the county has acknowledged and supported the merits of our lighting request. The problem has been securing funding. In 2013, Frank and I saw the opportunity to approach county officials about the possibility of dovetailing the lighting project with the planned replacement of the Garrett Park Road bridge. While getting funding for small solo projects like ours can be difficult, adding them to existing high cost projects is often much easier. What follows is our most recent correspondence with the county, with some details on the timeline.

10/3/2014. Mr. Tifford, We have applied for Federal Funding to replace the bridge. The design of the project should start in 3 months. It takes about 3 years to start construction after design has started. A public meeting will be held during the concept stage, probably about a year after start of design. Tom Shoemaker, copied on this email, is the point of contact for lighting issues in the County. [Signed] Barry Fuss, Chief, Bridge Design, Department of Transportation, Transportation Engineering Division

10/6/2014. Dear Mr. Tifford – thank you for your continued interest in streetlights along Garrett Park Road. I am glad to know the 3 overhead lights we had mentioned in our 11/9/2011 email were installed in spring of 2012 and should be operational, please advise if they are not. Regarding the remaining 9 lights, these are underground-fed lights, costing substantially more. That said, I am pleased to say we are preparing to schedule this project to coincide with the bridge replacement project. Once the bridge geometrics are laid out, we will be able to design our lighting project around it. Again, thank you for your interest in streetlights and please feel free to contact Mr. Tom Shoemaker, Senior Engineering Tech, if there are any questions. [Signed] Sincerely, Dan Sanayi, PE, Chief, Design & Operations, Division of Traffic Engineering & Operations, Department of Transportation

Neighborhood News Bites

- Registration has opened for Bike to Work Day, scheduled for Friday May 15 between 6:30 and 8:30 am. Organized by Commuter Connections and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, the event features six Bethesda area 'pit-stops' at which participants can pick-up free t-shirts, food and drink and possibly win bicycles and other prizes. The closest pit-stop to Randolph Hills is at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission building directly across Marinelli Road from the White Flint Metro Station entrance. Go to biketo-workmetrodc.org for more information and to register.
- Montgomery Parks & Montgomery County Department of Recreation is hosting a Capital Improvements Program Public Forum on Thursday, April 23, 2015 from 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. at the Montgomery Regional Office Auditorium, 8787 Georgia Ave., Silver Spring, MD 20910. The organizers invite Montgomery County residents to come and learn about the Capital Improvements Program for Montgomery Parks and Montgomery County Recreation, and provide input on future project proposals. To speak at the public forum, residents must call 301-495-2545 by 4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2015. The forum is limited to 35 speakers. Written comments may be submitted by mail to the Montgomery County Planning Board, Casey Anderson, Chair, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring, Maryland, 20910 or by email to mcp-chair@mncppc-mc.org by Tuesday, April 21, 2015. Also visit: <http://www.montgomeryparks.org/>.

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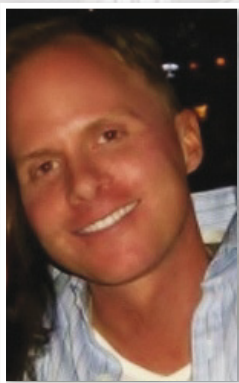


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We Want Your Feedback!

By Katy Hall

The RCA has gone digital. We ask our neighbors all the time "Do you know your voice can make a difference in our neighborhood?" It's true, and as a resident of RCA-land we want to hear from you. We encourage all residents to attend our general meetings but understand that it's not always possible.

In order to give everyone the opportunity to share his/her voice we've created our first online survey to learn more about who lives in RCA-land. If this is successful we may use this medium to get feedback on various topics that affect our neighborhood as well as recent events. We encourage everyone to go online and give feedback. Thanks!

<http://randolphcivic.org/survey>

RCA Board Nominees for 2015-2016

A Message from the RCA Board

RCA President: Brian Hooker (incumbent)

Vice President: Mark Nensel (incumbent)

2nd Vice President: Matthew Tifford (incumbent)

Secretary: Diane LaGrega Bertocci (incumbent)

Treasurer: Mara Greengrass

Director: Chris Moran

Note: Director's terms currently held by Amber Tedesco and Jason Ott are not up for re-election this year.

Community Safety Update

By Mara Greengrass

On Wednesday, March 4, I represented the RCA at the regular meeting of the Community Advisory Board, which meets quarterly at the 2nd district police station in Bethesda. The board is made up of community representatives who meet with the station commander, Captain David Falcinelli, to discuss issues related to policing in the district and issues that concern our neighborhoods specifically.

As always, we discussed specific crimes that occurred throughout the 2nd district and I'm happy to report that RCA-land remains an oasis of minimal crime in an already low-crime district. Our main problem is still theft from vehicles. (Lock your car doors!)

In addition, representatives from the county police headquarters attended this meeting to get feedback on the police department's strategic planning process. We were asked what crimes most impact our community and what improvements we would most like to see. I've spoken to many of you about your concerns over the past few years and I was able to pass along your comments to the department.

If you have concerns about crime, traffic safety, crime prevention, and community relations that you would like me to pass along to the department, please contact me at safety@randolphcivic.org.

Help Make our Community a Safer Place Become a RCA Block Captain



The RCA Safety Committee is reviving the neighborhood watch program. The goal of the program is to make our community a safer place and to increase communication regarding safety issues and other neighborhood concerns.

Becoming a Block Captain simply means joining the RCA Safety Committee email listserv and keeping an eye out for safety issues on your street.

Email safety@randolphcivic.org for more information and to learn how you can help.

White Flint

(continued from page 3)

the redevelopment process and hurt negotiations with architects, contractors and potential anchor tenants,

it does not have to disclose its damages experts until White Flint Mall produces a final site plan.

March 4, 2015: US Court of Appeals for the Fourth District upholds US District Court Judge Roger Titus's ruling.

Week of March 9, 2015: Lawyers representing



among others, resulting in a claim against L&T for \$1 billion in damages. Additionally, the Mall owners claimed "Lord & Taylor was well aware of the coming redevelopment and that it timed the lawsuit in order to get a settlement payment out of the Lerner-family owned shopping center," according to BethesdaNow. Lord & Taylor, the Lerner's claimed, engaged in talks about how it would fit into the new mixed-use redevelopment as late as May 2013.

December 2013: US District Court rules in favor of White Flint Mall. L&T appeals the ruling.

December 2014: Alan Gottlieb, chief operating officer of the mall, testifies that the litigation made the mall redevelopment project "dead in the water," saying it was impossible for Lerner to secure financing and new tenants.

January 2015: Lerner reveals that it is considering an alternative plan to the already approved sketch plan, but informs L&T that it was going through with the approved plan. L&T then files a motion claiming

White Flint Mall file a motion at US District Court in Greenbelt to schedule a trial date in their case against L&T. In their filing, the mall owners address Lord & Taylor's January motion, saying "by the mere filing of such a groundless motion, [L&T] has granted itself a unilateral extension of time to designate its damages experts, thus further delaying ... this case. Given the real-world impact the legislation is having on the development, drawing out the litigation gives [L&T] the very relief – an injunction – that this court and the Fourth Circuit have denoted it. Therefore, [L&T] is doing everything it can to delay the trial of this case."

And this brings us to the present. Stay tuned, RCA-Land. This is going to be a doozy of a trial ... if it ever happens.

Join Your Neighbors Online



The RCA Yahoo Group is a great resource for keeping up with happenings in RCA land. Need a recommendation for a local handyman? Looking for a babysitter or dog walker? Want to learn more about local activities? Have an idea to improve our neighborhood?

Get in on the conversation at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/>

RCF President's Message

by Ashley Salganik

Happy Spring! As soon as the weather turns warm, that means it's time to start planning our Randolph Civic Foundation Annual Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner. This year's event will be on June 4th at 6pm - I hope you can join us to spend time with your neighbors and enjoy a delicious meal. The meeting and dinner will be held at the Viers Mill Recreation Center - please mark your calendars!

It's also time to start thinking about planting flowers at our neighborhood signs. If you would like to help out and make your neighborhood sign look great by planting some colorful flowers, please send me an email at: ashleysalganik@gmail.com. A little help with planting, watering and weeding will be very much appreciated!

Troop 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin

Congratulations are due to four of the Troop's senior members, who completed significant milestones toward attaining Scouting's highest rank, the Eagle Scout. Over several weekends in February, Aidan Gibbons led a team of volunteers in completing his Eagle Scout service project. Aidan collected donated blankets (and similar items) and supplied them to A Wider Circle, a charitable organization in Silver Spring that fights poverty by providing furnishings for families embarking on their first housing opportunities. For the project to succeed, Aidan knew he'd first have to get the word out to potential donors, and make it as widely known as possible. So he assembled teams of volunteers and coordinated the efficient and widespread distribution of informative flyers in early February. Next, he negotiated with local government offices and businesses to serve as donation drop-off points. Finally, Aidan and his team of volunteers collected the donations between February 14th and 21st, then delivered them to A Wider Circle for distribution to residents in the historic Barry Farm neighborhood of southeast Washington, D.C.

Also in February, Matt Olson completed the second of his Eagle project's two phases by installing benches that he and his volunteers had built in the project's first phase. The benches provide seating for an outdoor chapel on the grounds of the Church of St. Andrew in Colesville. Meanwhile, on February 20th, Adam Levengard and Chuck Reese cleared their final hurdles when they passed their Eagle Boards of Review, and thereupon officially became the Troop's newest Eagle Scouts. If you've ever seen the look of triumph and relief on an Eagle candidate's face when he passes his Board of Review, you can attest that it is unforgettable.

Troop meetings in February—when they were not

canceled by inclement weather—focused on merit badges. About a dozen merit badge options were offered so the Scouts would be assured a topic of interest. Any scout with ambitions of reaching the Eagle rank must earn at least 21 merit badges, of which 12 must be from a specific "core curriculum." Many of this year's offerings are from the list of Eagle-required merit badges.

On Friday and Saturday, March 13th and 14th, the Troop delivered (for free, as always) thousands of bags of mulch. The annual mulch-sale fundraiser supports Scouting activities year-round, and the Troop is ever grateful for the solid support it has always received from RCA-Land residents. Mountains of still-melting snow in the staging area made this year's delivery weekend a little more of challenging than usual, but on Saturday, operations and clean-up were nevertheless finished in time for the Scouts and their families to be home to watch Troop 1083 Eagle Scout alumnus Josh Hart play for the Villanova Wildcats in the championship game of the Big East Conference Men's Basketball Tournament. Villanova won, and Josh was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player! Here's hoping the Wildcats are still advancing through the NCAA men's basketball tournament "March Madness" brackets by the time you read this. If so, tune into a Villanova game and look for the young man wearing uniform number 3. The face just might be familiar!

The remainder of March and early April will keep the Troop 1083 Scouts and their families busy with service projects and fun outings such as the Webelos weekend campout, some high adventure practice hikes, a trip to the Rockville Aquatic Center, and a neighborhood stream and park cleanup.

If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade you can join us. We meet Monday night at 7:30 at Viers Mill ES, or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. Check out the Troop's web page at www.troop1083.org.

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The Randolph Civic Foundation originated in 1996. It was formed to provide educational and charitable services to the Randolph Community. The address is: Randolph Civic Foundation, PO Box 489, Garrett Park, MD 20896-0489

www.RandolphCivicFoundation.org - Phone: 240-389-4723

Venture Crew 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin, Corresponding Secretary

On February 15, Venture Crew 1083 was scheduled to go on its annual skiing and snowboarding trip to Ski Liberty in Pennsylvania. The only problem was—wait for it—winter weather. The Crew members are no winter wallflowers; they camp in, play in, and laugh at cold weather. But this was a little over the top: the forecast high temperature of 1 degree, not counting winds of 50 miles an hour. The resort managers themselves called the Crew to advise postponement! Yes, the Venturers are tough; but no, they're not foolish.

So the event was rescheduled. On the rain date—er, make that the snow date—February 28th, the Crew, along with Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, belatedly hit the slopes. By then, the temperature was a comparatively toasty 17 degrees. As happens every year, everyone had a blast. Even a few Venture Crew alumni came back to join the fun!

The Crew's High Adventure contingent will attend training sessions and shakedown hikes this spring as they head into the home stretch leading to their June 28 departure to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. In early May, they will also host the annual Spring Bazaar at Loehmann's Plaza, an annual RCA-land tradition (formerly known as the RCA Yard Sale). The event is tentatively slated for May 2, but be advised, that's subject to change. Keep your eyes on the Echo (and the Randolph Civic Association's Yahoo group) for details as the event draws closer.

Venturing is open to coed youth aged 14 through 20. Crew meetings are Monday nights from 7:30–8:45 pm at Viers Mill ES. Why not join us? Bring a like-minded friend so you'll already know someone else at the meeting! For more information, contact crew advisor Greg Skolnik at 301-942-3755.

Help Make our Community a Safer Place Become a RCA Block Captain



The RCA Safety Committee is reviving the neighborhood watch program. The goal of the program is to make our community a safer place and to increase communication regarding safety issues and other neighborhood concerns.

Becoming a Block Captain simply means joining the RCA Safety Committee email listserv and keeping an eye out for safety issues on your street.

Email safety@randolphcivic.org for more information and to learn how you can help.



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CLASSIFIEDS

The Echo publishes classified ads free for RCA members, to a maximum of one ad per year per household. Additional ads may be purchased for \$5.00. The Echo makes no claims or guarantees regarding the quality of goods or services sold.

BEST BUDDIES PETSITTING SERVICE: Going out of town? Need your dog to be walked daily? Have a cat that needs to be boarded? Well we are a home away from home providing the best loving care for your pet depending on your needs. We board cats and dogs and we do not crate them. We have a fenced-in quarter acre lot right here in Randolph Hills! Dogs get two 30 minute walks daily and all animals get breakfast and dinner; we provide the food! Between walks, there is plenty of playtime. Prices reasonable and our schedule is setup to meet your needs. Pickup and drop-off service is provided if needed. Any medications can and will be administered. We are bonded and insured. Call Danny Beigel at: 240.654.0694 or go to www.bestbuddiespetsitting.com email us at bestbuddiespetsitting@hotmail.com

WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, over 30 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

New Parent Group Do you have an infant under 1 year old? Are you interested in meeting up with other parents of infants from the neighborhood for walks and activities? If so, please e-mail Nikki Forry at nikki.forry@gmail.com.

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11812 Timber Lane	\$372,500	\$370,000	108	\$0	6-Jan-15
4615 Gemstone Ter	\$346,000	\$340,000	102	\$0	27-Jan-15
4815 Creek Shore Dr	\$325,000	\$315,000	21	\$10,000	30-Jan-15
4604 Wilwyn Way	\$412,000	\$412,000	10	\$0	30-Jan-15
4713 Olden Road	\$349,900	\$330,000	120	\$0	3-Feb-15
4915 Boiling Brook Pkwy	\$429,900	\$410,000	82	\$0	26-Feb-15
11213 Troy Road	\$415,000	\$397,700	75	\$5,000	27-Feb-15
11219 Troy Road	\$375,000	\$375,000	151	\$8,750	12-Mar-15



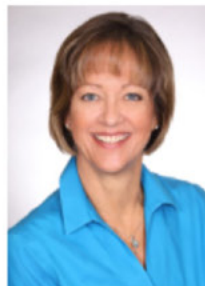
Spring is just around the corner!



If you're thinking of selling or buying a home this year,
 call Denise for advice, timing and marketing strategies.
 Denise has twenty-five years of experience as a realtor in the area.

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