

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Federation

Volume 43, Issue 6

April 2000

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Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, April 6, 2000
8:00 p.m.

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 2000
8:00 p.m.

The May General Meeting will feature John R. Supinski, who will speak on an issue of timely interest, "Long Term Health Care." We will have an opportunity to learn more about this increasingly important subject. Please attend and ask those questions that need to be addressed.

Meetings are held at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center at the corner of Ashley Drive and Macon Road on the **first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.**, except January, July, and August. Usually, we alternate between General and Executive meetings. All are welcome at every one.

President's Message

by Jack Stillwell

Relax and Enjoy the Springtime

This message was written under the influence of... SPRING FEVER! We have to write these articles a month out and sometimes inspiration fails me. But not this time, here it is the last week of February and the temperature got above 70°. I could use this as an excuse to rail against Global Warming and the meltdown of the Polar Icepack, but nobody knows if that's happening anyway. This is going to be a positive article.

We had a pretty light winter with minimal inconvenience (although I expect to win a bet with my wife on one more snowfall before March 20). We have to have some snow or it doesn't feel like we get the full 4 seasons. But by the time you read this, the sun will still be out when we get off work, the buds will be blooming on the trees, it'll almost be Cherry Blossom time, and the Azaleas will be starting to bloom in Randolph Hills. I think Spring is when our neighborhood looks its best.

Before the vegetation comes up too high, let's make a resolution to pick up the trash the winter winds left behind. Down at the end of Macon Road where I live, we're going into the gulley to pick up the worst of it. If you have other areas that need help leave a message on the hotline; we'll see if we can get the County to help but get that stick with the nail in the end and pick up a few pieces yourself, it gives you a great sense of accomplishment. We're looking into what it takes to certify kids for their mandatory Community Service (the County has a program you go through). I think it would be great if our kids could earn their hours working in their own community and it would be a great way for them to meet their neighbors.

I shared my email address last issue and almost instantly changed it. At my daughter's urgent request, we've joined the multitudes. I think I got back to most of you, if not I apologize, please write again. My address is now stillwellfam@aol.com. It's a great way to communicate but I must admit between travel for work and kids online, I only check it about once a week. Hopefully our web site is up and running at www.randolphcivic.org. We've gotten some suggestions from neighbors and welcome them all.

There are lots of initiatives to argue about, it's an election year, the traffic's terrible, and taxes are due, but you can go to work without a jacket, turn down the thermostat, play catch with your kid, go down and look at the creek, or hop on your bike and smell the flowers. It's a great place to live!

RCA Executive Committee for 1999-2000

OFFICERS

President

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Vice President (open)

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

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Richard Zierdt
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301-881-0283

Director s

Wilbur Van der Linden
11711 Ashley Drive
301-770-7235

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
310-468-1225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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11225 Ashley Drive
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301-770-7590

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Amy Hsu
4716 Oxbow Road
301-468-6180

Environment

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Cathy Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker
12111 Galena Road
301-468-6335

Mobile Watch (acting)

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader , Troop 1083

Brian McGahey
11805 Timber Lane
301-770-7882

Cub Master , Pack 1081

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo
11611 Ashley Drive
301-770-7450

Family & Community Education

Judy Fewell
5018 Macon Road
301-770-5540

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:
Scott Bailey, George Cantalupo, Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt
North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):
Councilwoman: Betty Ann Krahne 240-777-7964
Ms. Krahne's aides: Joy Nurmi 240-777-7953
Carl Morgan 240-777-7965

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive (all of RCA):
Douglas Duncan 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000
School Board Offices: 301-279-3617
School System Information: 301-279-3391
School Board Member for District 3
(representing all of RCA):
Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland State Legislative District 17 -
South of Randolph Road:

Senator: Jennie Forehand 301-858-3134
Delegates: Kumar Barve 301-858-3001
Michael Gordon 301-858-3519
Cheryl Kagan 301-858-3046

Maryland Legislative District 18 -
North of Randolph Road:

Senator: Christopher Van Hollen 301-858-3137
Delegates: Leon Billings 301-858-3028
Sharon Grosfeld 301-858-3028
John Hurson 301-858-3464

Montgomery County Delegation Office:
All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S.Congressional District 8 (all of RCA):
Constance Morella 202-225-5341
email: rep.morella@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate (all of RCA):
Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654
Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precincts:
4-08 South of Randolph Rd. Vote at Rockinghorse Center.
4-26 North of Randolph Rd. Vote at Montrose Baptist Church.

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 301-217-6450



RCA Telephone Number: 301-881-2722 (881-2RCA).

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

Membership in the RCA is \$5.00 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, Randolph Farms, and Westminster. Deadline for submission of articles varies; the next deadline is noted in each issue. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Eileen White, 11225 Ashley Drive, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, 301-984-2579, email eewhite@erols.com.

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..."

Code Enforcement Highlights Meeting

by Richard Zierdt

What a Meeting! On Thursday, March 2, the RCA had one of its largest turnouts in years (over 50 attendees) at the General Membership Meeting, which featured two guests from county code enforcement offices.

While the issue that prompted this meeting was the existence of commercial trucks in residential areas, many other enforcement issues were covered including sheds, building codes, drainage, and pets.

I had traveled about our neighborhood taking pictures a few days before the meeting, and showed them for the inspector's opinions and resident's reactions. I also included my own home as an example (it's not perfect!).

The main issue, commercial trucks, is resolved as follows. It **is** permitted to have commercial trucks in a residential area under the following conditions:

- 1) There can be no more than one (1) commercial truck on a property
- 2) It must be less than 19 feet in length
- 3) It must be less than 8 feet in height (including racks, if any)
- 4) It must be under 10,000 GVW (gross vehicle weight)
- 5) It must be parked off-street.

Commercial trucks are not permitted to park on the street.

Another issue was pets. Thanks to Joan Kraft, a visitor from Viers Mill, a web site was found with the latest regulations regarding animals in residential areas:

<http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/police/animal/index.htm>

This site has links to two areas: Summary of Montgomery County animal control laws and complete text of the Montgomery County animal control code. New laws were passed just last year (August 6, 1999), and cover areas that were discussed at the meeting, such as excessive odors from animals.

We thank County inspection officers Steve Morris and Randy Wyrick for their time, excellent commentary, and humor.

Note to Contributors:
The Deadline for the May 2000
issue of The Echo is April 7.



Three RCA residents talk with zoning code inspector Randy Wyrick (in back on left) and housing code inspector Steve Morris on right.

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

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RCA Hotline – 24 hours



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GNC	(301) 984-3363
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Kumon U.S.A.	(301) 231-6977
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
Parcel Plus	(301) 468-2177
Rite Aid	(301) 881-1910
Safeway	(301) 770-3665
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Urban Accents	(301) 881-4451



Education Committee Looks at Our Schools

by Richard Zierdt

Several RCAers have responded to the call offered in the March ECHO article "Children Too Scared to Go to School?" Improving our schools is a concern of many residents. Coincidentally, the North Bethesda Congress (RCA is a member) received a postcard from Montgomery County Public Schools that "MCPS now is studying possible proposals for boundary changes, one or more of which could affect your neighborhood."

The proposals can be viewed at

www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/planning

I found two proposals on this site, one for the Richard Montgomery cluster, and one for the Town of Kensington, which involves the Einstein and Walter Johnson clusters.

Changing the school boundaries is not the only way to improve our situation, but it is one way. Other tracts we can take involve improving the Wheaton cluster, perhaps starting by inviting principals, school board members, and/or the superintendent to a RCA meeting.

Again, we urge all interested residents to get involved in this important issue. Call Marilyn Couture, 301-984-8647, or Elinor Walker, 301-468-6335. Elinor is particularly interested in Viers Mill Elementary.

Special County Council Election for Our District

by Richard Zierdt

Betty Ann Krahnke to Step Down

There will be a special election on Tuesday, April 18, 2000, just for our council district (#1), to elect a new council representative. Our present local county council representative, Betty Ann Krahnke, will retire that day because of health reasons (Lou Gehrig's disease).

Ms. Krahnke is a Montgomery County institution, and we will miss her. She was always a "sensible-growth" advocate, both when she was on the Planning Board (MNCPPC) and the Council. She also felt that development should adhere to master plans.

When the RCA got the district 1 boundary changed in 1991 to include Montrose and Franklin Parks (so that the entire RCA would be in the same district), Ms. Krahnke went door-to-door in those neighborhoods to introduce herself. She used to hold community "sessions" (I attended one at the Davis Library), where

attendees could ask her questions and get immediate answers. They were basically short, one-on-one conversations with constituents. Representation doesn't get better than that!

We hope it will stay as good, however. There are two fine candidates running, either of which would represent the RCAwell, both of whom have long-standing Montgomery County credentials. One is Patricia Baptiste, another former Planning Board member, and the other is Howard Denis, a former Maryland State Senator. Like Ms. Krahnke, both Baptiste and Denis are sensible-growth advocates. When on the Planning Board, Baptiste was the only member to vote against the re-zoning of Loehmann's Plaza. Mr. Denis was instrumental in a number of reforms at the State level, including the open-meetings law. Locally, he supported the formation of five council districts in Montgomery and helped Ms. Krahnke in all her races.

The only issue where I see significant difference in the two candidates is their philosophy on transportation. Ms. Baptiste puts more emphasis on TDM (traffic demand management), existing road and intersection improvements, and public transit. Mr. Denis would add more roads to that list of solutions.

WILLS AND ESTATES • TAXES

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Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of March 5, 2000, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$6,210.30. The RCA balance on 02/02 is \$20 less than reported in the March ECHO because I mis-multiplied the number of members times \$5 each on the deposit slip. The RCA now has a web site: *randolphcivic.org*. We paid for the first two years of domain name registration. After two years, the fee is \$35 annually.

RCA Checking Register 2/02/2000 through 3/05/2000

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
BALANCE 02/02/2000					7,031.78
02/14	599	Network Solutions	2 year domain name fee	-70.00	6,961.78
02/16	E-xfr	Bell Atlantic	Jan 22 phone bill	-20.21	6,941.57
02/18		interest	Crestar Bank 0.53 %	2.91	6,944.48
02/19	600	Nineva Printing	March ECHO	-894.00	6,050.48
02/22	601	Staples	supplies	-147.45	5,903.03
		ECHO:production	HP toner cartridge	-99.96	
		membership:	HP inkjet cartridge	-27.48	
		membership:	HP inkjet cartridge	-27.98	
		inc:refund	Staples promotion	+15.00	
		Tax:sales		-7.03	
BALANCE 03/05/2000					5,903.03

RCF Checking Register 2/02/2000 through 3/05/2000

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
BALANCE 02/02/2000					257.13
02/15		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	307.13
02/29		interest	Crestar Bank 0.70 %	0.14	307.27
BALANCE 03/05/2000					307.27

Total RCA+RCF cash assets

6,210.30

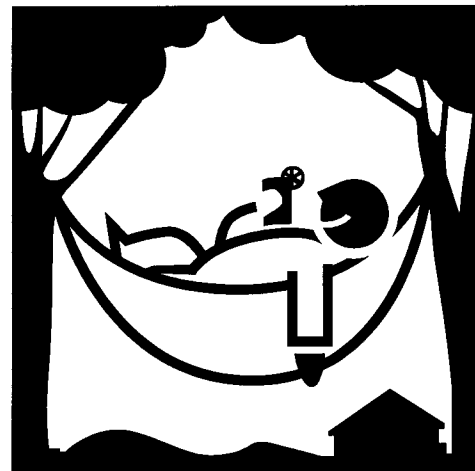
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4. After the vents are blown down we take a small tool call the aire sweep and insert it in the main duct runs. The aire sweep moves down the duct run each time air pressure is applied. This action sweeps grime, dirt and dust back to the vacuum hose hookup and into the portable vacuum system.
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Large item, Bulk Item Trash Pickup

by Richard Zierdt

Are you wondering about how to get rid of couches, chairs, televisions, rugs, clothes washers, refrigerators, etc??? Call county trash collection at 240-777-6410 between 8:30 am and 5 pm, Monday through Friday, to arrange a special pick-up.

You have to listen to the "options" menu (dial 1 for schedule, 2 for hours, etc), and get a "real person." There is no option for large-item pick up. The "live person" will take your name, address, and a description of the items to be picked up. You have to call before 9:30 am on Friday to get the stuff picked up on Monday. But if you miss one Monday, the next one is only seven days away. So please call. Place items to be picked up on the grassy area between the sidewalk and the street.

The county will pick up computers, scrap metal, you name it.

The trash does not have to be your property, so if you see a pile of trash next to the street anywhere in our neighborhood, it's fair game for pickup. I called a couple weeks ago and got a chair and sofa picked up. Let's keep our neighborhood as good looking as it can be!

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Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

February 2, 2000 to
March 5, 2000

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 in the ECHO almost every month. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA is here to help everyone keep our neighborhood as orderly as possible, so please use these numbers. Please call the RCA as well. We appreciate knowing and learning about our community.

2000-02-02 (Wed) 4:00 pm Anonymous, Randolph Hills. It's already February 2, and many neighbors still have not shoveled their sidewalks, or hired someone to do it. Children need sidewalks to get to the school bus, and they are forced to walk in the street. Corner houses are the worst, where bus stops are. *[See article on snow removal in this ECHO.]*

2000-02-11 (Fri) 6:01 pm Anonymous. Wants to know about possible school boundary change. Caller has a child who goes to Parkland Middle School and he doesn't like

it, and Tilden Middle is so close-by. *[The RCA has tried and will continue to try to get the boundary changed, but it will not happen soon. The RCA needs concerned parents willing to work on this issue. Call the RCA if interested.]*

2000-02-14 (Mon) 10:23 am Anonymous, Wyaconda Road. Appreciates the Good Samaritan who helped neighbors during the snowstorm. His work was excellent.

2000-02-14 (Mon) 12:30 pm Anonymous. On Feb 9, 4 pm, Ride-On bus #5331A was not all the way over to the curb at the Charles Smith School. School bus #7716 was blocked, traffic was lined-up all along Boiling Brook, Rockinghorse, and the shopping center. Seems like the traffic situation is getting worse. Ride-On should be told to pull over to the right to allow traffic to pass.

2000-02-14 (Mon) 1:25 pm Anonymous. Message for Jack Stillwell (RCA president): Kudos for his December message. Caller would also like to know how the upcoming general meeting goes. Appreciates that the truck sign at Rockinghorse and Randolph is now back up. *[An anonymous (to us) neighbor actually took care of that.]*

2000-02-15 (Tue) 9:43 am Anonymous. Appreciates the swift work that the county took in investigating and stopping the overcrowded house on Topping Road. *[An article about this house was printed on page 4 of the January/February ECHO. It is still available on the RCA Web page: www.randolphcivic.org, or call the RCA for a copy.]*

2000-02-17 (Thu) 8:45 am Anonymous. Appreciates the Jan/Feb article on reducing telephone solicitations. It was a big help. Also, caller wonders why it is taking so long (2 years) "to get our sign out of Randolph Road." *[Would caller (or any other RCAer) call back to explain exactly what sign?]*

2000-02-18 (Fri) 11:02 pm Street sign is down at Forestvale Drive and Oakland Drive. Caller called 240-777-2190, Montgomery County Traffic and Parking. *[An incorrect number was printed in the ECHO, now corrected.]*

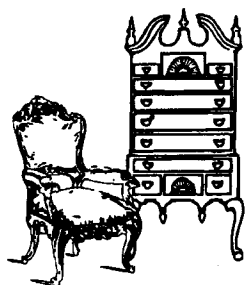
2000-02-23 (Wed) 8:49 pm Ashley Drive, 2nd section. Caller's car and another were hit-and-run, sideswiped, flattened tires. Also, parts of the assailant's own car were left behind (maroon Chevy).

2000-02-24 (Thu) 7:36 am Anonymous. A big commercial truck parks every night in front of a house on Rockinghorse Road for the past two weeks. This does not enhance the neighborhood. It's a nuisance, and you

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can't see around it. Please will the RCA do something?
[We believe this truck is no longer parked in RCA residential areas.]

2000-02-24 (Thu) 11:47 pm Macon Road, where it ends in a circle close to Safeway, has lots of trash. Could RCA get the county on this?

2000-02-25 (Fri) 2:02 pm Anonymous. Trash is between two (particular) houses on Ertter Drive. About 10 bags of trash. Crows try to chew open bags. Trash blows all over. Also, please place trash containers out after 6 pm on Sunday for the regular pickup on Monday morning.

2000-02-26 (Sat) 8:43 pm Anonymous. Responding to article about "Children too scared to go to school?" (Jan/Feb ECHO). The comment about "Viers Mill Elementary (VME) School is at least acceptable to most parents" is wrong on two counts. First, no parent wants just "acceptable" education in their schools, especially in Montgomery County. Second, VME is *not* satisfactory. Two out of the three second-grade classrooms in that school are English as a second language. VME has a greater than 50% subsidized lunch program. There are fights in the school all day long in the hallways, according to a neighbor's child who had been there one year. That's not an acceptable place for our children to learn. That's the reason why a majority of parents in this neighborhood have their children in private schools as opposed to MCPS. Viers Mill Elementary is the worst thing that could happen to this neighborhood. Thank you. *[See accompanying article elsewhere in this ECHO]*

2000-02-28 (Mon) 2:00 pm Caller is interested in organizing a school rezoning committee. Will attend March meeting. *[God, I needed that. Thanks for the call! - rz]*

2000-02-28 (Mon) 3:14 pm Hunters Lane. Neighbor's grass is too tall. Leaves are all over his property and blow onto neighbor's yards. Would appreciate it if the RCA would write a letter.

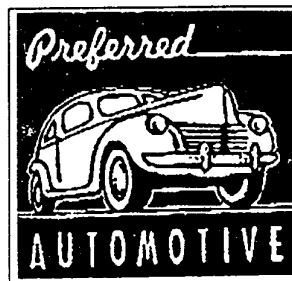
2000-02-29 (Tue) 1:20 pm There is a very offensive odor coming from (address) because of rabbits (in cages) in yard. No one can use their back yards. Been a problem for two years. Even residents across the street can smell it.

2000-02-29 (Tue) Anonymous. Similar to last call. Smell pervades the area. As weather warms up, the condition is getting worse.

2000-03-01 (Wed) 6:33 pm Anonymous. Outside, it stinks of rabbits. *[Ok, ok, the point is well-taken!]*

2000-03-02 (Thu) 5:43 pm Just received their ECHO, but it was just left outside on the stairs, and today the weather is very windy. Caller is surprised she didn't have to pick it up from the hedges this time. Maybe they can leave it in the mailbox. *[No, but it could be left inside the storm door.]*

2000-03-03 (Fri) 2:12 pm Is the RCA sponsoring a yard sale this spring? If so, what's the date? *[Most likely in May.]*



GENERAL REPAIR

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Neighborhood Notes

New Zoning Regulations

Snow? Forgetaboutit!

Montgomery Council Member Phillip Andrews introduced legislation that will REQUIRE homeowners to shovel snow & ice from sidewalks (including the driveway part) in front of their houses. County regulations already require commercial property owners, including apartment buildings, to remove snow & ice from sidewalks and walkways "as quickly as possible" after a storm. There were a number of pedestrians hurt after the "blizzard of '00" because they were forced to walk in the street. Homeowners who fail to remove the snow and ice quickly, possibly within 48 hours, could be fined! The RCA notes that Northern cities have similar regulations, and most objectionable details (e.g., elderly unable to shovel and unable to pay shovellers) have been worked out.

RCA Website Link: MCCF

The RCA is developing a website, and we're planning on including either a "link" or articles from the Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF). For 75 years the MCCF has been a nonprofit advocate for civic associations like the RCA. Much RCA information, like

(continued on page 16)

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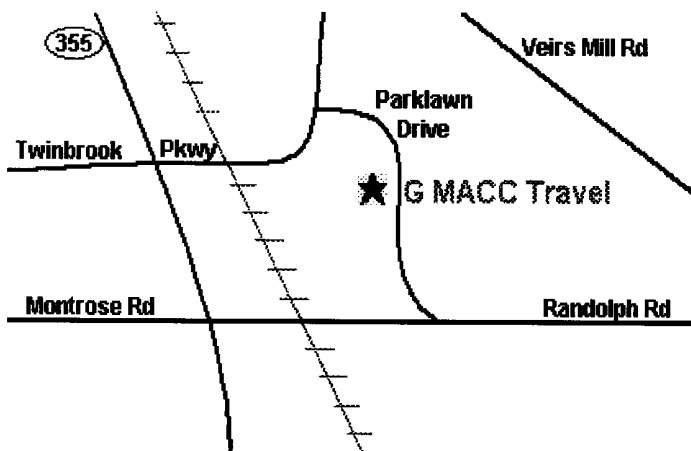
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MCAFCE

by Mary Lee

For our April 3rd meeting, Anneke has invited us to her home at 7:30 p.m. with Mary Lee helping as hostess. We will be working on a community project.

Thanks Shelby for having us in February. Your desserts were delicious, especially the fruit kabobs, and Don, you're a great host.

On April 5th it's "Tune Out Violence on TV Day." Please remember our children as to what they are watching on TV—no violence, please!

Note: Hazardous Waste Days at Shady Grove Transfer Station, Sundays, March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th, and June 4th.

Our Spring Luncheon will be May 6th at Anchor Inn, Wheaton. Please check the Family Community Education Hi-Lites for the menu. Deadline for registration is April 28th. Also, each club is to bring a bedding plant which will be used as a centerpiece and later donated to the ladies at Laytonsville Haven, and we are still collecting new books for newborns.



If anyone would like to join us, please call Judy Fewell at (301) 770-5540. The MCAFCE programs are open to all without regard to race, sex, handicap or religion.



We are glad to hear good news about Blaine Cregger, that he is home and doing well following his recent illness. Take good care of yourself and keep well. I know Eleanor will do her best to give you plenty of TLC.

We hope you will enjoy the recipes we have listed. Happy Easter everyone! Enjoy!

[Due to space limitations, The Echo was unable to publish all of the Homemaker's recipes this month. We hope to bring them to you next month! Ed.]



Angel Food Delight

- 1 8 oz. carton Cool Whip, thawed
- 1 16 oz. jar chocolate fudge sauce
- 1 prepared angel food cake (8 inches)
- 3/4 c. English toffee bits

Fold Cool Whip into chocolate sauce just until blended. Split cake horizontally into three layers. Place one layer on a serving plate. Spread with 1/4 topping mixture and 1/4 toffee bits. Repeat layers and top with remaining cake layer. Frost the top and sides with Cool Whip and sprinkle with remaining toffee bits. Cover and refrigerate for four hours. Store in refrigerator. Yield: 8-10 servings.



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Swift Strawberry Salad

- 4 c. sliced fresh strawberries
- 2 T. caramel ice cream topping
- 2 T. maple syrup
- 1 T. orange juice
- 1/2 c. cashew halves

Place strawberries in a serving bowl. Combine caramel topping, syrup and orange juice; mix well. Drizzle over strawberries. Sprinkle with cashews. Yield: 4-6 servings.



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Neighborhood Notes

(continued from page 13)

the articles below, derives from the MCCF. The RCA usually agrees with the MCCF policy positions, but not always. The RCA has been a long-standing member of the MCCF for many years.

MCCF Interviews Chief Moose

The MCCF had Charles A. Moose, the new County Police Chief, as a guest speaker. The Chief worked 24 years in Portland OR, the last few as Chief of Police. Chief Moose has a Master of Science and a PhD from Oregon State University. Chief Moose was direct in his answers, a pleasant surprise and very different from the usual political guest speakers. In one interesting exchange, the Chief pointed out how much faster the County population has increased, much faster than the police force has.

MCCF: Council Public Hearings are Unfair

The MCCF analyzed how the County Council scheduled public hearings before them. The RCA (usually Richard Zierdt) has testified at many of these hearings on your behalf. The MCCF made some interesting observations we had not noticed before.

People wishing to comment on impending Council legislation sign up ahead of time. The MCCF notes that

every speaker, whether they represent just themselves or 1,350 RCA homeowners, gets 3 minutes! Furthermore, the Council attempts to "balance out" the number of pro and con speakers, even though there might be 30 times more speakers on one side of the issue than the other. Think about that: this methodology does not provide fair representation for County citizens.

So, if there were pro-communist legislation pending, the Council's going to "balance" the number of "pro" versus "con" speakers? A fairer method would be to use the total number of persons requesting a chance to speak, pro & con, as a statistical universe, then allotting speakers, pro & con, to represent this universe. Naturally, we also suggest civic associations representing many people should be given precedence over the lone individual speaker.

News from Cub Scout Pack 1081

by Doneby Smith

Our Cub Scouts in Pack 1081 have been working hard earning Tiger Paws and advancing in rank. The following Tigers earned a paw for Big Idea #10: **Nick Barron, Tony Caffi, Matt Filer, Detrick Hoes, Michael Rud y, Robbie Smith, Patrick Souder, Blake**



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Wyatt, Miguel Manzano earned his Bobcat rank. **Anthony Gadbois, Oneal Summers, Hunter Wyatt** earned their Bear rank.

We are making plans for our March outing to the Port Discovery Children's Museum in Baltimore and a springtime conservation project. The boys are also looking forward to our annual Parent-Son Bake-Off at our March Pack Meeting. The boys bake a cake, pie or other dessert at home with mom or dad and bring it to the meeting for a fun taste competition and auction. We have some good bakers; the bids went pretty high last year! We'll be starting our Spring fundraiser soon selling popular brands of candy bars, but not door-to-door this time. So if you have a sweet tooth and know a neighborhood Cub Scout, ask him about the candy program. You can get a hefty chunk of chocolate for a dollar, and the Pack gets money for projects and outings. We thank you in advance.

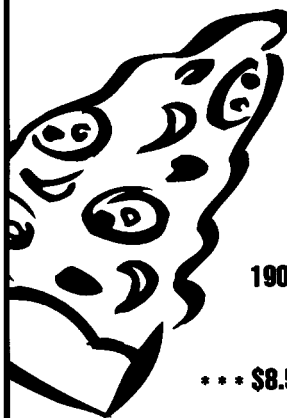
Gardening Tips

Robins, wild onions, and wild garlic are a sure sign of Spring! Spray pre-emergent in late March to stop some 40-plus weeds, including clover, chickweed and ragweed. Spade and trash ornamental cabbage. Rake debris from lawn. Tune-up the lawn mower, change the oil, and sharpen the mower blade. Home Depot has a sharpener drill attachment that can be used without removing the mower blade. Buy an inexpensive electric lawn "pH test." A lawn pH of 6.5 is ideal. Pulverized dolomitic limestone will raise the pH in the shortest amount of time.



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Ahhhh....Spring Time in RCA LAND!

The azaleas bursting with color, blooming dogwoods and blossoming trees. An "Emerald Necklace" nearly surrounds the neighborhood as the trees in the parklands sprout their fresh greenery! Spring Time in RCA Land... there's nothing like it!

Spring is here... Market Activity is good. Open Houses are very busy! Denise is selling homes in RCA Land and helping growing families to find new homes. In just the past couple of months, Denise has helped several families find new homes in nearby areas at prices from \$200,000 to almost \$400,000. It really makes the home search and sale process a whole lot easier when you work with Denise... especially in a busy this market like we have now.

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