

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 48, Issue 6

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Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, April 7, 2005 8:00 p.m. NOTE: The April meeting, normally an Executive Meeting, has been changed to a General Meeting so that a vote can be taken regarding Rocking Horse Road traffic restrictions.

> RCA General Meeting Thursday, May 5, 2005 8:00 p.m.

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 meeting. April 2005



Traffic backed up along Rocking Horse Road during rush hour.

President's Message

by Matt Shore

Cut-through traffic has always been a problem that downcounty neighborhoods have been dealing with. The RCA is no exception to this rule. Boiling Brook, Schuylkill, Ashley and Rocking Horse roads have all become major routes for rush hour overflow. A proposal to alleviate this has been ongoing for the past few years. Before the County acts they need to have input from residents on this matter.

RCAer Doug Basher has spearheaded this effort after seeing the problem firsthand (see article on page 4). He collected data on cut-through traffic in RCA-land, and the County has suggested putting up signs restricting traffic during rush hours (7-9 a.m/4-6 p.m.). These signs would alleviate traffic coming off of Randolph Road onto Rocking Horse in the morning and the reverse in the evening. Many residents have probably already seen these types of signs. Please come to the April meeting for further information.

These traffic measures will have an impact on all of us. Being knowledgeable about these changes are in your best interest. Police will inevitably camp out around the new signs handing out tickets to drivers who do not obey the signs. I am only concerned with the 1300 people in our neighborhood. The target will be cut-through traffic and hopefully no one else. Keeping an eye on your watch will be a good idea. Stay tuned.

See you at the April meeting!

RCA Executive Committee for 2004-2005

OFFICERS

President Matthew Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Vice President Mike Saunders 12107 Hunters Lane 301-468-9268

2nd Vice President George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Secretary Kevin Kline 4808 Randolph Road 301-230-1486

Treasurer Richard Zierdt 4707 Coachway Drive 301-881-0283

Directors Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Frank Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

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Echo Advertising Mauro Biondo 11508 Monongahela Court 301-770-7590 COMMITTEE CHAIRS (continued)

Membership Carol Brown 4615 Olden Road 301-770-7440

Environment Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Education Elinor Walker 12111 Galena Road 301-468-6335

Yard Sale Signs Lorena Segura 4802 Macon Road 301-984-8727

Special Projects Kim and Cary Williams 4710 Topping Road 301-881-4554

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083 Dave Talbott 12104 Foley Street Silver Spring, MD 20902 301-933-0048

Cub Master, Pack 1081 George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Scout Liaison Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

Scout Unit Commissioner Mike Saunders 12107 Hunters Lane 301-468-9268

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487 Pat Hart 4905 Randolph Road 301-230-2740

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation: Kevin Kline, Matthew Shore, Eileen White, Richard Zierdt www.montgomerycivic.org

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA): Councilman: Howard Denis 240-777-7964 email: Councilmember:Denis@montgomerycountymd.gov Mr. Denis's aide: Ken Hartman

Councilmember: Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959 email: *Councilmember:floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov* Ms. Floreen's aide: Merle Steiner

General County Council Offices:240-777-7900County Executive (all of RCA):240-777-2500Douglas Duncan240-777-2500Montgomery County Public Schools:301-279-3000School Board Offices:301-279-3617

School Board Offices:301-279-3617School System Information:301-279-3391School Board Member for District 3
(representing all of RCA):301-320-7600Ms. Patricia O'Neill301-320-7600

Maryland Legislative District 18 (representing all of RCA): Senator: Sharon M. Grosfeld 301-858-3137 Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181 John Hurson 301-858-3770 Richard Madaleno Jr. 301-858-3130

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

U.S. Congressional District 8: Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341 email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate: Barbara Mikulski Paul Sarbanes

 Paul Sarbanes
 202-224-4524

 Election Precinct:
 04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 240-777-8500 751 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland 20851 www.777vote.org

Maryland State Board of Elections: www.elections.state.md.us

202-224-4654

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich Office of the Governor 100 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-974-3591 governor@gov.state.md.us www.gov.state.md.us

Con a con a

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 *eewhitedesign@comcast.net*. 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

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

March 3, 2005

RCAer Doug Basher offered a proposal to implement rush-hour traffic restrictions in RCA-land. Doug presented the details from the County. Because of the short notice, no General Membership vote was taken. However, the Executive Committee loved the idea of making it more difficult for non-local traffic to cut through our neighborhood. Passed by unanimous Executive Vote: "The proposed Traffic Control Plan is in the best interest of our community." The Execs appointed Doug RCA Traffic Restrictions Committee Chair, and all are welcome to join. The details will be posted on the RCA website, and Doug will write an article explaining the proposal (see page 4). A General Membership vote will be taken once people are aware of the details. Proxy votes might be printed in the Echo, so RCA members who cannot attend meetings may also vote. A petition of homeowners who support this proposal is required by the County.

A general discussion of RCA-land traffic concerns ensued. The County will replace the existing deteriorating Nicholson Lane Bridge No. M-113 over the CSX Railroad, and it will include an on-road bike path. The County announcement did not mention whether the new bridge would be any wider. Later in the evening Kim Williams offered the excellent suggestion of getting the County to boldly paint and mark the crosswalks at Boiling Brook and Rocking Horse Road. Many RCA residents would like a traffic light at this intersection, but the County is non-responsive.

The new RCA Beautification Project, headed by RCAers Richard and Dawn Zierdt, with Bette Walling and Lester Bollinger, is off and running. You can see for yourself the gardening improvement they made on the Boiling Brook median, and at the Randolph Hills sign on Ashley and Coachway. Richard and Dawn were not present to hear our words of gratitude.

Echo Editor Eileen White attended a WSSC meeting on behalf of the RCA. The water company plans a "big dig" water pipe connecting an existing main to Prince George's County. One proposed path would bring a huge, 84" water pipe alongside RCA-land. Beginning near Tuckerman Lane, the pipe would follow the CSX railway, and continue into Rock Creek Park. This alignment is one of nine possibilities WSSC is considering (see article on page 6). Eileen will continue to monitor this proposal.

The following housekeeping measures were passed by the General Membership. By unanimous voice-vote: the Meeting Minutes as published – and amended – in the March Echo. By unanimous voice-vote: the Treasurer's Report as printed in the March Echo. By unanimous

(continued on page 9)



Come Visit Our New Dining Room!

We feature Armand's Original Deep Dish & Thin Crust Pizza. Now offering new menu items including pasta entrees, beer & wine and desserts.

Lunch Buffet daily from 11:30am-2:30pm, includes pizza, pasta & salad. \$6.99 per person.

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* * * \$10.00 MINIMUM DELIVERY ORDER * * *





Proposed Rush Hour Restrictions for Randolph Hills

By Doug Basher, Committee Chair for Traffic Restrictions

As a resident of Randolph Hills for 20 years, I became involved in the issue of traffic restrictions back in April of 2000. I began to notice larger and larger amounts of traffic using Rocking Horse Road. I became increasingly annoved as it became harder and harder for me to leave for work in the mornings, and traffic was even worse returning home in the evenings. Frequently, traffic backed up in front of my house every night, commuters with loud, bass-thumping stereos and large commercial trucks all at a stand still and backed up from one end of Rocking Horse to the other. Finally, after almost getting hit one morning by a speeder, I had enough and in September I wrote the county and asked for help. I was told that I needed to count the number of cars using Rocking Horse Road during a one hour period during peak rush hour, take down their tag numbers, and submit the information to the county. I was a little dismayed that I had to do all the footwork, however, I was determined to see it through.

My survey taken on 1/10/2001 showed 610 vehicles used Rocking Horse Road between 8:00 - 9:00 am and 706 between 5:00 - 6:00 pm. Upon presenting my findings to the county, a contractor was hired to conduct an official traffic count. A survey conducted on 5/15/2001 between 8:00 - 9:00 am by the county contractor showed 818 vehicles per hour, 625 of which were non-local including 122 out of state or commercial tags, and only 71 which were local and within 3/4 of a mile range. Boiled down, the traffic on Rocking Horse was at twice the volume designated by the state, and it soon became apparent that Rocking Horse Road was overtasked and huge amounts of traffic were using our neighborhood as a cut-though. The Department of Public Works stepped in and began to draft a Traffic Access Impact Restriction Study. This study has continued for over four years and involved myself, Richard Zierdt, and a team of traffic planners. It covered areas such as Impacts on Surrounding Residential Communities as well as Impact on Surrounding Arterial/Major Roadway Networks, aerial photos, and vast amounts of information.

I am, as well as all of the many other people who I have talked to over the years about this problem who not only live on Rocking Horse but throughout our community and have all reached a general consensus, aware that our community needs to put a stop once and for all to the commuter traffic that uses RCA-Land as a cut-through and that clogs our streets morning and evening of every day of the work week. This plan helps do just that, allowing our community to be quieter, safer, and to help maintain the overall quality of life for all the residents in the RCA Community.

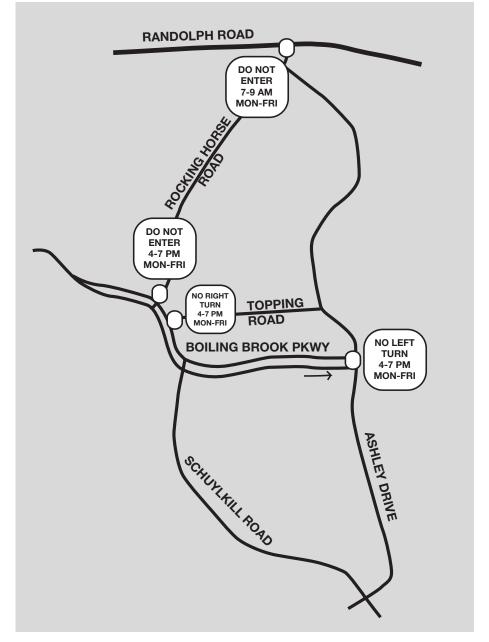
Description of Preliminary Access Restriction Plan

The proposed plan is designed to limit access of commuter and non-local cut-through traffic through the Randolph Hills neighborhood without severely impacting the accessibility of local residents who live within the community. Thus, all proposed traffic restrictions are intended to limit non-local traffic from traveling on residential neighborhood streets, thereby improving the quality of life for the residents.

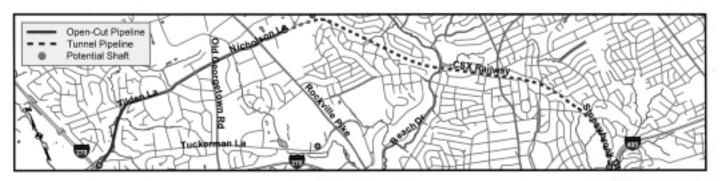
The preliminary plan proposes AM and PM peak period access restrictions. During the AM peak period the proposed restriction is intended to alleviate the southbound cut-through traffic on Rocking Horse Road. The proposed AM peak period access restriction is for "Do Not Enter 7-9 AM, Monday-Friday" for southbound Rocking Horse Road.

The proposed PM peak period access restrictions are intended to alleviate northbound cut-through traffic through the community. In this regard, the proposed PM peak period access restrictions are "Do Not Enter 4-7 PM, Monday through Friday" on northbound Rocking Horse Road at the intersection with Boiling Brook Parkway, "No Left Turn 4-7 PM, Monday-Friday" on eastbound Boiling Brook Parkway

at Ashley Drive, and "No Right Turn 4-7 PM, Monday through Friday" on westbound Boiling Brook Parkway at Topping Road. ■ These proposals will be brought to a vote at the April 7th RCA meeting. While the April meeting is normally an Executive Committee meeting, these proposals are timely, and should be acted upon by the RCA on soon as possible.



Placement of proposed traffic restriction signs limiting access to Rocking Horse Road, Topping Road, and Ashley Drive during rush hour. The traffic restrictions will greatly reduce cut-through traffic in RCA-Land.



Alternative Route C5 would run alongside RCA-Land under theCSX tracks.

WSSC Bi-County Water Main Study Underway

Route Alongside RCA-Land One of Nine Alternatives Considered

by Eileen White

Some of you may have heard the rather alarming (and premature) news that WSSC is planning to run a huge new water main through our neighborhood. I attended a WSSC informational meeting on March 1st and am happy to report that this is not exactly true. While WSSC is planning a new, significant water main in our area, the direct impact on RCA-land will be minimal.

Due to increased demand from Prince George's County, WSSC plans to run 5.5 miles of new 84" diameter water pipe that will connect two large existing water mains in Montgomery County. The new water main will transport water from WSSC's Potomac Water Filtration Plant to customers in eastern Montgomery County and in Prince George's County. WSSC feels this pipe is necessary because demand in the eastern part of WSSC's range will soon outstrip current capacity, resulting in periods of decreased water pressure in the Silver Spring and Wheaton areas. This project is currently in the "Study Phase", which is expected to last until August 2005. When this phase is complete, WSSC will seek the concurrence of both the Montgomery and Prince George's County Councils on the preferred alignment and construction methods. The next phase, Design and

Permitting, would extend until April 2007, with construction expected to last from July 2007 until July 2010. Funding for the project will be paid for by development. WSSC has already conducted three initial public meetings to inform the public of the possible alignments. They have distributed brochures and launched a web page for the project. Next, WSSC will be forming a Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) to include representatives from the affected communities who will meet with the project team to provide insight and feedback.

WSSC is considering nine possible alignments and two construction methods for this project, weighing factors such as tree removal, wetland impacts, and cost factors. The more disruptive construction method is the "open-cut" pipeline, which involves excavating a 15 foot deep trench and dropping the pipe in. This method requires a 75 foot wide working corridor for the trench and equipment, and would involved significant tree loss. The second method is the tunnel method: a shaft is bored 150 to 300 feet deep until bedrock is reached, and then the horizontal tunnel is blasted entirely underground. This method would cause virtually no disturbance above ground, except at three points along the route at which access shafts

would be required. A third construction option would involve a combination of these two methods.

Of the nine alignments being considered, only one would directly affect RCA-Land. This route, "Alternative C5 – Nicholson Lane Open-Cut/CSX Railway Tunnel" would begin as an open-cut pipeline starting near the intersection of Tuckerman Lane and I-270; it would go northeast along Cabin John Regional Park, then follow Tilden Lane and Nicholson Lane eastward to where it meets the CSX railway. At this point, a shaft would be sunk and a tunnel pipeline would follow the CSX tracks alongside RCA-Land and continue through Kensington to Stoneybrook Drive. The portion of the alignment closest to us would be constructed entirely underground, and any disturbance to our community would be minimal, if even noticed at all. The location of the working shaft will be an area of possible concern, as it will involve trucks hauling material in and out 24/7, but this will most likely be located just outside of our neighborhood, probably somewhere along Nebel Street.

The eight other alignments follow a variety of routes through Kensington and parts of Rock Creek Park. I know I breathed a sign of relief when I learned that any construction in our neighborhood would be peripheral and entirely underground, but the Parkwood Community to our south is quite concerned – one of the alignments runs directly under Saul Road! Although WSSC claims to have no preferred alignment at this time, I suspect the CSX alignment is not tops on their

Treasurer's Report by Richard Zierdt

As of February 23, 2005, combined RCA+RCF assets total approximately 10,718.16. I was away during the first week of March, and could not access recent RCF statements, but that account has very little activity on it anyhow. I'll have a complete update in the May *Echo*.

RCA Checking Register 1/22/2005 through 2/23/2005										
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance					
		BALANCE 01/22/200	5		11,186.82					
02/03		RCAssociation		165.00	11,351.82					
		inc:advertising	Mitch Remer, income	20.00						
		inc:advertising	Seigel - ad	5.00						
		inc:membership		140.00						
02/16	E-xfr	Verizon	Jan 22 telephone	-24.76	11,327.06					
02/23	750	Quick Printing	March ECHO 20 pgs	-997.50	10,329.56					
02/23		Suntrust Bank	Bank statement: 10,329	0.56	10,329.56					
BALANCE 02/23/2005					10,329.56					
			Checking Register 05 through 2/23/2005							
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance					
BALANCE 02/06/2005					388.60					
Total RCA+RCF cash assets										

list – it is the least direct route, and the tunnel method is expensive. However, even if another route is selected, there is still some cause for concern. One of the routes involves a open-cut pipeline through Rock Creek Park (starting near the intersection with Rockville Pike), and would close parts of Beach Drive for months at a time, not to mention the loss of acres of trees and disruption to wildlife. If the pipe must go through Rock Creek Park, the tunnel method would be far less disruptive; this alternative is also being evaluated by WSSC.

If you would like to learn more about this project, or would like to join the CAC, visit the WSSC web site at www.wsscwater.com, click on "Projects", then "Major Construction Projects and Studies." Or call John Mitchell, WSSC Project Manager, at 301-206-8885. ■ Fax: 301-762-6198 email: jewelleg@bellatlantic.net

Jewell Elizabeth Golden, MSW

Licensed Clinical Social Worker Board Certified Diplomate

Private Practice 1002 Brice Road Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 762-9090 Catholic Charities 11160 Veirs Mill Road Wheaton, MD 20902 (301) 942-1856

Spring is in the air!

Loehmann's plaza

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JBG Rosenfeld Retail Properties 4445 Willard Avenue, Suite 700, Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815 Telephone: (301) 657-0700; Fax: (301) 657-9850

The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received February 6 to March 11, 2005

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.

2005-02-07 (Mon) 4:15 pm Anonymous. Doesn't agree the *Echo* should be printed in Spanish, otherwise, people with other languages will also want it printed in their language (Vietnamese, Chinese, etc.), which we do have many in our neighborhood. When in Rome... If one doesn't know English, then little by little one will learn it so one can read the *Echo*. English is America's language. *[BTW, transcriber's sense is that caller is Hispanic]*

2005-02-17 (Thu) 11:21 pm 114xx Schuylkill Road. Again, caller did not receive the *Echo*.



2005-02-21 (Mon) 12:22 pm 49xx Ertter Drive. Yesterday, caller received second copy of the *Echo*. Caller appreciates the excellent service, but thinks maybe the extra copy should go elsewhere.

2005-02-22 (Tue) 6:00 pm Hunters Lane. Would it be possible to receive a dry copy of the *Echo*? The *Echo* was discovered while shoveling caller's sidewalk. It is in sad shape.

2005-02-22 (Tue) 8:46 pm Anonymous. Message to RCA president. Caller believes RCA should not be translated into foreign languages, because once that happens, the RCA will have to translate the *Echo* into Chinese, Korean, Japanese, African languages. Spanish readers: Start reading English, because we are in North America, not South-Central America.

2005-03-08 (Tue) 4:26 pm Grayling Lane. When is community yard sale this spring?

2005-03-09 (Wed) 4:05 pm Anonymous. (1) Update the outgoing message. (2) Was calling about ordering mulch. *[(1) Done. (2) www.troop1083.org, although mulch orders are finished for this season.]*

2005-03-10 (Thu) 1:36 pm Not anonymous. Problem with neighbor's tree, whose large limb fell into caller's yard. Too big to move. Neighbor will not move it. What can be done about this?

2005-03-10 (Thu) 2:37 pm Not anonymous. Is there going to be a yard sale this Spring? [Yes!] ■

RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 3)

voice-vote: \$200 for the Cub Scouts.

Passed by unanimous voice-vote: The RCA supports the Montgomery County Civic Federation (our civic umbrella group) in its effort to keep the present threshold of 10,000 signatures for ballot initiatives. The County Council wants to raise the limit of signatures needed for grassroots efforts in getting a measure on the ballot for all to vote on. Vice-president Mike Saunders states "the RCA is opposed to changes in the County Charter that adversely affect citizens' right of referendum, a cornerstone of our democracy."

The General Membership voted to keep the name "Belt" for that school that has become a geographic fixture. The School Board is contemplating re-naming this middle school which is re-opening after having been closed for years. ■

News from Pack 1081

by George Gadbois



Spearheaded for the final time by Mrs. Pat Hart, our annual Blue and Gold Banquet at Viers Mill Elementary School on Thursday the 17th celebrated the 75th birthday bash of Cub Scouting with a "State of Maryland" and "75th Anniversary" combined theme. We returned to our traditional cuisine of chicken, baked to perfection by Mr. Hart, Pack 1081's renowned head cook and a chef by trade. The added array of side dishes and desserts brought by families were delicious as always. Mr. Beam's PowerPoint slideshow brought back memories as we saw ourselves over the past year in scouting. The presentation of our 42nd annual Charter, flag ceremonies, a "no-skit" skit and a song by Webelos I, recognition of our adult leadership as well as a host of awards to hard-working Scouts were among the highlights.

Our Webelos II earned the following Webelos Activity Pin achieve-



Group shot of our Cubs inside the National Building Museum.

ments: Craftsman Pin – Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart; Naturalist Pin – Scott Levengard; Compass Point Emblem – Scott Levengard; West Compass Point – Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Josh Hart. Awards from our Webelos I ranks: Engineering Activity Pin – Matthew Luong; Citizenship Activity Pin –

Taking a breather and a photo-op at the Wheaton Ice Rink.



Matthew Best, Clark Cervantes, **Christopher Chalfont-Leal, Maxwell DeMulder**, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk. Recipients of the Bear Rank Badge were: Tyler Bochniak, Brad Gessford, Sawyer Kibbe, Richard Torres; earning the Whittlin' Chip Award (learning knife safety) – Tyler Bochniak, Brad Gessford, Sawyer Kibbe; Chess, Computers & Science Academic Pins - Tyler Bochniak; Weather Academics Pin - Sawyer Kibbe; Flag Football Sports Pin -Tyler Bochniak; Bear scouts awarded Arrow Points for elective activities were: Gold Point - Tyler Bochniak, Brad Gessford, Sawyer Kibbe, Richard Torres; Silver Point -Sawyer Kibbe, Richard Torres. Our Wolf boys earning their Wolf Badge were: Kyle Baal, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Christopher Mulcahy, Preston Polk, DJ Terry; as for Sports & Academic Program Pins: Chess Academic Pin went to Adam Levengard: Wolf scouts awarded Arrow Points for their elective activities were: Gold Point - Kyle Baal, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Christopher Mulcahy, Preston Polk,

DJ Terry; Silver Point – **Adam Levengard**. Wrapping up, our two hard-working Tigers earned their Tiger Badges: **Elijah Evans** and **Conor McGinley**; Sports & Academic Program Belt Loops for Ice Skating were also awarded to both of these Tiger scouts.

What has evolved as our annual Ice Skating event took place this year again at the Wheaton Indoor Ice Rink on February 13, and we again saw our boys zipping around the ice to the music of the arena. Matt Fieller and Anthony Gadbois from Troop 1083, Jason Beam, Alan Costas, Joshua Murtagh, Clark Cervantes, Christopher Chalfant-Leal, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong, Tyler Bochniak, Brad Gessford, Sawyer Kibbe, DJ Terry and Elijah Evans were in attendance and took time to sip hot chocolate and snack on Valentine cookies during the halftime ice cleaning.

On the 21st of February, the Pack joined Troop 1083 again for an annual ski outing to Liberty in Pennsylvania. Conditions were prime on the slopes for our Olympic scouts that ventured out: Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, DJ Terry, Brad Gessford, Patrick Owen, Jason Beam, Gregory Gadbois, Alan Costas and Scott Levengard.

On Saturday March 5th, we had a great day for riding Metro down to the National Building Museum for our March outing. The boys wandered through the "Liquid Stone" and "Tools of the Imagination" exhibits, which gave the boys some perspective on concrete innovations and a history of architect & designers' tools respectively. We were then treated to an informative tour of the building itself by one of the volunteer docents. Scouts on their way to be building designers were **Chris Mulcahy, Adam Levengard, Aidan Gibbons, DJ Terry, Gregory Gadbois** and **Scott Levengard**.

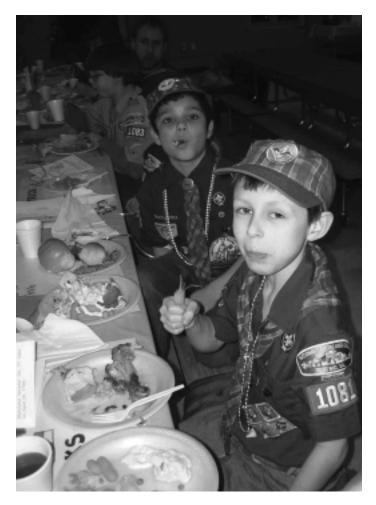
At press time, we're looking forward to more March activities including a Webelos Camp-In overnight at the Maryland Science Center, a Webelos II overnight campout to Cabin John with Troop 1083, the District Pinewood Derby finals and our Parent/Son Bake-Off. On April 2nd you will be seeing some of us along Boiling Brook Parkway again doing some creek cleanup for our community.

If you are interested in learning more about the Cub Scout program for your 1st – 5th grade son, please stop by Viers Mill ES any Monday evening at 6:30 or call George Gadbois at 301-770-5386. It's never too late to join! Please enjoy a visit to our website:

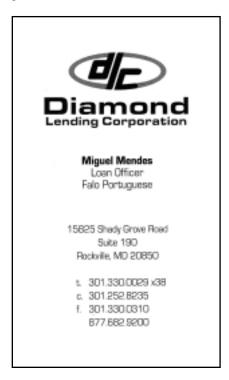
http://hometown.aol.com/pack1081.

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

Call 301-881-2722 RCA Hotline – 24 hours



Webelos scouts enjoying some Cub Grub at this year's Blue & Gold Banquet.





Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

In February, many of our scouts and leaders traveled to Liberty Mountain Resort in Carroll Valley, Pennsylvania for our annual Ski Trip. Most of our scouts are seasoned skiers, but there were plenty of first-timers too. A ski lesson is part of the package, for those who need it. **Mike Saunders** provided guidance for the skiing merit badge to several scouts.

Scouts who attended the ski trip are: Matt Binstead, Kyle Blakely, Anthony Gadbois, Matt Fieller, Edwin Fuentes, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Johnson, Joseph Owen, John Pitkin, Steven Santos, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott. Leaders who attended the ski trip are: Dave Binstead, Bill Blakely, Richard Fieller, George Gadbois, Brian McGahey, Jane Owen, Jeff Owen, Ben Pitkin, Otilia Santos, Mike Saunders, Lydia Taghavi, Dave Talbott, Judy Talbott, and Jaime Todaro.

The boys in Scout Troop 1083 really put a lot of time and effort into learning valuable life skills, how to be responsible citizens, and the importance of providing service to the community. Scouts lend a hand in the community throughout the year – sometimes with fanfare, more often without. They collect food for the hungry, pick up litter in public areas, help senior citizens with snow removal and other chores, and bring Santa to Randolph Hills for the annual fire truck ride. In fact, a scout brought you the *Echo* you hold in your hands!

In an age when many people are focused on their own interests, these boys take pride in reaching out to others. The parents and leaders of Troop 1083 are rightfully proud of these boys, and the troop is delighted to be able to offer the boys fun and rewarding opportunities like the ski trip, camping, hiking, swimming, and more – from the mountains to the beaches and everywhere in between – all year round.

Upcoming events include a weekend campout, and Potomac Watershed 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 web page at *www.troop1083.org.* ■



Girl Scout Troop 1487

by Pat Hart

The girls in Troop 1487 have been very busy the month of March. Cookie booth sales kept us busy for most weekends. I'm sure most of you saw us at the Safeway or Blockbuster stores in Loehmann's Plaza. If you haven't gotten your Girl Scout cookies by now I'm afraid you will have to wait until next year.

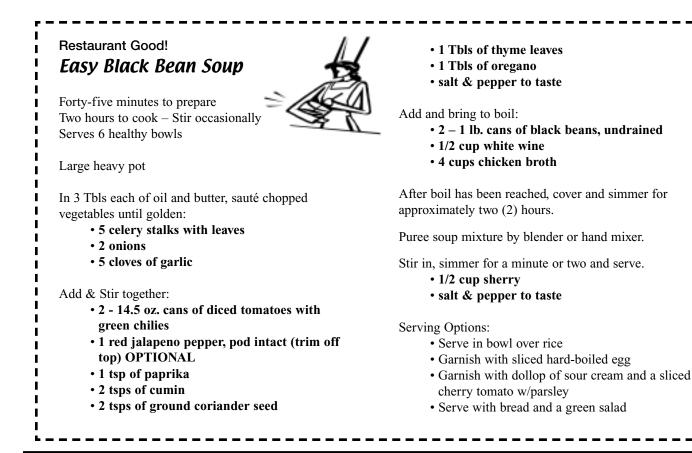
We are now in the midst of planning for the upcoming Girl Scout Encampment which will take place the weekend of April 15th at Brighton Woods, the Girl Scout camp in Olney, Maryland. The girls will camp, work on the Theater badge, learn songs and meet girls from all around this area. We are all looking forward to this event. For some of our new girls this will be their first camping experience.

We missed our last meeting in February due to the snow, and had planned to celebrate Girl Scout Thinking Day, February 22nd, by telling of friends we know from other countries. All the girls who were in the troop last year can remember **Abbey Taylor**, who moved with her family to the Philippines, and has just welcomed a new baby brother. Congratulations to the Taylor family from all of us in Troop 1487, we sure miss you Abbey! ■











Listen. It's disgusting how some plumbers treat you when you have a problem. When you call you end up talking to an answering machine...or worse, "voice mail".

And when you do talk to a live person they don't want to give you a <u>real</u> appointment. They say "We'll be there between 10 and 4". Even at that, a lot of them don't show up at all.

But that's not all. When you are lucky enough to get a plumber to show up he can talk rude, smell like a goat, leave your house in a mess, charge you "an arm and a leg"...and as a final insult, act like <u>he's</u> doing you a favor. I believe... I'm fed up with the bad image some plumbers are giving the rest of us.

That's why, 12 years ago, I started a "one company revolution" to give picky Washington Metro Area home owners the opportunity to call a plumber who will treat you with courtesy and respect. In fact, over 1,000 of the pickiest people in the Washington Metro Area have already discovered how to solve their...

· dripping faucet

- water leak
- · stopped drain
- · no hot water

... problems with ease and comfort.

You have a busy schedule, you value your time, and you hate to waste a day waiting for a service man to show up.

Now there is a new way to get plumbing service, 'save money, and more importantly, get a GUARANTEED APPOINTMENT TIME so you don't have to waste time waiting!

Doesn't it just make sense to call <u>Shipley Plumbing & Heating</u> now for a FREE appointment time?

CALL NOW: 24 Hours a day to talk to a LIVE service advisor, (not voice mail).

MD Lic. # 6822 • W.S.S.C. Reg. # 1013

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clip and save

Dear Mrs. Brown



ETIQUETTE QUIZ

1. The proper way to introduce people is to:

- A. Use both first and last names.
- B. Use just their first names.
- C. Use just their last names.
- D. Use first and last names for adults only.
- 2. If one of your neighbors is having a fight that is loud and could be considered dangerous:
 - A. Slide spousal abuse literature underneath their door.
 - B. Knock on their door and ask them to stop.
 - C. Call the police.
 - D. Telephone other neighbors and talk about it.

3. If your cell phone rings while dining in a restaurant you should:

- A. Answer the phone and say you will call them back later.
- B. Answer the phone and carry on a conversation.
- C. Excuse yourself from the table and take the call.
- D. None of the above.

4. Menus that are "à la carte" mean:

- A. Food is served at a buffet station.
- B. The meal includes choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert.
- C. The tip is included in the check total.
- D. Each item is priced separately.

5. When you need a waiter's attention:

- A. Wait until he comes around to check on your table.
- B. Raise your hand when he is nearby to get his attention.
- C. Call out to him.
- D. Get up from the table and go find him.

6. Dinner table discussions should be:

- A. Pleasant conversations.
- B. A time to discuss serious family matters.
- C. A time to go over homework.
- D. All of the above.



- 7. At the end of a meal, a napkin should be loosely placed:
 - A. On your chair.
 - B. On your plate.
 - C. On the table.
 - D. On the floor.
- 8. When a dinner guest in someone's home, you do not have to help clear the table:
 - A. When there is professional help serving.
 - B. If you are not a relative.
 - C. If you arrived with a bottle of wine or other gift.
 - D. If you are male.
- 9. If your child throws a temper tantrum in public, you should:
 - A. Apologize to the people around you.
 - B. Leave the scene with child in tow.
 - C. Discipline the child on the spot.
 - D. Ignore the tantrum.
- 10. If your teen has a party in your home and a guest arrives or attempts to leave intoxicated, you should: A. Call the police.

 - B. Don't let the teen in/let the teen drive home.
 - C. Make room for this guest to stay overnight and call his/her parents.
 - D. Prepare strong coffee and make them drink at least two cups.

11. If your child experiments with a fashion craze that you don't especially like, you should:

- A. Tell the child it is stupid.
- B. Pretend you like it so your child will think you are a cool parent.
- C. Casually mention that you do not find the trend particularly attractive.
- D. Punish the child.

12. When choosing clothes, it is important to develop a wardrobe style in which you:

- A. Recognize your body type and know which styles flatter you.
- B. Include some classics that never go out of style.
- C. Feel comfortable and confident.
- D. All of the above.

ANSWERS:

1- A; 2- C; 3-D: cell phones should be turned off unless you are expecting an urgent call or need to be accessible for a babysitter; 4-D; 5-B; 6-A; 7-C; 8-A; 9-B; 10-C; 11-C; 12-D.

Mail your questions to: The RCA, Inc, Attn: Dear Mrs. Brown, P.O. Box 2202, North Bethesda, MD 20852; or e-mail: dearmrsbrown@msn.com.

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To find more RCA information go to http://www.randolphcivic.org designed by

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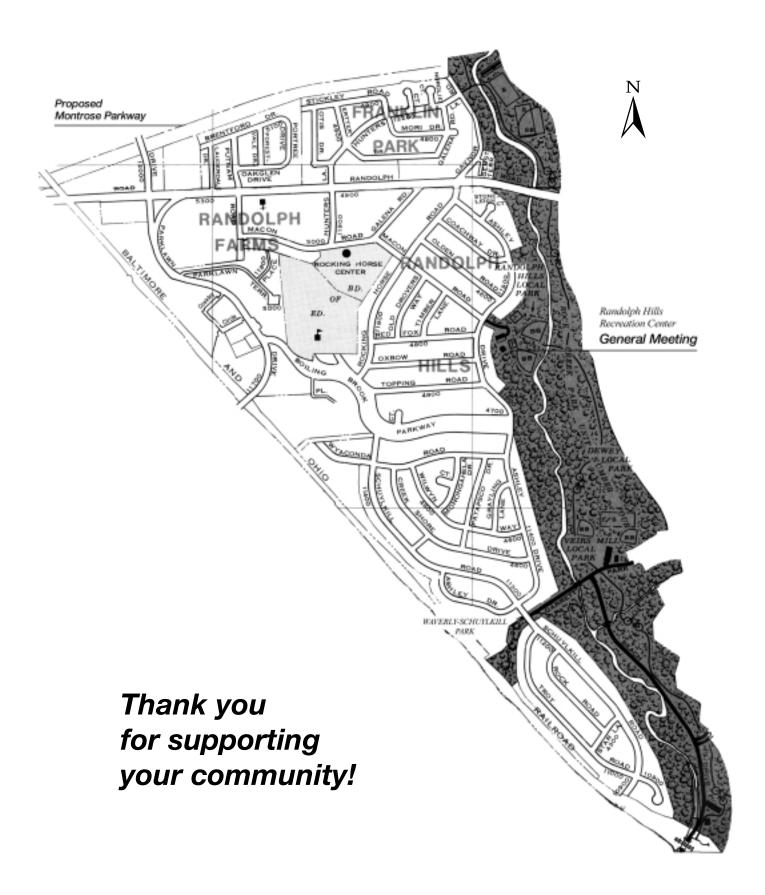
Lori L. Teachum ewebavenue.com or 301-540-1106



MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK POLICE MONTGOMERY COUNTY DIVISION

SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ? DRUG USE ?

CALL THE PARK POLICE EMERGENCY: (301) 949-3010 NON-EMERGENCY: (301) 949-8010



C L A S S I F I E D S

The Echo publishes classified ads free for community members, to a maximum of one ad per year per household. Additional ads may be purchased for \$5.00. The Echo makes every effort to ensure the quality of goods or services offered.

GIVEAWAY (almost). Solid oak canopy posts, supports, and ceiling mirrors that attached to a king-size water bed frame. Probably fits any king-size bed (bed frame not included). Enhance your sleeping experience. Free with \$5 RCA membership. Call Richard at 301-881-0283.

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, 24 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

Note to Contributors:

The deadline for the May issue of the *Echo* is Saturday, April 9th.

Yard Work and Grass Mowing: Here's Your Help

Here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, grass mowing, snow shoveling, general yard work, etc. Negotiate cost and payment with each boy.

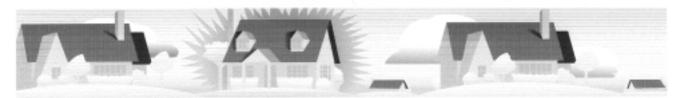
Andrew Souder 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive Matt Bebawy 301-881-4698 Red Fox Alex Cassel 301-770-8757 Macon Road Steven Santos 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way Chris Geerman 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive Mark Bushong 301-942-5890 Bennion Road Andy Wood 301-946-4634 Idlewood Road Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Need Babysitting Services?

Casey Stillwell 301-231-4934 Macon Road

Important Phone Numbers 2

Police: Non-Emergency (Police Reporting Areas (PRA): Franklin, Montrose Park: #306; Westminster, Randolph Farms: #308; Randolph Hills 1st & 2nd sections #308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309) Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)301-279-1591 (for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks) Abandoned Cars (on private property)240-777-3600 (wildlife nuisance problems) (for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.) Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance240-777-7700 (noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil) (to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.) Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist)240-777-7623



Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, Franklin Park and Montrose Park Market Update...

Neighborhood Home Sales Settled Since January 2005

Address	Orig Price	List Price	Sold Price	Dom	Subsidy
11811 Rocking Horse Rd	\$369,900	\$369,900	\$369,900	3	\$0
11808 Ashley Drive	\$389,990	\$389,990	\$390,000	31	\$5,902
12116 Otis Drive	\$425,000	\$425,000	\$418,500	66	\$0
T: 1		d will be contin	a in March a	d Anei	1

Five homes are under contract and will be settling in March and April.

Forget the Groundhog - the Spring Market is Here Right Now! Buyers are out in droves and my open houses are very busy. Many homes are selling with multiple offers. With interest rates remaining low, this Spring is getting off to a quick start. When you're ready to look for a a new home in the area, or sell your current home, call Denise. Celebrating sixteen years as "Your Neighborhood Realtor!"



"Professional Service with a Personal Couch!"

Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc. 11540 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda, MD 20852 O. 301-468-0606 C. 301-452-5544 Email: denise.szczur@longandfoster.com

