

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 48, Issue 3

December 2004

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President's Message

by Matt Shore

I wanted to personally thank Councilwoman Nancy Floreen for coming to our October meeting and listening to all of our concerns about our community. One of our ongoing problems is the grooved pavement at Randolph and Parklawn out in front of Loehmann's Plaza. I mentioned this to Nancy at the meeting and expected a canned response to pacify me, but surprisingly I got a call the next day from her aide Merle Steiner with her report on the problem. She told me that the County has plans to fix this before Thanksgiving. Hopefully by the time you're reading this you will have seen and felt the repair. If you ever have problems with the County don't hesitate to call her. She is very responsive and will address your concerns.

The November elections had a huge turnout in this country and 70 percent here in this community. That was fantastic for people to get out and vote. It doesn't matter who or what you vote for as long as you exercise your right to do so. Your vote always counts and makes a difference. Thanks to everyone who came out and voted.

See you at the December meeting. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! ■



Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting
Thursday, December 2, 2004
8:00 p.m.

Invited guest:
Our State District 18 delegate
Richard Madaleno, Jr.

No meeting in January

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.

Minutes of the RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, November 4, 2004

by Richard Zierdt

Present: RCA president Matt Shore, vice president George Gadbois, and treasurer Richard Zierdt. Since quorum was not present, no official actions were taken. RCA secretary Kevin Kline, whose father passed away last week, was in Oklahoma. Our condolences go out to Kevin and his family.

High voter turnout was noted at the November 2 U.S. General Election. Voting results for our precinct, 04-15 will be printed in the *Echo*. The RCA neighborhood signs have been ordered, but not received. Cost will be about \$3,000. No deposit was requested or given, so we are only out the waiting time.

(continued on page 3)

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

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White
11225 Ashley Drive
301-984-2579

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: 240-777-7900

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 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 202-224-4654

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

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



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..."

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

RCA Executive Meeting

(continued from page 1)

Yard sale signs. The RCA has yard sale signs to loan to residents for free.

House on Ashley Drive. The owner is facing another court date for excessive housing violations. Owner was fined earlier this year.

Graffiti. An RCA resident, who wishes to keep a low profile, offers to immediately remove graffiti if this resident is notified. Richard Zierdt offered to be the go-between. If anyone spots graffiti in our neighborhood, please call Richard Zierdt (phone # on page 2) so he can relay the message to the "remover."

Snitch Fund. It has been suggested that the RCA offer an award to anyone who can provide information leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of anyone "tagging" the neighborhood (graffiti).

Echo in Spanish. It has been suggested that the *Echo* have editions available in Spanish. The ExCom thinks a translator would be necessary, either to write the *Echo* him/herself, or to proofread a translation made by a computer. The ExCom felt a Spanish edition could be possible if someone would volunteer to translate it.

Neighborhood signs. Richard Zierdt showed some pictures he took of more elaborate neighborhood entrance signs in the area. Most are made of masonry. A slide show of these signs could be presented at an RCA general meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:35 pm. ■

State Delegate Madaleno Invited to RCA December Meeting

by Richard Zierdt

One of our three Maryland State delegates, Richard Madaleno, Jr., has been invited to our regular RCA meeting on our usual date/place/time of Thursday, December 2, Randolph Hills Recreation Center at 8 PM.

The RCA is now entirely in State district 18 (Chevy Chase, Garrett Park). Up until the last re-districting in 2000, we were split between districts 17 (Rockville) and 19 (Wheaton).

Mr. Madaleno asked if he could attend an RCA meeting, and I telephoned his office and suggested this meeting. As of RCA press time, we have not confirmed, but unless there's a scheduling conflict, he should be here. If he cannot attend this time, we will try again on March 3, the next regular RCA meeting.

Maryland State issues may seem unrelated to our lives here in RCA, but road and school construction are very much influenced by State funding, or lack thereof – to name just two State functions. Come out and hear what's happening in Annapolis this year. ■

ARMAND'S PIZZERIA & GRILLE

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We feature Armand's Original

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Echo



Fax: 301-762-6198
email: jewelleg@bellatlantic.net

Jewell Elizabeth Golden, MSW

Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Board Certified Diplomat

Private Practice
1002 Brice Road
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 762-9090

Catholic Charities
11160 Veirs Mill Road
Wheaton, MD 20902
(301) 942-1856

Rockville Automotive & Truck Service

Steve Caffi
ASE Certified

Paul Kinkead
ASE Master Technician

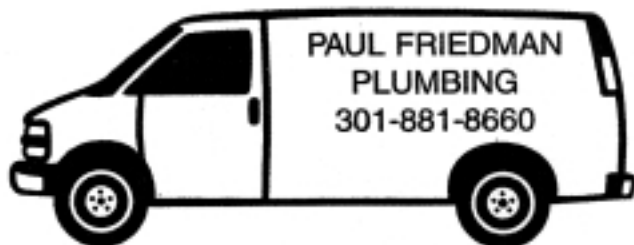
14716 Southlawn Lane
Rockville, Maryland 20850
(301) 251-7830

12221 Parklawn Drive
Rockville, Maryland 20852
(301) 881-3200

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Reporting Streetlight Outages Online

by Richard Zierdt

This is an updated version of the same article from the December 2002 *Echo*. We should post this information on our own web site, www.randolphcivic.org

It's getting easier all the time! You – Yes, You – can now report malfunctioning street lights on-line, 24 hours a day, and you don't need to walk out in the night to get the utility pole number! Here's how (one of many ways to get there):

1. Go to www.montgomerycountymd.gov
2. Click on "Departments" (left side of screen)
3. Click on "Public Works and Transportation" (right side, pan down a bit)
4. Click on "Service Index" in the middle of the 2nd paragraph
5. Click on "streetlights" (under "S" – pan down a bit)
6. Click on "Maintenance"

From there, you can select from a couple of ways to report the outage. One way is to simply click on the County map that is shown, and successively "click down" our neighborhood and your street. Eventually, aerial photos of our neighborhood are shown. You can even see the roofs of our houses! Not all utility poles are shown, however.

Or use the **Streetlight Outage Form**: <http://gis.montgomerycountymd.gov/ims/Lights/submitform.htm> ■



Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: 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

Treasurer's Report *by Richard Zierdt*

As of November 7, 2004, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$16,801.62. Sam's Club renewals will be over \$5000 this year! We have a lot of members! ■

| RCA Checking Register | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|--|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| 10/10/2004 through 11/07/2004 | | | | | |
| Date | Num | Payee | Memo | Amount | Balance |
| | | BALANCE 10/09/2004 | | | 20,196.5 |
| 10/13 | | RCA | inc:advert | 476.00 | 20,672.95 |
| 10/18 | | Verizon | Sep 22 Telephone | -24.67 | 20,648.28 |
| 10/18 | 737 | Quick Printing | Nov ECHO 2 ECHO | -997.50 | 19,650.78 |
| 10/25 | | <i>Suntrust Bank internet banking balance: 21,620.28</i> | | | 19,650.78 |
| 10/25 | | Randolph Civic | | 972.00 | 20,622.78 |
| 10/31 | 738 | Sam's Club | Sam's membership renewals | -4,830.00 | 15,792.78 |
| 11/01 | | RCA | membership | 240.00 | 16,032.78 |
| 11/01 | | RCA | inc:advert | 167.00 | 16,199.78 |
| 11/04 | | RCA | inc:advert | 140.00 | 16,339.78 |
| | | BALANCE 11/07/2004 | | | 16,339.78 |

| RCF Checking Register | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|--|------|--------|---------------|
| 10/10/2004 through 11/07/2004 | | | | | |
| Date | Num | Payee | Memo | Amount | Balance |
| | | BALANCE 10/09/2004 | | | 461.79 |
| 10/29 | | interest received .10% | | 0.05 | 461.84 |
| 10/31 | | <i>Suntrust bank statement: \$461.84</i> | | | 461.84 |
| | | BALANCE 11/07/2004 | | | 461.84 |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------|
| Total RCA+RCF cash assets | | | | | 16,801.62 |
|----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|------------------|

Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the January/February issue of the *Echo* is Saturday, January 8th.

LOEHMANN'S PLAZA



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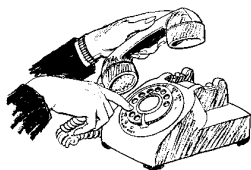
| | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Blockbuster Video | (301) 468-1096 |
| Boat U.S. | (301) 230-0945 |
| Boston Market | (301) 984-0990 |
| Care Cleaners | (301) 816-2092 |
| Chuck E. Cheese | (301) 468-2491 |
| Foot EFX | (301) 816-4663 |
| Hair Systems | (301) 881-0338 |
| Kumon U.S.A. | (301) 231-6977 |
| Lifestyle Spa | COMING SOON! |
| Loehmann's | (301) 770-0030 |
| Parcel Plus | (301) 468-2177 |
| Safeway | (301) 770-3665 |
| SunTrust Bank | (301) 998-8580 |
| Sherwin Williams | (301) 984-7124 |
| Subway | (301) 881-2477 |



7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1111, Bethesda, MD 20814
Telephone: 301-657-0700; Facsimile: 301-657-9850
www.jbgr.com

The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722
(2RCA)



Calls Received
October 11, 2004 to
November 7, 2004

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.

2004-10-11 (Mon) 5:46 pm Not anonymous. Rocking Horse and Red Fox Roads. Caller noticed 20 to 30 school students standing there, dressed for running. Have others called about this? It's unsafe to drive around kids running in the streets.

2004-10-12 (Tue) 10:42 am Shilet Tucker, a reporter for the Gazette, writing a story about the North Bethesda Town Center.

2004-10-17 (Sun) 1:06 pm 115xx Ashley Drive. Message to the person who threw the paint into caller's dumpster: Caller's contractor says that paint is not allowed in the dumpster, so you've caused more work for the caller by having to pull your paint out of the dumpster and disposing of it for you. Hopefully you will be more considerate of your neighbors in the future. Thank you.

2004-10-18 (Mon) 10:20 am The house at 48xx Ertter Drive burglar alarm has been sounding for at least a couple of days. Caller lives several houses away. Caller doesn't under-

stand how the next-door neighbors stand it. Caller would have torn the horn off the roof, but more rational minds prevailed. Caller called police who said that burglar alarms must have a permit, and that this house is not on police records. Approved alarms must shut off after 20 minutes. Police will come out and notify the owners.

2004-10-18 (Mon) 12:58 pm Ashley Drive. Looking for status of Sam's Card. *[New Sam's Card numbers are issued in early November.]*

2004-10-20 (Wed) 7:34 am Anonymous. We need to have No Parking signs on both sides of Hunters Lane in Franklin Park. Now that the Medical Center is closed, you can't turn there to get into Franklin Park. You all have been told and told and told. What does the Civic Association do?

2004-10-29 (Fri) 12:10 pm 1141x Schuylkill Road. Never received Echo.

2004-11-02 (Tue) 5:57 pm 4800 block of Ertter Drive. Duplicate copies of the Echo are being delivered, a couple of weeks apart.

2004-11-05 (Fri) 12:03 pm Calling about the map in the Echo. While the map shows Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, and Franklin Park, it is missing Westminster, Montrose Park, and Hilltop Square. We only have half of the six subdivisions represented shown. It needs to be updated. *[Fair comment, but "Westminster" is not a housing subdivision name, at least one recognized by Montgomery County land records. It is actually a part of Randolph Farms. We think "Westminster" was a name used by the developer to "name" the area for marketing purposes. Nonetheless, the RCA does have a sign at Hunters and Randolph Roads with "Westminster" on it. The legal name is shown on your property tax bill under "Property Description" near the upper right side of the statement. Montrose Park and*

Hilltop Square need to be added to the map.]

2004-11-06 (Sat) 8:06 pm A dead black cat was found on the sidewalk of Ashley Drive between Coachway Drive and Olden Road. Must have been hit by a car. Caller does not know whose cat it is, but understands the sorrow these things can bring. Caller is also a cat owner.

2004-11-07 (Sun) 6:47 pm There's a streetlight out on Schuylkill Road since October 27. Caller has called Pepco eleven times. Caller went out one morning to get the newspaper, and a man, apparently a jogger, greeted caller with "Good Morning." Caller would not have gone out if caller could have seen this man. Also, children had a time finding caller's home on Halloween. *[Montgomery County services handle street lights. Please see article in this ECHO about reporting street light malfunctions, and/or call 240-777-2190. This number is listed in every ECHO under "Street Light Out" under "Important Phone Numbers" typically printed on the next-to-last page of almost every ECHO.]* ■


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Lending Corporation

Miguel Mendes
Loan Officer
Falo Portuguese

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Suite 190
Rockville, MD 20850

t. 301.330.0029 x38
c. 301.252.8235
f. 301.330.0310
877.682.9200

U.S. President Voting Results for our Precinct, 04-15 at the Rocking Horse Center

by Richard Zierdt

There was a huge turnout on Election Day, which happened to have unusually wonderful weather! I got the following figures from the County's on-line election web site, www.777vote.org. I was disappointed that Question C did not pass in the County, but it nearly did in our precinct. The Vote No group raised \$62,000 to fight the three ballot questions; the Vote Yes On C group spent under \$3,000. Maybe next time... Question B (Consecutive Term Limits) did pass here, but not in the County, and not by much. This is surprising, since Question B was in the news the least of the three ballot questions.

I heard that 10 votes were not counted (because of machine malfunction(s)), and I asked the Board of Elections about it. I have not received a reply yet, but will pursue this issue and let you know. ■



RCA resident Bette Walling and the loooooong voting line.

Registered Voters 3063. Cards Cast 2116 = 69% voting rate

PRESIDENT

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|------|--------|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 2111 | |
| Bush-Cheney | REP | 728 | 34.49% |
| Kerry-Edwards | DEM | 1356 | 64.23% |
| Cobb-LaMarche | GRN | 2 | 0.09% |
| Badnarik-Campagna | LIB | 7 | 0.33% |
| Peroutka-Baldwin | CON | 1 | 0.05% |
| Nader-Camejo | POP | 15 | 0.71% |

U.S. SENATOR

| | | | |
|----------------------|-----|------|--------|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 2057 | |
| Pipkin, E. J. | REP | 579 | 28.15% |
| Mikulski, Barbara A. | DEM | 1443 | 70.15% |
| Allwine, Maria | GRN | 25 | 1.22% |
| Trump, Thomas | CON | 8 | 0.39% |

U.S. CONGRESS 8th District

| | | | |
|-------------------|-----|------|--------|
| Floyd, Chuck | REP | 597 | 29.78% |
| Van Hollen, Chris | DEM | 1402 | 69.93% |

JUDGE CIRCUIT COURT 6

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 5340 | |
| Bernard, Marielsa A. | 1199 | 22.45% | |
| Boynton, David A. | 1114 | 20.86% | |
| Connell, Daniel Patr | 679 | 12.72% | |
| McHugh, Dennis Micha | 1118 | 20.94% | |
| Savage, Katherine | 1222 | 22.88% | |

JUDGE SPEC APPEAL AT LG

| | | | |
|----------------------|------|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1431 | |
| YES Murphy, Joseph F | 1177 | 82.25% | |
| NO Murphy, Joseph F. | 254 | 17.75% | |

BOARD OF ED AT LARGE

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1580 | |
| Cox, Sharon W. | 1048 | 66.33% | |
| Le, Tommy | 528 | 33.42% | |

BOARD OF EDUCATION 2

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1476 | |
| Abrams, Stephen N. | 777 | 52.64% | |
| Lange, Walter | 696 | 47.15% | |

BOARD OF EDUCATION 4

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1498 | |
| Ervin, Valerie | 990 | 66.09% | |
| Fishman, Sheldon | 504 | 33.64% | |

COUNTY QUESTION A (limits on property taxes)

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1915 | |
| For | 888 | 46.37% | |
| Against | 1027 | 53.63% | |

COUNTY QUESTION B (consecutive term limits)

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1903 | |
| For | 1009 | 53.02% | |
| Against | 894 | 46.98% | |

COUNTY QUESTION C (all locally-elected County Council)

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|--------|--|
| <i>Total Votes</i> | | 1898 | |
| For | 946 | 49.84% | |
| Against | 952 | 50.16% | |



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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 real 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 he's doing you a favor. I believe...

Enough is Enough

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.

HIDDEN SEWER ODORS?
SMOKEY, OUR ODOR DETECTOR FINDS THE PROBLEM.

BLOCKAGES?
OUR HYDRAJET WASHES & FLUSHES THE PROBLEMS AWAY!

SEWER PROBLEMS?

LET US SHOW YOU THE PROBLEM ON CLOSED CIRCUIT TV AND FIX IT!



One More Thing

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 Shipley Plumbing & Heating 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

301 468-6577 • 301 924-7200 • 301 317-0188

Dear Mrs. Brown



With the holidays upon us, this is an excellent time to teach children some fundamental manners. Ensnconced in the glow of family tradition and merry festivities, the learning process can be fun! Whether a small or large family dinner, guests dropping by, relatives visiting and telephoning, gift-giving and receiving, all sorts of skills can be taught during this season. One of the funny things about being a child is not consistently doing what you know you ought. However, if the knowledge is there, children will often draw upon it when they are older and around other people who behave in such a way. Of course, the best of all worlds is to enforce as many manners as possible. In the short and long run, adults are even making life easier for themselves!

What to Wear:

Dressing up is traditional and since holidays do not come around that often, it doesn't hurt to wear something nice. It

sets the tone for the season's festivities and emphasizes that family and holiday get-togethers are special.

Introductions:

This is a very important skill to learn and not many people know how to do it. A proper introduction is actually very logical. Do not forget to explain who people are when you introduce them

Introduce a younger person to an older person.

For example:

"Mrs. Jones, I'd like to present my daughter, Madeline. Madeline, this is Mrs. Jones, a neighbor down the street. She has lived here for over thirty years."

Introduce a less important person to a more important person.

For example:

"John, I'd like you to meet my husband, James and our two children, Fiona and Ian. And this is John, my cousin from Florida."

The host and hostess at a party should greet each guest who enters the house. Whether adult or child, and you are sitting down when the hostess brings a guest over to meet you, stand up, shake hands, and say hello. A man always rises when being introduced to a woman. At a party it is not necessary to shake hands with friends, relatives or other people you know and have seen recently, but when you are introduced to a stranger always shake hands.

Answering the phone:

Even very small children can learn to answer the phone properly. "Hello, Sanchez residence. This is Maria."

The caller should introduce themselves if they are not a frequent caller who is easily identified by voice. If the caller does not, teach the child to ask, "Who is calling please?" so they are able to tell the recipient of the call who is on the line and would like to speak with them.

Just as important as hello, every child must learn to end the call with "good-bye." Teach them to never hang up or give the phone to the adult unless there has been a polite "good-bye."

Thank-You Notes:

Thank-you notes should be written as soon as possible. They don't have to be long; they just have to include the right stuff. Good quality stationary or decorative note cards are nice, but the receiver will care more about the written words of appreciation. When writing the note, keep in mind that you want the reader to smile and be glad their kindness was appreciated.

- First, express gratitude for the specific gift or kindness. Never say that you don't like the gift, already have one or plan to exchange it.

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- If you received money, always refer to the intended use of the money. "Thanks so much for the twenty dollars. I have wanted the new CD by my favorite group, and now I can get it!"
- Say something about the gift giver. People appreciate comments that show interest in them as individuals and not just as sources of gifts. "I miss you Grandfather and wish you were here to play with my new toy with me."

Gifts:

Children should learn not to touch or play with other people's possessions unless invited to. This is especially important at a time when gifts are flowing everywhere. If you just received a new car, would you want your friend or neighbor to drive it around the block first? Children do need to share, but do they need to share every new toy before they themselves have had a chance to play with it?

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
Questions used in the column may be edited for brevity and clarification. ■

New feature!

Recipes from Mrs. Brown. Enjoy!



Arabic Rice (Restaurant Good!)

20 minutes to prepare
 30 minutes to cook – Stir occasionally
 Serves 4



Large heavy skillet

In skillet, one stick of butter melted.

Add: **2 Fidelini's (curly vermicelli)**

1 cup of pine nuts

Keep turning and simmer until all is golden

Turn off burner and put in

2 cups of Extra Long Grain Enriched Rice

Mix well

For each cup of rice add:

1 tsp. of salt

1 good tsp. of black pepper

1 good tsp. of cinnamon

1 good tsp. of nutmeg

Mix – turn onto simmer

Add, turn up to medium-high until it starts boiling:

4 cups cold water

At boiling point, cover and simmer. The slower it cooks the better. **Stir before serving.**

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News from Pack 1081

by George Gadbois



Along with selling popcorn, Pack 1081 Scouts have been working hard on various achievements. Our October Pack Meeting included Physical Fitness Day recognition to all boys that attended that event this past September. Their names were mentioned in the last *Echo* edition. We want to officially welcome back for a second year, Boy Scout Den Chiefs **John Pitkin, Moses Hart** and **Anthony Gadbois** who will assist Webelos I, Bear and Wolf dens respectively. Pack Meeting awards for accomplishments and achievements were as follows: Belt totems were presented to new Tiger Scouts **Elijah Evans, Coner McGinley** and **Kenneth Mills-Bonhomme**. Tigers also earned these Sports & Academics Belt Loops: Wildlife conservation by **Elijah Evans** and **Coner McGinley** and Physical fitness by **Elijah Evans**. Our Wolf scouts are working to finish up their Bobcat requirements. All Cubs, beyond the Tiger year, earn their Bobcat first by learning things like the Cub Scout Oath and how to properly salute our flag. The Webelos I Communicator Activity Pin was awarded to **Matthew Best, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong** and **Maxwell DeMulder**. Our Webelos II scout **Alan Costas** was recognized for achieving his Citizen Activity Pin. Citizen is where the boys learn about their rights, about Presidents, flag respect & history, government, laws, and safeguarding our natural resources. And finally new Webelos II Antonio Garcia was recognized for earning his Bobcat rank.

The Wolf den then entertained us with the Car With a Flat Tire skit, which ends with an audience volunteer (**Mr. Gadbois**, the Cubmaster, who was hand picked) assisting with keeping the "flat tire" (a boy) inflated. The punch line was that all the tire needed was a "nut" to help keep it pumped up! So much for volunteering.

We would like to thank adult leaders **Scott Bochniak, Erin Evans, Brian McGahey** and **George Gadbois** for giving up an entire Saturday for Cub Scout training at the annual Pow Wow on October 30 held again this year at St. John's Prospect Hall in Frederick. Their dedication goes a long way to help our scouts.

At press time, we look toward Scouting-for-Food food pick up on November 13, caroling practice for our community service at the Randolph Nursing Center, an outing on November 23 to the new Air & Space Museum at Dulles and of course, Thanksgiving. Remember and be thankful for all our men and women in the armed services serving our country this Thanksgiving. A Happy Holidays to all as we enter the time of seasonal festivities.

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

Santa returns to RCA-land!



Santa rides the fire truck on **Sunday, December 19, 2004**. As in past years we will begin in the 3rd section of Randolph Hills around 11 a.m., then continue into the 2nd section and 1st section. After a cookie break at 1:30, we will continue through the area north of Boiling Brook and around Rocking Horse Center, and into Westminster, Franklin Park and Montrose Park, finishing at about 4:00 p.m. if all goes well. Ho, ho, ho.



Gadbois at 301-770-5386. It's never too late to join! We are especially looking for a few more first grade boys, so please pass the word.

Please visit our website location:

<http://hometown.aol.com/pack1081> for pictures and additional info. ■

Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Santa will be visiting Randolph Hills on Sunday, December 19th! The timing of the schedule is approximate, but his planned route is as follows: Depart Randolph Hills Recreation Center at 10:45 am, and proceed to Troy Road area. Next are the areas south of Boiling Brook, then north of Boiling Brook. At 1:30 Santa will take a cookie break. At 2:00, he will continue through the area north of Boiling Brook and proceed through the area around Rocking Horse Center. Santa will finish with the area north of Randolph by 4:00 pm.

The annual holiday tree sale will be held at the Masonic Lodge, on the corner of Knowles and Beach Drive, from 9am

to 4pm on the following dates: November 27th and 28th, and December 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18th and 19th. We are working with Stacy Rabinovitz (301-881-9049) to collect DVDs, and money for a DVD player, for our wounded troops overseas. We will be accepting contributions for Stacy at our tree sale.

Our October campout was at Greenbrier State Park. In the October *Echo* the attendees of the campout were listed, but since the scouts were actually camping the weekend the *Echo* went to press, we didn't have any details. Now that they're back, here's how the trip went: This was Troop 1083's first campout at Greenbrier, and by all accounts it won't be the last. We were located on a wooded mountaintop less than a mile from the Appalachian Trail. The air was crisp, the sky a brilliant blue, and the leaves were at their autumn peak for a 5-mile morning hike on the Trail. In the afternoon there was fishing at the lake. Before dinner, there was a touch football game in a clearing near the campsite. With high grass and evidence of deer all around (watch your step!), it was a very challenging game.

Upcoming events include hiking, camping, the Klondike Derby and skiing. 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 Elem. School. Or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. Check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org. ■

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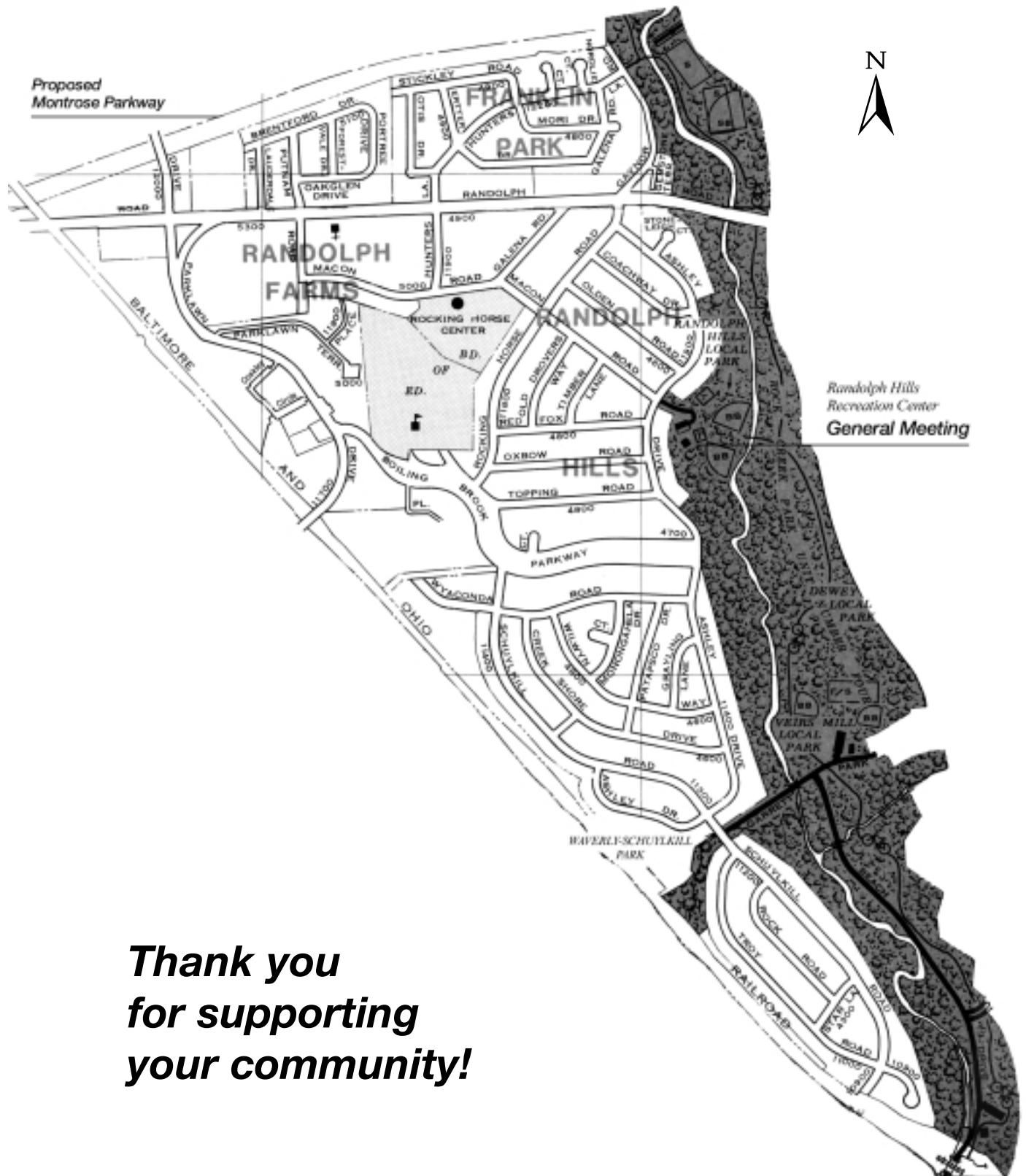
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WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, 23 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

KINDERMUSIK at L&L Music Wind Shop. The world's most respected name in musical learning for children. You and your child will participate together in every step of the learning process – music skills to academic skills to life skills. Classes available for newborn to 3 years old. Call 301-948-7273 to learn about free preview classes and semester schedules.

PRIVATE FLUTE LESSONS ranging from the new beginning band student to the adult student returning after several years. The Fall is a great time to try something new! All ages and experience welcome. Professional flute teacher with 7+ years experience, available for teaching lessons in home studio for ages 8 and up. Lessons include music theory and history, and recital opportunities. Call Julianne Martinelli (301) 881-8969 for scheduling.



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Important Phone Numbers

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Police: Non-Emergency | 301-279-8000 |
| <i>(Police Reporting Areas (PRA): Franklin, Montrose Park: #306; Westminster, Randolph Farms: #308; Randolph Hills 1st & 2nd sections #308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)</i> | |
| Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station) | 301-279-1591 |
| Police: Emergency | 911 |
| Park Police | 301-949-3010 |
| <i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)</i> | |
| Abandoned Cars (on private property) | 240-777-3600 |
| Animal Control | 240-773-5960 |
| Building Permits | 240-777-6200 |
| Consumer Affairs | 240-777-3636 |
| Crisis Hotline (24 hours) | 301-315-4000 |
| Department of Natural Resources | 800-442-0708 |
| <i>(wildlife nuisance problems)</i> | |
| Disability Resources | 240-777-1246 |
| Fire Non-Emergency | 240-777-0744 |
| Housing Code Violations | 240-777-3600 |
| <i>(for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.)</i> | |
| Large Item Pick-up | 240-777-6410 |
| Libraries: Hours, etc. | 240-777-0002 |
| Telephone Reference | 240-777-0001 |
| Metrorail and Metrobus schedules & info. | 202-637-7000 |
| Montgomery County Humane Society | 240-773-5960 |
| Emergencies only | 240-773-5900 |
| Licensing Dept. | 240-773-5946 |
| Motor Vehicle Administration | 1-800-950-1682 |
| Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance | 240-777-7700 |
| <i>(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)</i> | |
| Parking Tickets | 240-453-0113 |
| Parks: Information & Permits | 301-495-2525 |
| PEPCO: Power Out | toll free 1-877-737-2662 |
| Emergency/Life Threatening | 202-872-3432 |
| Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville | 301-231-5973 |
| Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.) | 240-777-3986 |
| RCA Hotline | 301-881-2722 |
| Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org) | 240-777-6400 |
| Recreation Information | 240-777-6804 |
| School Information | 301-279-3391 |
| Senior Citizens (Holiday Park) | 301-468-4448 |
| Street Light Out | 240-777-2190 |
| Transportation (Highway Services) | 240-777-7623 |
| <i>(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)</i> | |
| Transit Information Center (www.dtwp.com) | 240-777-7433 |
| Trash Collection | 240-777-6410 |
| Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist) | 240-777-7623 |
| Voter Registration | 240-777-8500 |
| Water and Sewer (WSSC) | 301-206-8000 |
| Weeds/Rubbish Complaints | 240-777-6400 |

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

Neighborhood Home Sales Settled Since September 2004

| Address | Orig Price | Sold Price | Subsidy | Dom |
|------------------------|------------|------------|---------|-----|
| 4710 Olden Road | \$350,000 | \$350,000 | \$3,000 | 24 |
| 11218 Troy Road | \$365,000 | \$365,000 | 0 | 31 |
| 4814 Creek Shore Drive | \$369,900 | \$370,000 | 0 | 3 |
| 11710 Rocking Horse Rd | \$375,000 | \$375,000 | 0 | 9 |
| 4805 Mori Drive | \$385,000 | \$389,000 | 0 | 8 |
| 11108 Schuylkill Road | \$399,900 | \$390,000 | 0 | 9 |



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