

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 50, Issue 3

December 2006

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Planting Replacement Trees Scheduled for Spring, 2007

by Richard Zierdt

County Tree Manager to Speak in December

After months of cajoling county council members, county department of public works officials, and the head of Transportation and Public Works, I finally got a promise that about 125 neighborhood RCA trees would be replaced in the spring of 2007. The locations were listed in the June/July/August 2006 issue of the *Echo*. A few more were added by a Franklin Park resident. If your residence does not have a tree in front, and your location was not listed in the above *Echo*, please let me know (301-881-0283). I canvassed much of RCA-land, but not all.

Many of our trees, now mature after 50 years, are dying or already dead and gone. They should be replaced to maintain the beauty of our streets, and a sign of pride in our neighborhood.

The benefits of trees in pollution control and neighborhood beauty are a given – the “beauty” part being in the eyes of the beholder, but most people love a tree-lined street with a wide canopy.

A few residents do not want trees because it's more work to rake their leaves. I guess that is a downside, but well worth the hassle, if that's what it is. Some residents have asked if they have a choice in the matter: Can a resident refuse to have a tree planted on the “County Strip” – that area between the sidewalk and the street? The short answer is “no.” The area between the sidewalk and the street is county-owned, public right-of-way. Besides, the leaves fall close to the street. Just whisk them to the curb, where County trucks sweep them up in the fall.

County tree manager Brett Linkletter will address the RCA at the Thursday, December 7 meeting. Have all your tree questions answered that night. ■

Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, December 7, 2006, 8:00 p.m.

Special Guest Speaker

Brett Linkletter, County Tree Manager

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, February 1, 2007, 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.

RCA meetings are held the **first Thursday of every month**

(except January, July and August) at the Randolph Hills

Recreation Center at 8:00 p.m. Usually we alternate between

General and Executive meetings. If you are unsure about meeting

times and dates, please call the RCA Hotline (301-881-2722) or

check the RCA Web site (www.randolphcivic.org) for verification.

RCA Executive Committee for 2006-2007

OFFICERS

President
Open

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
Dell Pillers-Cline
11403 Ashley Drive
301-984-7783

Directors
Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

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
John Kehoe
4814 Red Fox Road
301-231-4933

Environment
Matt Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

Education
George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

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
Mark Kibbe
4306 Emden Street
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-946-6393

Scout Liaison
Frank Rossomondo
15133 Vantage Hill Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-598-5772

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

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487
Stephanie French
11012 Schuylkill Road
301-770-3171

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 aides: Ken Hartman, Adrian Lewis, Colleen Lauer

Councilmember: Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959
email: Councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov
Ms. Floreen's aides: Merle Steiner, Joyce McCaffrey

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive: 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

Jane Lawton 301-858-3638

Richard Madaleno Jr. 301-858-3130

Maryland General Assembly Website: <http://mlis.state.md.us>

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 eeewhitedesign@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

RCA President Nominated

by Richard Zierdt

The Executive Committee will offer the following slate of officers to be voted at the December 7, 2006 General RCA meeting to fill the presidential vacancy:

President: Mike Saunders
1st Vice President: George Gadbois
2nd Vice President: Richard Zierdt

Other offices of secretary, treasurer, and directors will not change. ■

RCA Executive Meeting

by Kevin Kline

November 2, 2006

Guest speakers were Ashley Bell (clean-up contractor) and Tom LackLand (Shell). They brought a letter on behalf of the owner of the Shell-branded gas station located at Boiling Brook and Nicholson Lane, expressing sincere regret over the gas leak of 29,000 gallons into the ground. The previous owner of this gas station was responsible for the leak, and presently cannot be found (criminal charges may be forthcoming).

Shell and its subsidiaries have recovered 15,000 gallons, and have nine onsite recovery wells operating 24 hours daily to pump groundwater and gas from the ground. There are monitoring wells across the street in RCA-land's Boiling Brook Creek checking on its health. No gasoline has migrated into Rock Creek. While there is no visible sheen or smell, small amounts of gas still leach into Boiling Brook Creek. Ashley said it would take several years before the creek is clean.

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Vice-President Mike Saunders asked Committee Chairs to give their report. Membership Committee Chair John Kehoe reported \$6,260 in funds receipts, including \$881 for bulbs, and \$472 especially earmarked for an upgraded Franklin Park neighborhood sign. Presently the RCA has 480 members (35%), and the membership drive is not finished. In recent years, membership has been approximately 500-550 members, which is high – even when compared to the 1950's when the RCA began!

Treasurer Richard Zierdt (who is stepping down) reported \$14,419 in total cash assets for the RCA & RCF. The Execs were relieved that cash assets are much higher than the last report (\$14,000 - \$15,000 is historically the norm).

Matt Shore gave an Environmental Committee update, reporting that the Waverly-Schuykill Park streambed has been lined with rocks and gravel encased in wire mesh, just as Boiling Brook was. The 3-acre addition to the park (that

the RCA help persuade the County to buy from private owners) was cleaned up by County maintenance crews. Kudos to Frank Shore for getting the maintenance crews to clean our parks!

The new White Flint Sector Plan, to be a sub-part of the North Bethesda/Garrett Park Master Plan, was discussed (see article below). Dan Hoffman volunteered to be the RCA's alternate representative, backing up Matt Tifford. **Passed by unanimous voice-vote: to appoint Dan Hoffman as the RCA's alternative representative to the White Flint Sector Plan.** In truth, the RCA wants to be represented on this new advisory group, but is not sure the Montgomery County Planning Board will appoint our reps to the group.

Vice President Mike Saunders lead a general discussion on whether the RCA gets good county services for the taxes we pay. A County lecture series on home winterization was discussed, and a notice will be drafted for the *Echo* newsletter. **Passed by unanimous voice-vote: to form an ad-hoc committee to evaluate governmental options.** ■

MNCPPC to Form Advisory Group for White Flint Sector Plan

by Kevin Kline

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (Planning Board) is asking for volunteers to participate in an advisory group to provide input to planning staff.

The Bethesda/Garrett Park Master Plan that includes our neighborhood is being revised to include a new sub-part: the White Flint Sector Plan. The Bethesda/Garrett Park Master Plan guides the county government on development and land use in our area, and is updated every 10-20 years. This new White Flint Sector Plan focuses on the area surrounding the White Flint Metro Station. The new sector plan will form the basis for future development, and will be used to review proposed projects, site plans, and zoning cases.

The RCA Execs have nominated Matt Tifford to represent your neighborhood on this advisory panel. The first meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2006 (after this newsletter went to press). ■

Keep in touch with your neighbors!
Join the RCA Yahoo Group at
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/>

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Township Anyone?

by Matt Tifford

Have you ever driven or walked through Garrett Park and thought:

“Gee, how come this tiny community has their own Elementary School, while ours was taken from us?”

or

“How in the world did they get the State of Maryland to pay for all these fancy street lights and the extra wide sidewalks on Strathmore?”

or

“It sure is a nice town, but I wonder what extra taxes they have to pay to live here?”

If you have ever had any of these or similar thoughts, you might consider joining the new Ad hoc Committee on Governmental Options to investigate the possibility of making RCA-land into a municipality. The job of this committee will be to investigate the advantages and disadvantages, as well as the process of incorporation. In the past, incorporation has been a controversial issue in our community. For some the idea of an official town government is seen as a panacea for all problems, while for others it arouses fears of increased taxes and intrusive property restrictions. Ironically, what both sides have in common is a lack of information as to what being a municipality would actually mean. Would we really have more power to improve our community? Is it possible to incorporate without levying additional taxes? Questions like these should be answered before this idea is embraced OR rejected by anyone.

So, whether you are for or against, please consider joining this new committee so we as a community can make an informed decision. Please feel free to contact me at mtifford@randolphcivic.org if you are interested. ■

Have you seen the RCA's Web site at
www.randolphcivic.org

Can't wait for the next *Echo*?
You can download the latest issue, which
is usually available a week or so before
the printed *Echo* is delivered.
Back issues are also available.

Treasurer's Report *by Dell Pillers/Cline*

As of November 4, 2006, RCA assets total \$12,791.22. Membership dues were deposited this month, bringing cash inflows to \$10,259.38. Total outflows for the period amounted to \$1,860.34. Check #810 is missing from the register below because it is designated for payment to SAMs Club for RCA memberships and the final payment amount is not yet available. We estimate that the check to SAMs Club will be approximately \$3,000. I will include this in my Treasurer's Report next month.

Many thanks to Richard Zierdt for providing me with the materials, guidance, and background information necessary to make a smooth transition to the position of Treasurer. We certainly all appreciate his many years of service as Treasurer for RCA. ■

RCA Checking Register 10/12/2006 through 11/03/2006

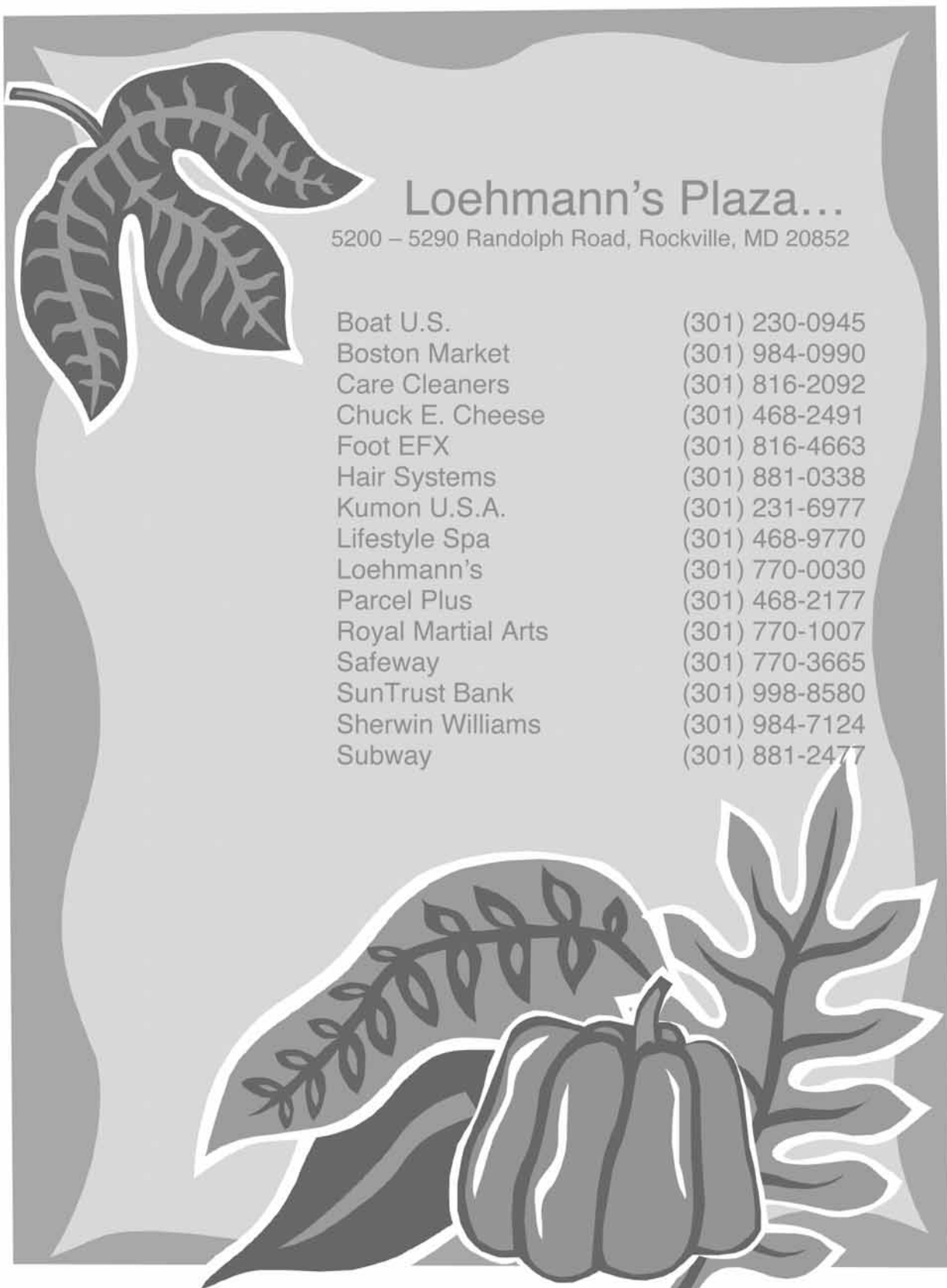
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
BALANCE 10/12/06					\$ 4,392.18
10/12/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:advertising	65.00	4,457.18
10/12/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	Park deposit refund 2005	175.00	4,632.18
10/17/06	E-xfr	Verizon	Sep 22 phone bill	-24.96	4,607.22
10/23/06	809	Quick Printing	Nov ECHO + membership	-1,202.50	3,404.72
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:membership	5,484.90	8,889.62
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:membership	967.10	9,856.72
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:membership	3,262.38	13,119.10
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:membership	120.00	13,239.10
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	inc:advertising	10.00	13,249.10
10/25/06	Deposit	Randolph Civic Assoc	Park deposit refund 2005	175.00	13,424.10
11/02/06	811	Dutch Mill Bulbs	bulb orders	-632.88	12,791.22
BALANCE 11/02/06					\$ 12,791.22

RCF Treasurer's Report - *by Richard Zierdt*

As of November 4, 2006, Randolph Civic Foundation assets total \$27.34. There was no activity since the last report in the November *Echo*.

Starting this month, the Randolph Civic Association and the Randolph Civic Foundation will have separate treasurers. This is preferred, since the two organizations are legally separate.

As in the past, moneys collected by the RCA at membership time that are intended to be given to the Foundation (RCF) will go there, but there will be better accountability with two treasurers. I'll be looking for money from the RCA to fund the "good works" that the RCF does, such as beautification and donations to our Girl and Boy Scout organizations. ■



Loehmann's Plaza...

5200 – 5290 Randolph Road, Rockville, MD 20852

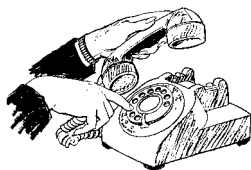
Boat U.S.	(301) 230-0945
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The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received October 12, 2006
to November 4, 2006



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.

If anyone notices that the hotline is not working, please call Richard Zierdt at 301-881-0283, and/or e-mail the RCA at info@randolphcivic.org. Thanks!

2006-10-13 (Fri) 9:32 am Mrs. Shapiro in Randolph Hills. The Holiday Park Senior Citizens Center phone number has changed to 240-777-4999. Since caller uses the Echo so often, caller hopes this change will make it into the Echo. *[Will do - thanks for the correction. The RCA Execs especially like the caller's phrase "uses the ECHO often" - this brings purpose to our lives! Glad caller reads it.]*

2006-10-17 (Tue) 11:14 am Not anonymous. Needs information about getting into Costco. *[Caller probably means SAMs Club, which the RCA offers. There should be a link to information about how we handle SAM's Club on the RCA's website, randolphcivic.org.]*

2006-10-23 (Mon) 12:50 pm Not anonymous. Who do you call to place a classified ad in the Echo? *[E-mail the ECHO editor Eileen White at eewhitedesign@comcast.net with your copy. Or you can mail your ad to Eileen's address on page 2 of every ECHO.]*

2006-10-24 (Tue) 12:49 am Not anonymous. Hasn't received the Echo yet. Delivery to caller usually is missed, so caller hopes one can be sent by. *[Scouts had until November 5 to deliver. However, all ECHOs are available online, and before the printed version is delivered.]*

2006-10-24 (Tue) 12:46 pm Not anonymous. Where are the tulips? *[Hopefully, everyone should have received their bulbs by now. They were picked up from the distributor on November 5, and the Scouts should have delivered them by November 12.]*

(continued on page 8)

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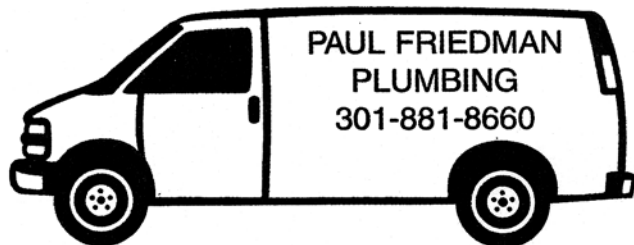
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NON-EMERGENCY: (301) 949-8010

RCA Hotline

(continued from page 7)

2006-10-25 (Wed) 7:44 pm Anonymous. This call pertains to the hotline call of 2006-09-xx (Mon) 8:50 listed in the November *Echo* (page 8) where it states that commercial trucks are allowed in residential neighborhoods if they under a certain size. Not true. County code 31-14 clearly states that no commercial vehicles shall be parked next to any private residence, school, or church unless the truck is being loaded or unloaded or has business there. There is no size restriction. It applies to all commercial vehicles, and it is Montgomery County-wide. There is a size restriction if you park a commercial truck on your property, under three-quarters of a ton. Anything over 3/4 ton, it has to be moved. You can cite the case of the two truck driver at Macon and Rocking Horse (now moved) who was forced to move his trucks from the neighborhood. Again, County Code 31-14 does not allow commercial trucks to be parked anytime in any residential area. [Richard Zierdt here. OK – I looked it up. Caller refers to Montgomery County Code, Part II (Local Laws, Ordinances, Resolutions, etc), Chapter 31 (Motor Vehicles and Traffic), Article III (Parking Regulations-Generally), Section 31-14. Caller is correct, it is illegal to park any commercial truck “abutting any private residence,” however, when that residence is the truck owner’s own residence, I believe that it is allowed, if the truck is parked off-street, such as a driveway. I am not a lawyer, but we had Randy Wyrick from the County’s housing code enforcement office (now retired) give an excellent talk at the March, 2000 RCA General Membership meeting a few years ago, and he had the facts down cold (See April 2000 ECHO, page 3, available online). He cited width, height, and length restrictions as follows:

- 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.

On the first point above, some residences are clearly in violation. Sounds like we need to have the current County inspector visit the RCA again. By the way, Montgomery County Code is available online at http://www.amlegal.com/montgomery_county_md (those are underscore characters between “montgomery”, “county”, and “md”).]

2006-10-26 (Thu) 7:49 pm Not anonymous. Caller read the article about investigating incorporating our community. As caller said the first time this was brought up at the meeting, Mr. Zierdt was voted down unanimously not to proceed with this question, but he is still interested in furthering his political career I presume, and it is not fair to the citizens of Randolph Hills for him to bring something up again that has been vetoed before. And I will certainly be at the next meeting if it ever comes up for debate again. Thank you. *[The vote caller refers to was at the December 7, 2000 RCA meeting, which was not unanimous.]*

2006-10-27 (Fri) 10:20 pm Not anonymous. *Echo* was delivered.

2006-10-28 (Sat) 5:17 pm Anonymous. Calling in response about parking on Ashley Drive in front of the playing fields. It is a problem, and the police do their best to respond, but cannot always make it in time. People do not seem to care; they park directly in front of the No Parking signs. Maybe the signs should say "towing enforced" and list fines because violators do not feel there is any sort of threat by parking there, and there is no towing. Maybe letters should be painted on the street. It's a dangerous situation when cars park there. Crosswalks are a great idea also; I'm glad someone brought that up. ■



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RCA Events! RCA Picnic (Saturday, September 30)



*Top: RCA secretary Kevin Kline is in a GOOD Mood! (and we agree: The RCA Banner *is* a Masterpiece!)*

Middle: The crowds await fine hamburgers cooked by Scouts.

*Bottom: Hardy RCAers *scored* on free hamburgers and hot dogs – despite the rain.*



Next issue – pictures from the Fall RCA Community Yard Sale!

Park and Planning Offers Lecture Series on "Going Green"

Living the Green Life Lecture Series Fall 2006-Winter 2007

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC) is offering a free four-part lecture series on "Going Green" with your house and yard from November through February. Although the November lecture has passed, you can still make the remaining three. Plus, the lectures are offered at a local library to us at the Kensington Library on Knowles Avenue. I'm going!

The information below and more is available from Park and Planning's website: www.goinggreenathome.org.

Home Weatherization

This important topic is for every homeowner who wants to take easy, effective steps to reduce heating and cooling costs. Expert speaker Glenn Dickey from NspecTs will explain how to discover where costly air leaks are usually found in homes, how a home energy audit can help you, and how to make your home more energy efficient and comfortable by simply weatherizing.

Tuesday November 7

Kensington Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Wednesday November 15

Gaithersburg Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Tax Credits for Green Upgrades

Are you adding insulation, installing new appliances, replacing doors and windows, or are you thinking about installing solar power or buying a hybrid car? President Bush signed the Energy Policy Bill in August of 2005 that offers consumers and businesses federal tax credits beginning in January 2006 for making these improvements to your home. Accountant Rebecca Rush will discuss how you can take up to \$500 off the amount of tax you are required to pay for 2006!

Wednesday December 13

Kensington Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Wednesday December 6

Gaithersburg Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Green Remodels and Additions

Do you need more space or want to expand your home with an addition? Do you want to make it green, but don't know where to start? Come hear first hand from people who are going green what to expect and how to begin!! Green contractor Alan Abrams, along with his client, will share a wealth of information about the process of green remodeling from making decisions about how to orient your new rooms to selecting exciting new green materials.

Wednesday January 10

Kensington Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Wednesday January 24

Gaithersburg Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Raingardens

Interested in a low maintenance landscape? Have you heard about putting native plants in your garden? Do you want to do your part in helping keep our streams clean and recharging our groundwater? Then it's about time you considered a raingarden. Raingardens are low-maintenance landscaped areas that are specially designed to contain, filter and soak up stormwater runoff from paved surfaces. By transforming 100 square feet of your lawn into a sunken perennial bed planted with native plants naturally adapted to wet conditions, you'll see a progression of blooms throughout the growing season. You'll also enjoy a significant increase in color and activity provided by the influx of birds, butterflies and dragonflies visiting your yard. Montgomery County's new Raingarden Planner will join us to give a primer on creating raingardens!

Wednesday February 14

Kensington Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm

Wednesday February 21

Gaithersburg Library 7:30pm – 9:00pm ■



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Why All the Verizon Trucks?

by Jaime Todaro

Lately there have been lots of Verizon trucks in the neighborhood. Verizon is deploying a fiber optic network in Montgomery County, known as FTTH (fiber-to-the-home) or FTTP (fiber-to-the-premise). The network is capable of delivering television service, as well as internet and tele-

phone, and provides more reliable service that is less susceptible to inclement weather. Of course, customers can opt to keep their phone or DSL service over the existing (copper) network, but the new network has many advantages.

The fiber network has virtually unlimited capacity, though initially Verizon plans to offer 3 tiers of high speed internet service at speeds of 5 MBps downstream/2 MBps upstream for \$39.95, 15 MBps/2 MBps for \$49.94, and 30 MBps/5 MBps for \$199.95. Television service will be offered shortly after the county awards Verizon a television franchise. Verizon plans to initially offer 3 tiers of television service: basic is 15-35 local stations for \$12.95, expanded basic is 180 digital channels for \$39.95, or la conexion is 140 spanish and english digital channels for \$32.95, with plenty of sports or movie package add-ons, pay-per-view, and on-

demand. Complete details about Verizon television packages, as well as internet service for business, is available on their website.

Verizon's deployment in Randolph Hills should be completed in December, and services over the fiber network should be available sometime in December or January.

If your property has suffered damage during the deployment that was not repaired properly, you can contact the Montgomery County Office of Cable Communications (240) 773-CATV. ■

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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...

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- no hot water

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News from Pack 1081

by Mike Mulcahy



In addition to 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 Chief **Scott Talbott** who is assisting the Webelos II Den. Also, we extend a warm welcome to our new Den Chiefs who are helping this year: **Jason Beam** (Tigers and Webelos I), **Gregory Gadbois** (Wolves) and **John Hildebrandt** (Bears). Boys, thank you for your help! Pack Meeting awards for accomplishments and achievements were as follows: Wolf **Jericho Pasqual** was awarded the Leave No Trace Achievement. Bears: Leave No Trace Achievement earned by **Jassir Begazo**, **Nicholas Galkin**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Kenneth Mills-Bonhomme** and **Mateo Streed**. Further, Bear Scout **Matthew Kimball** was recognized with the Summertime Award. 2nd Year Webelos earned Activity Pins as follows: Readyman was awarded to **Sawyer Kibbe**, **Brad Gessford**, **David Villereal**, **Gabe Hernandez**, **Jose Velasquez** and **Steven Escalante**; Handyman: **Sawyer Kibbe**; Aquanaut: **Jose Velasquez**; Artist: **Jose Velasquez**; and Summertime Award: **Jose Velasquez**. In addition, the Camping Patch was awarded to **Mark Kimball**, **Nicholas Galkin**, **Kenneth Mills-Bonhomme**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Mateo Streed**, **Colin McLean**, **Aidan Gibbons**, **Adam Levengard**, **Christopher Mulcahy**, **Jose Velasquez**, **Steven Escalante** and **Sawyer Kibbe**. 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. A big warm welcome to our newest Scouts: **Jonathan Romero** and **Noah Reidinger**!!

Pack 1081 received its annual donation from the Randolph Civic Association. Thank you RCA for your continued support! The Webelos II Den then entertained us with the skit, "If I were not a Cub Scout" which was fun for all the boys to watch.

On Sunday, October 22nd, the Scouts enjoyed the afternoon on hayrides, slides and swings and with the farm animals at Cox's farm in Northern Virginia. At the farm, the boys played in the hay, face painted, ate hot spiced applesauce after it was warmed over an open fire, and watched live entertainment. Farmer Jack and his cow milking show was a smash hit! The Scouts also ate hot dogs, pizza, Cox Farm fries, kettle corn and delicious apples and drank fresh cider. And that is not all! Each paid admission took home a patch pumpkin.

Congratulations to **Sandra Kimball** on completing her adult leaders training! Sandra's dedication goes a long way to help our scouts.



Top: Which Scout will bring home the largest Pumpkin on this bright and sunny afternoon?

Bottom: The Cub Scouts having a great time on the hayride at Cox's Farm

At press time, we look forward to Scouting-for-Food food pick up on November 11, caroling practice for our community service at the Randolph Nursing Center, our annual Bowling outing on November 12 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 Mark Kibbe at (301) 946-6393. It's never too late to join! We are especially looking for a few more first and second grade boys, so please pass the word.

Please visit our website location: <http://hometown.aol.com/pack1081> for pictures and additional info. ■

Girl Scout Troop 1487

by Deanne Mariño

Junior Girl Scout Troop 1487 has had a great Fall so far! We have seven new Scouts, and they've jumped into the troop with excitement and energy. We have nine girls now from Viers Mill, Sargent Shriver, and Barnsley Elementary Schools. We also have a big sister, who is an eighth grader at Loiederman. Interested in joining the fun? We meet Monday evenings at 7:15 at the Viers Mill Park building on Garrett Park Road. If we get a couple more girls (and/or Big Sisters), we'll break into two patrols, each with their own leadership team – President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. This is YOUR troop, girls!

Just two weeks after our first meeting in October, the girls brought their warm pajamas, sleeping bags and blankets, and we camped in a backyard. We practiced cooking over hot coals and a camp stove, and they learned how to keep warm – lots of layers and a hat! This was the first time many of the girls had ever slept in a tent, and they did a great job, even though it took about an hour to get them taken down in the morning! We'll have more opportunities in the Spring, and I'm sure we'll be speedier.

We're headed to Frederick for a Singalong and hike November 5th. (We're working on the Hiker badge.) We're going to Darnestown for a Cartoon Drawing workshop created especially for Girl Scouts on November 11th. (This is part of our Drawing and Painting badge.) On the 18th of November, we'll be marching in the Silver Spring Parade, after which we're going to build a fire to cook over (and keep warm by) for a shared lunch with families.

Keep on the lookout for Girl Scouts bearing cookies in January! There's a new cookie in town you can try out; see them all at gscnc.org/fund/cookies/varieties. We'll be carrying the ever-popular Thin Mints and Samoas with us. (Feed your fetish with a case!) We have several goals for the spring your purchases will support, including a camping trip to Assateague, participation in a Volksmarch event, and a class at the National Building Museum. Thank you for your support!

Call Deanne Mariño for any Girl Scouting questions, 301-560-4840. Or even better, e-mail at Deanne@Marino-Johnson.org. ■

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Attention All Troop 1083 Eagle Scouts (or if you know a Troop 1083 Eagle Scout)

Through the efforts of the Troop's **Assistant Scoutmaster, George Gadbois**, we are pleased to advise you that your name will be included on the Troop's Eagle Scout Honor Roll to be published on the Troop's trailer. We hope that you recently received a letter regarding this worthy effort. If you did **not** receive a letter, by this publication, we ask you to respond no later than December 23, 2006, if you have any objections to inclusion of your name on the Troop's Honor Roll. Otherwise, your name will be included on the Troop's Eagle Scout Honor Roll to be displayed on the Troop's trailer. If you have any questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact **George Gadbois at 301-770-5386**.

You will be happy to know that Troop 1083 is a boy-led troop that continues to emphasize the scouting ideals of developing young leaders, serving the community and enjoying and respecting the outdoors. We currently have over 30 boys active in Troop 1083 and hope to be able to add to the Eagle Scout Honor Roll very soon. You are always welcomed to join us at a Monday Night Meeting, a camping trip, or our Courts of Honor. For information regarding upcoming events, please check out our web page at www.troop1083.org.

Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Don't forget to look for Santa's fire truck ride through RCA-land on Sunday, December 17th. As in past years, Santa will begin around 11 am in the Troy Road section, then proceed to the areas south of Boiling Brook, then north of Boiling Brook. After a 1:30 cookie break, Santa will continue in the area north of Boiling Brook, then proceed to Rocking Horse Center area, and finish in Westminster, Franklin Park, and Montrose Park at about 4 pm if all goes well. Ho, ho, ho!

During Santa's ride through RCA-land, Santa's elves will be walking alongside the fire truck handing out candy canes. We ask drivers to please remember to yield to these young pedestrians, and please use patience if you happen to get caught driving behind Santa's fire truck. Thanks in advance for helping to make Santa's ride a safe one.

In October, we camped out at Parklawn Campsite, where we held the fall Court of Honor. Scouts who attended were: **Jason Beam, Matthew Best, Matt Binsted, Maxwell Demulder, Anthony Gadbois, Gregory Gadbois, Bubba Hart, Josh Hart, Steve Hernandez, Scott Johnson, Scott**

Scout campfire at the Parklawn Campout.



Scout dinner at the Parklawn Campout.

Levangard, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, John Pitkin, and David Santos. Leaders who attended were: **Fred Beam, Dave Talbott, Bill Blakely, Scott Talbott, Matthew Demulder, George Gadbois, Brian McGahey, and Ben Pitkin.**

During the Court of Honor, we awarded 101 merit badges as follows: **Jason Beam:** Archery, Camping, First Aid, Snow Sports, Space Exploration; **Matthew Best:** Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports; **Jake Blakely:** Aviation, Environ-

mental Sci, Oceanography, Reptile/Amphibian, Sculpture; **Kyle Blakely:** Art, Family Life; **Edwin Fuentes:** Art, Aviation, Electricity, Electronics, Music, Wood Carving; **Anthony Gadbois:** Archery, Communications, Cooking, Reptile/Amphibian, Rifle Shooting; **Gregory Gadbois:** Aviation, Camping, Communications, Canoeing, Cooking, Electricity, Electronics, Energy, Environmental Sci, Fishing, Rowing, Snow Sports,

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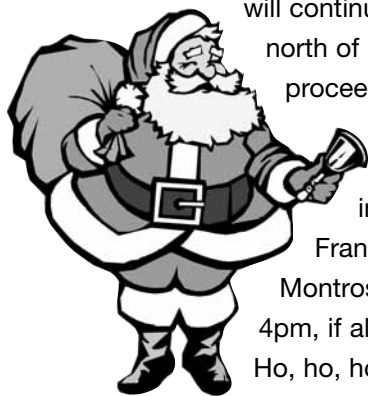
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Santa returns to RCA-land!



Santa rides the fire truck on
Sunday, December 17, 2006.

As in past years Santa will begin around 11 a.m. in the Troy Road section, then proceed to the areas south of Boiling Brook, then north of Boiling Brook. After a 1:30 cookie break, Santa will continue in the area north of Boiling Brook, then proceed to Rocking Horse Center area, and finish in Westminster, Franklin Park, and Montrose Park at about 4pm, if all goes well. Ho, ho, ho.



Wood Carving; **Josh Hart:** Computers, Aviation, Electricity, Electronics, Rifle Shooting; **Steve Hernandez:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports, Swimming; **Scott Levengard:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports, Swimming; **Matthew Luong:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Swimming; **Galen Miley:** Electricity, Electronics, Shotgun Shooting; **Joshua Murtagh:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports, Swimming; **Joseph Owen:** Archery, Aviation, Computers, Engineering; **Patrick Owen:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports, Swimming; **John Pitkin:** Art, Athletics, Electricity, Electronics, Geology, Pulp and Paper, Rifle Shooting, Sports; **David Santos:** Art, Fingerprinting, Leatherwork, Mammal Study, Sports, Swimming. Thirteen scouts achieved 14 rank advancements as follows: **Jake Blakely:** Totin' Chip; **Kyle Blakely:** Totin' Chip; **Maxwell Demulder:** Totin' Chip; **Steve Hernandez:** Totin' Chip; **Johnny Hilderbrand:** World Conservation; **Scott Levengard:** Mile Swim, Totin' Chip; **Matthew Luong:** Totin' Chip; **Joshua Murtagh:** Totin' Chip; **Patrick Owen:** Totin' Chip; **John Pitkin:** Mile Swim. Eleven special awards were given to: **Jason Beam:** Star; **Kyle Blakely:** Life; **Jake Blakely:** 1st Class; **Maxwell Demulder:** Tenderfoot; **Gregory Gadbois:** Star; **Steve Hernandez:** Tenderfoot; **Scott Johnson:** 2nd Class; **Scott Levengard:** 1st Class, 2nd Class; **Matthew Luong:** Tenderfoot; **Joshua Murtagh:** Tenderfoot;

Patrick Owen: Tenderfoot; **David Santos:** 1st Class; **Steven Santos:** Bronze Palm. Congratulations everyone!

In November, Troop 1083 scouts collected non-perishable food items for the benefit of the Washington Area Food Bank. Details of our effort were unavailable at the time this *Echo* issue went to print, but we would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed for your generosity.

Troop 1083's holiday tree sale will be held at the Masonic Lodge, on the corner of Knowles and Howard Avenue just east of Beach Drive from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm on the following dates (Saturdays and Sundays): November 25th and 26th, and December 2nd, 3rd, 9th, 10th, 16th, 17th, (23rd and 24th if needed). All trees are \$45. Selections include Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Blue Spruce, Canaan Fir, Concolor Fir, Balsam Fir and Table Tops.

Upcoming events include weekend Cabin Camping, our annual tree sale and Santa ride, and the Klondike Derby. 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. ■

Support Your Local Boy Scouts

Troop 1083 Selling Christmas Trees



Corner of Knowles and Howard Ave.
Just East of Beach Drive

Saturday and Sunday

November 25 & 26

December 2 & 3

December 9 & 10

December 16 & 17

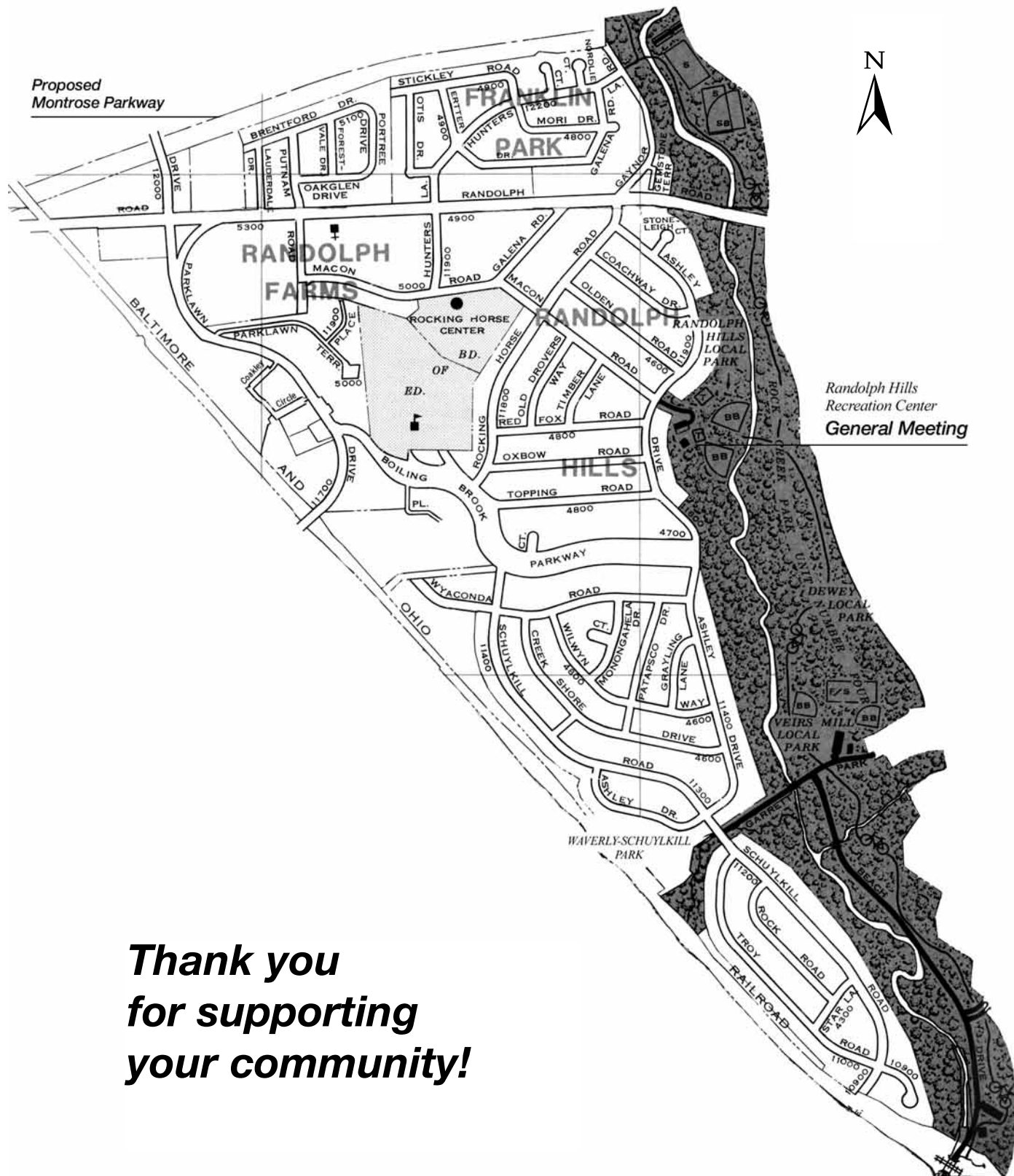
December 23 & 24

(if needed)

Time 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

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Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the January/February issue of the *Echo* is Saturday, January 6.

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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
Chris Geerman 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive
Andy Wood 301-946-4634 Idlewood Road
Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Emergency ONLY	.911
Police: Non-Emergency (County-wide)	.301-279-8000
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	.240-773-6070
Park Police	.301-949-3010
<i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)</i>	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	.240-777-3785
Abandoned Cars (on the street)	.301-840-2454
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)	.240-777-4999
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...

<i>Address</i>	<i>List Price</i>	<i>Sold Price</i>	<i>DOM</i>	<i>Subsidy</i>	<i>Date Settled</i>
11901 Ashley Drive	\$439,900	\$439,000	85	\$0	28-Sep-06
4711 Coachway Drive	\$439,000	\$443,000	118	\$17,000	29-Sep-06
12220 Hunters Lane	\$440,000	\$438,000	134	\$18,000	29-Sep-06
11110 Schuylkill Road	\$429,000	\$415,000	27	\$15,000	29-Sep-06
4817 Topping Road	\$460,888	\$475,000	31	\$15,000	29-Sep-06
4626 Creek Shore Dr	\$439,900	\$420,000	91	\$13,000	02-Oct-06
11200 Rock Road	\$469,900	\$460,000	123	\$5,000	03-Oct-06
11521 Patapsco Drive	\$399,900	\$410,000	133	\$10,000	06-Oct-06
11416 Grayling Lane	\$469,900	\$479,000	34	\$23,950	19-Oct-06
11403 Patapsco Drive	\$430,000	\$435,000	53	\$10,000	26-Oct-06
4302 Star Lane	\$429,900	\$425,000	109	\$0	27-Oct-06
11216 Troy Road	\$415,000	\$416,000	166	\$16,000	31-Oct-06
12201 Hunters Lane	\$438,000	\$430,000	129	\$10,000	01-Nov-06
Average	\$439,306	\$437,857	91		

Current Market Conditions: 19 Active Listings, 6 Homes Under Contract

Low List Price \$359,900 Low Sale Price for Sept-Nov. \$410,000

High List Price \$494,400 High Sale Price for Sept-Nov \$494,400

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