

# The Echo

*The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation*

Volume 45, Issue 8

June/July/August 2002

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## Don't miss the VMES Spring Fair

**Viers Mill Elementary School's Annual Spring  
Fair is Saturday, June 1st, 11 am to 3 pm.**

*Bring the kids! Arts & crafts, carnival games,  
amusements, bake sale, cake walk and more.*

## Upcoming Events

### RCA General Meeting

Thursday, June 6, 2002  
8:00 p.m.

*RCA Election of Officers*

**Have a great summer!**

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 General Meeting

**May 3, 2002**

President Kevin Kline opened the lightly attended meeting by announcing the yard sale May 11th. He offered congratulations to graduating Wheaton and Walter Johnson High School Seniors.

Kevin informed RCA Park Chairman Frank Rossomondo that the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), in responding to his letter regarding our problems with unruly persons using our soccer fields, are apparently backtracking on some of the promises they made to us verbally.

The President then welcomed our guest speaker, Josh Gibson, a representative of Flexcar. Josh explained that Flexcar is a car-sharing company working with Metro. Flexcar rents cars and pickup trucks from Metro parking lots by the hour. There are several pricing schemes. The base plan is members pay a one-time \$25 fee, then rent a car for \$7 per hour. This \$7 price includes gas, insurance, and maintenance. Presently there are only two cars available at RCA-land's White Flint Metro. Josh spoke for 20 minutes, passed out pamphlets, and was given a round of applause.

Kevin presented the slate of candidates for RCA's leaders. These are only suggestions, but the RCA membership must elect new officers at the June 6th general meeting. RCA'ers are encouraged to vote. Anyone can run for office, and in a healthy democracy, we would have true contests. Unfortunately, the RCA has too few volunteers. We need fresh ideas. If you'd like to spend even a little time on the RCA, we will find you a place!

*(continued on page 3)*

*Banner for the RCA Community Yard Sale, held Saturday,  
May 11th.*



## RCA Executive Committee for 2001-2002

### OFFICERS

#### President

Kevin Kline  
4808 Randolph Road  
301-230-1486

#### Vice President

Matthew Shore  
11230 Troy Road  
301-468-1225

#### Secretary

Open

#### Treasurer

Richard Zierdt  
4707 Coachway Drive  
301-881-0283

#### Directors

Jack Stillwell  
5106 Macon Road  
301-231-4934

George Gadbois  
4718 Topping Road  
301-770-5386

Frank 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

#### Membership

Patricia Longenecker  
4703 Wyaconda Road  
301-770-1927

#### Environment

Jack Stillwell  
5106 Macon Road  
301-231-4934

#### Education

Elinor Walker  
12111 Galena Road  
301-468-6335

#### Mobile Watch

John Polk  
11216 Troy Road

### COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

#### Scout Leader, Troop 1083

Brian McGahey  
11805 Timber Lane  
301-770-7882

#### Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois  
4718 Topping Road  
301-770-5386

#### Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo  
11611 Ashley Drive  
301-770-7450

#### 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, Richard Zierdt  
[www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org)

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore

### MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):  
Councilman: Howard Denis 240-777-7964  
email: [Councilmember.Denis@co.mo.md.us](mailto:Councilmember.Denis@co.mo.md.us)  
Mr. Denis' aide: Ken Hartman

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

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

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3

(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland State Legislative District 17 -

South of Randolph Road:

Senator: Jennie Forehand 301-858-3134

Delegates: Kumar Barve 301-858-3001

Michael Gordon 301-858-3519

Cheryl Kagan 301-858-3046

Maryland Legislative District 18 -

North of Randolph Road:

Senator: Christopher Van Hollen 301-858-3137

Delegates: Leon Billings 301-858-3028

Sharon Grosfeld 301-858-3028

John Hurson 301-858-3464

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8 (all of RCA):

Constance Morella 202-225-5341

email: [rep.morella@mail.house.gov](mailto:rep.morella@mail.house.gov)

U.S. Senate (all of RCA):

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precincts:

4-08 South of Randolph Rd. Vote at Rockinghorse Center.

4-26 North of Randolph Rd. Vote at Montrose Baptist Church.

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 240-777-8500

[www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections](http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections)



### 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](mailto: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](http://www.randolphcivic.org)

## RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 1)

Kevin had no new information regarding the animals, including a red fox, that had been poisoned in the Randolph/Galena/Hunters Road area last Christmas. This was reported extensively in the May *Echo*. Nonetheless, Kevin provided copies of the State of Maryland's Toxicology Report and briefly read from it. We can only assume the poisoning, caused by an off-the-shelf pesticide, was accidental. No new poisonings have been reported. RCA'ers must be careful when using pesticides and insecticides around the house!

RCA Director, Cubmaster, and RCA Education Committee member George Gadbois gave an update of RCA-land education. Most importantly, Montgomery County is now receiving a massive infusion of school funding from the State of Maryland. George reported that this will directly affect one of RCA-land's High Schools, Wheaton. See the article on page 15 of this *Echo* for a complete school report.

Kevin then discussed the sewage work planned for Rock Creek Park. See the article in the May *Echo* for complete details.

Finally, Vice-president Matt Shore promised to find out when the last section of RCA-land sidewalks (behind Boiling Brook) would be re-built. Since the County is hurting for funds with the economic recession, we want to ensure they finish our sidewalks.

The floor was opened to new business, and small informal discussions took place. Kevin gave out blueprint copies of extensive roadwork planned for our area (ending at Randolph and Parklawn). Kevin also passed out a month-old list of convicted sex offenders that live or work in this area. For once, the meeting ended early.

## SAM's Club Reducing Hours

by Richard Zierdt

SAM's Club, at least at its Gaithersburg store, no longer has "Gold Key Shopping" hours (from 7 AM to 10 AM). The store now opens at 10 AM, and closes at 8:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Saturday's hours are from 9:30 AM to 8 PM; Sunday from 11 AM to 6 PM. The "Gold Key" hours were for business members, which all RCA/SAM's members are. "Regular" SAM's members could not shop during those hours.

The form letter I received said the store was reducing hours "due to our upcoming club remodel." No word yet on whether or not the extended hours would be restored after "remodeling."

The RCA, as a service to its members, offers SAM's Club cards at a discount. This program will continue

until at least November 1, 2003. SAM's raised its "business class" fees, but the RCA extended its memberships with SAM's at the lower rate. We will re-evaluate (and possibly re-negotiate) SAM's pricing at that time, still well over a year away.

## Election of RCA Officers for 2002-2003

RCA Election of Officers is at the next RCA General Membership Meeting, Thursday, June 6, 8 PM at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center. The following slate of officers is recommended by the RCA Executive Committee. Other candidates may be nominated from the floor at the meeting.

President: Matt Shore  
Vice Pres: Mike Saunders  
Secretary: Kevin Kline  
Treasurer: Richard Zierdt  
Directors: Jack Stillwell  
Frank Shore  
George Gadbois  
Frank Rossomondo

Also, RCA representatives to the two umbrella civic groups to whom the RCA belong will be voted at the June meeting:

For the North Bethesda Congress:

Matt Shore  
Richard Zierdt

For the Montgomery County Civic Federation:

Mike Saunders  
Kevin Kline  
Matt Shore  
Richard Zierdt

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## Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of May 7, 2002, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$3,787.64. After end-of-year expenses, we will finish the year with about \$1,000, but we've already paid for SAM's membership for next year (2002-2003), which is a big-ticket item we normally pay every October for about \$3300.

See you in September!

### RCA Checking Register

4/14/02 through 5/7/2002

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		<b>BALANCE 04/14/2002</b>			<b>3,674.39</b>
04/16	E-xfr	Verizon	Mar 22 telephone	-20.90	3,653.49
04/22	675	Quick Printing	May <i>Echo</i> , 20 pgs	-892.50	2,760.99
05/03		RCAssociation	8 memberships	80.00	2,840.99
05/06		RCAssociation	Pleasantville Pool	30.00	2,870.99
05/07		RCAssociation	Sam's Club, classifieds	25.00	2,895.99
		<b>BALANCE 05/07/2002</b>			<b>2,895.99</b>

### RCF Checking Register

4/14/02 through 5/7/2002

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		<b>BALANCE 04/14/2002</b>			<b>841.52</b>
04/15		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	891.52
04/30		interest	0.20%	0.13	891.65
		<b>BALANCE 05/07/2002</b>			<b>891.65</b>

Total RCA+RCF cash assets

3,787.64

**Don't forget to check out RCA's web site at  
<http://www.randolphcivic.org>**

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## **Zoning News**

**Code Enforcement.** The RCA does help homeowners with enforcement issues, trash, untagged cars, etc, but we don't advertise it. We are here to help, call the hotline.

**New Construction.** Uniwest Group of Falls Church, VA, will build a 150,000 sq. ft office building on two acres at Twinbrook Parkway and Ardennes Ave.

This summer the house at the SE corner of Randolph and Galena will be leveled, and four new houses constructed. The houses will be set away from Randolph, and the driveways will face Galena.

Work continues on the massive new parking garage at the Grosvenor-Strathmore Metro Station.

## **Boy Scout Troop 1083 Web Page**

*by Richard Zierdt*

Usually, Boy Scout news comes from the Boy Scouts and their leaders. But the RCA sponsors Troop 1083 – the RCA “owns” it, as we say. The following proposal extends the RCA’s support of the Troop.

Our Boy Scouts have several new boys who have started this year (graduating from Cub Scouts), as well as new adult leadership. Mr. Jeff Dahn comes to us with web experience and is willing to maintain a site for the Troop with its own URL (that basically means an easy-to-remember web site name). As RCAers already know, a web site adds considerable visibility and a certain prestige to any organization. As with any children growing up these days, all the positives we can provide our boys should be considered.

So, I’m proposing that the RCA fund the acquisition of a URL for Boy Scout Troop 1083, and provide for an internet service provider (ISP) as long as the Troop maintains the site. Mr. Dahn will do this, so I think we’ve got a good fit. The cost of the URL registration (for Troop1083.org) is \$175 for 10 years, and the ISP costs \$16 per month (\$192/year). In addition (or subtraction), because the Troop would use the same ISP that the RCA uses, the RCA’s ISP cost will be reduced from \$18 to \$16 per month.

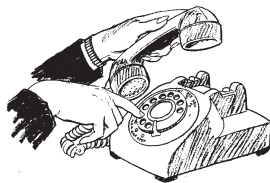
Basically, this amounts to a \$200 donation to support our Scouts. It’s money well spent. We couldn’t even begin to pay for the time and effort that the many adult volunteers provide now for free to support, mentor, encourage, and supervise camping trips for our kids.



## Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

April 14, 2002 to  
May 6, 2002



*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.*

**2002-04-13 (Sun) 7:10 pm** Chris Geerman  
301-230-1386 Ashley Drive. Wants to be added to list of yard workers (mow lawns, rake leaves, etc).

**2002-04-15 (Mon) 3:05 pm** Hunters Lane. Looking for licensed electrician. Any recommendations?

**2002-04-18 (Thu) 11:28 am** How much does it cost to rent space at the community yard sale? Bring our own equipment? [*\$5.00 for RCA members, \$10 for non-members; and yes, you may bring your own tables, chairs, etc.*]

**2002-04-18 (Thu) 11:09 pm** Anonymous. The April Echo mentioned some improperly parked trucks that devalue properties. What about the front yards of some homes (let alone the sides and back) that have overgrown grass; overgrown weeds, etc. This decreases the value of the whole neighborhood.

**2002-04-19 (Fri) 10:23 am** Randolph Hills, 2nd section. The home at 11xxx Patapsco Drive has an unbelievable amount of trash in its yard. There may be two families living in the house. Caller is concerned about rats and the unsightly appearance. Animal control and housing code enforcement have been informed. Is there anything more the RCA can do about it? [*Please allow time for code enforcement staff to work with the homeowner. This is what the RCA would have done. If the situation doesn't improve even after code enforcement staff has a chance, then we'll go up the government chain.*]

**2002-04-19 (Fri) 11:31 am** Randolph Hills, 1st section. Caller disagrees with callers in the last two issues of the Echo who complain about trucks parked in the neighborhood. These are working-class people trying to make a

(continued on page 9)

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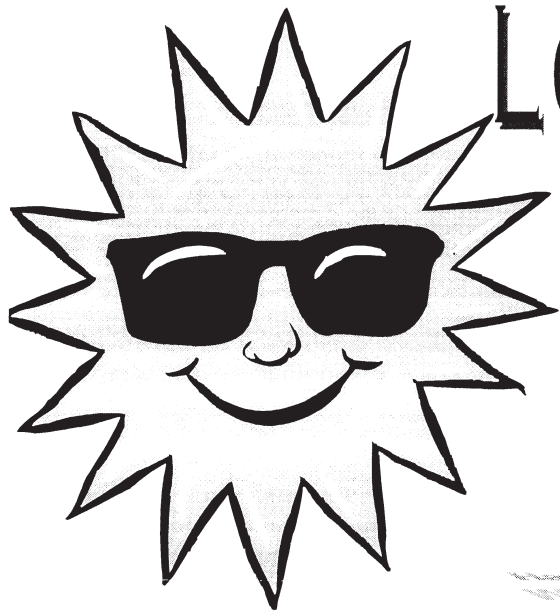
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Kumon U.S.A.	(301) 231-6977
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
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SunTrust Bank	(301) 998-8580
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Subway	(301) 881-2477
Urban Accents	(301) 881-4451



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[www.jbgr.com](http://www.jbgr.com)



## RCA Hotline

(continued from page 7)

living. For years, caller lived across the street from a school bus driver, the bus was parked on the street, and there were no complaints. If someone pays \$200,000+ for a home and doesn't like the trucks, move to Potomac. [Richard Zierdt here. Homes in Potomac start at \$600,000. It's amazing how house prices have jumped here in RCA this past year, and still RCA housing costs less than the Montgomery County average. I believe some exemptions are made for school buses parked in residential areas, so the bus may have been legal. However, large tow trucks are not.]

**2002-04-19 (Fri) 10:47 pm** Never received the April, 2000 Echo. Please send a copy so caller can keep up with events.

**2002-04-21 (Sun) 10:22 am** Anonymous. 4700 block of Creek Shore Drive. On Saturday, April 20, someone tried to break into caller's car. Thieves tried to steal the radio, but were unsuccessful. Instead, they just threw stuff out of the car. The police were called, but did not send an officer out because it is considered a low priority. Radio was broken, as well as the rear-view mirror. Heads up, neighbors!

**2002-04-23 (Tue) 5:33 pm** Kevin Kline, RCA president. Found a child's musical recorder while walking the neighborhood. Child's name is on the case. Through telephone information, Kevin found that child's last name is listed as living in the area, but the phone number is unlisted, and so cannot be called. If anyone is missing this instrument, please call the RCA (301-881-2722).

**2002-04-23 (Tue) 8:44 pm** Anonymous. Dog barks constantly at 121xx Hunters Lane until 9:30 pm. Could the RCA please contact the dog's owner about putting the dog inside, or walking the dog?

**2002-04-23 (Tue) 8:57 pm** Franklin Park. Calling about home in the 49xx block of Ertter Drive. During the last six months, house has accumulated more and more debris in the back yard, wood in the driveway, and an untagged car. Nearby neighbors are concerned and have called housing code enforcement. Caller would appreciate any help the RCA can provide. [Please see similar entry for 2002-04-19 above.]

**2002-04-28 (Sun) 7:13 pm** Anonymous. Caller feels that the RCA's censorship of caller's message last month is unfair. Not all residents have email. Caller had made several suggestions regarding pet management that were not



from M-NCPPC Rules and Regulations, Chapter VI, Section 20, Domesticated Animals, Subsection A.

**No animal may be brought upon park property unless it is on a leash, and is at all times entirely within the control of the person bringing it upon park property.**

printed. [RCA invites the caller to then write caller's comments to the RCA via U.S. mail. The RCA's address, including those of all of its elected officers, are listed on page 2 of every ECHO. All calls to the hotline are summarized, but please, in fairness to those who monitor the hotline, keep comments somewhat brief. If an issue warrants extended discussion, leave a phone number for follow-up.]

**2002-04-29 (Mon) 7:40 am** Anonymous. What about the railroad track crossing at Randolph Road? You could ruin a car's suspension. Can the RCA call the railroad about this?

**2002-04-29 (Mon) 9:13 pm** Anonymous. Caller is concerned about unleashed dogs running around the park scaring little boys and girls. This is really wrong. Other stuff is not that important. [It is unlawful to allow dogs off leash in the park (see photo and park regulation above). Call Park Police at 301-949-3010 to report violations.]

**2002-04-29 (Mon) 9:29 pm** Anonymous. Cars parked on Patapsco Drive, Wilwyn Way. 9 cars in one house. Junkyard cars. Ugly! Can't the RCA do something about this?

**2002-05-02 (Thu) 10:56 am** Would like to put ad in Echo to sell timeshare. [Call or email (preferably) Eileen White, ECHO editor, for classified ads. For commercial ads, call Mauro Biondo. Names/numbers on page 2 of every ECHO.]

(continued on page 11)

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## RCA Hotline

(continued from page 9)

**2002-05-06 (Mon) 11:16 am** Mori Drive. A neighbor has moved out and left lots of trash in the yard; tall grass, etc. Is there a number to call? *[Call Housing code enforcement, phone number listed on the penultimate page of most ECHOs.]*

**2002-05-06 (Mon) 3:05 pm** New in the area. Are there any swimming facilities and/or swim teams for the neighborhood?

**2002-05-06 (Mon) 11:49 am** via email through randolphcivic.org: In response to the many people who are commenting on dog excrement not being picked up by their owners, writer knows of one perpetrator, xxxx xxxx at 47xx Topping Road. Writer is not sure where to report this, but would like to. (Animal control, or Humane Society?) Perpetrator is very bold about taking perp's dog right into writer's yard. Writer takes pride in writer's lawn, as well as writer's street. Why should we have to clean up after perp's pet...this needs to stop! Also, several houses on Boiling Brook throw their yard trim into the ditch/creek. Is this permitted? Writer has seen occasions where a homeowner was rolling trash cans full of yard debris over and dumping them in broad daylight in the ravine. *[Call animal control at 240-773-5960 to report animal law violators, and code enforcement at 240-777-3600 for the yard trim dumping. Dumping \*anything\* into Boiling Brook is illegal, but many homeowners are unaware of this.]*

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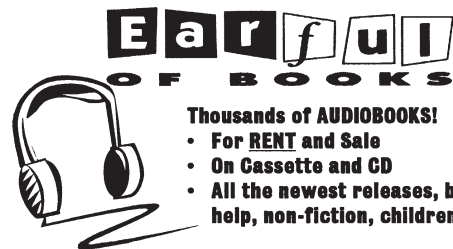
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## News from Pack 1081

by Doneby Smith



Those people climbing in and out of the thickets on April 6th on Boiling Brook Parkway near the Rocking Horse Road intersection were our Pack 1081 Cub Scouts and Troop 1083 Boy Scouts picking up trash and debris from the stream for Potomac Watershed Cleanup Day. **Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley, Joseph Owen, Sasha Hevey and Patrick Owen** picked up everything from beverage cans to bicycle wheels to car bumpers. The following weekend several of our Webelos II scouts spent two nights with the Troop 1083 Boy Scouts. **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, and Galen Miley** hiked 6 miles along the C& O Canal in the Saturday drizzle from Greenridge Forest through the Paw Paw tunnel to the campsite. Once in camp, they practiced skills needed to earn their Scout rank.

Our April pack meeting brought our annual "PowWow" ceremony, and lots of awards. After our own "medicine man" bestowed ceremonial names upon our newest members in the Pack, the Olde Mill District "Native American" Ceremonial Team performed the always-impressive Arrow of Light ceremony for our Webelos II scouts earning that most coveted award. Congratulations to our hard-working Webelos II who earned the Arrow of Light, the highest award in Cub Scouting: **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, and Thomas Rivas-Siles**. Two of these boys, **Anthony Gadbois** and **John Pitkin**, were recognized for going the extra step by earning all 20 of the Webelos activity pins. **Anthony Gadbois** earned Family Member & Traveler pins, **John Pitkin** earned Family Member, Traveler, Handyman & Scholar, and **Thomas Rivas-Siles** earned Traveler, Handyman & Scholar. **Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley and John Pitkin** earned the World Conservation as well.

Our Wolf Scouts were also busy this month earning the following elective Wolf Arrow Points: Gold Arrow Point for **Alan Costas, Joshua Hart, Ben Hawkins**; first Silver Arrow Point to **Gregory Gadbois**; second Silver to **Sasha Hevey**; third earned Silver to **Dwayne Remillard**. **Dwayne Remillard** was awarded Academics Pins for Communication and for Computer. Uniform inspections resulted in a tie between the Webelos I and the Wolf dens. **Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Joshua Hart, Ben Hawkins, Dwayne Remillard** and **AJ Taylor** of the Wolf den and **Andrew Costas, Fredis Mata, John Hilderbrand and Joseph Owen** of the Webelos I den were awarded patches for being our "best-dressed" Cubs.

Our April meeting couldn't end without the traditional bridging ceremony where Pack 1081 says goodbye to our graduating Webelos IIs. **Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley, Moses Hart, John Pitkin, Thomas Rivas-Siles and Ryan Brown** crossed the bridge with their parents and became the newest members of Boy Scout Troop 1083. **Scoutmaster Talbott**, other leaders and troop members welcomed them with new insignia and Scout manuals, hearty handshakes and, of course, food. Thanks also went out to our "graduating" Webelos II leaders and committee members for all their hard work: **Ben Pitkin, Mary Anne Gadbois, Doneby Smith, Moses Hart, Sr. and Jaime Todaro**.

We had a beautiful morning on April 27th for our bike ride from Viers Mill Rec Center to just past Connecticut Ave and back again. Our intrepid pedalers

*(continued on page 14)*

*Top photo: Hard working Scouts cleaning up Boiling Brook on Potomac Watershed Cleanup day.*

*Bottom photo: "Chief" explains the importance of the lighted arrow during the Arrow of Light ceremony.*



## Pack 1081

(continued from page 13)

were **Ayinde Warren, Gregory Gadbois, Matt Fieller, Ben Hawkins, Johnny Hilderbrand, Sasha Hevey, Alan Costas, Andrew Costas, Fredis Mata, Patrick Owen, Joseph Owen, Krisztian Mazo, and Anthony Muro** with "guest appearances" by new Boy Scouts **Anthony Gadbois and John Pitkin**. Our agile "kids" **Sasha Hevey and Jason Beam** hiked the strenuous 4 miles of woods and boulders along the Potomac River Billy Goat Trail on Saturday & Sunday, May 4 & 5.

We are looking forward to the rest of our Pack members graduating at the May Pack meeting, camping at Little Bennett, as well as many summer activities including summer day and overnight camps, a picnic, a mother/son softball game, a carwash, baseball games with special scout promotions and possibly a trip to the Railroad Museum in Baltimore.

We're looking for all interested 1st to 5th grade boys to come join the fun, learning and adventure of Cub Scouting! Contact us at the numbers listed in the front of this *Echo* edition for more information. Have a great summer and remember to check out our website at: <http://hometown.aol.com/jph3190/1081.html>

## Troop 1083 News

by Brian McGahey

The big news for Troop 1083 is that we have several new Scouts. They are: **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, Tommy Rivas-Silas, and Ryan Brown**, all graduates from Pack 1081; and **Hunter Wyatt**, a former Cub from Pack 1081

The weekend before they joined, we went camping at Pawpaw, West Va. on the C&O Canal. We hiked through the Pawpaw tunnel, a technological marvel of the 19th Century, and camped in the rain. Attending were **Chris Soares, Mark Bushong, Jake Bolt, Andy Wood, Alex Cassel, Nachi Roper, Scott Talbott and Hunter Wyatt**. And on their last outing as Webelos: **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, and Galen Miley**.

In March we camped at Cabin John Regional Park to give Webelos from Pack 1081 a taste of Scouting. We practiced woods skills and went to the Rockville Swim Center on Saturday night. On Sunday morning, we got to see a hailstorm, just like the 2001 Webelos outing at Gettysburg. The Webelos were **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, Galen Miley, and John Pitkin**. Boy Scouts attending were: **Jake Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel,**



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**Ed Huggins, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott, Andrew Tao and Andy Wood.**

Our May outings include Scouting on the Mall (on the Washington Monument Grounds), where we will demonstrate box oven cooking. Also, we will go camping at Cedarville State Park in Southern Maryland.

If any of this sounds interesting to you and you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade, join us on Monday night at Viers Mill Elementary School at 7:30 p.m. Or call Mr. Talbott, Scoutmaster at 301-881-6567.

## **Wheaton High School and Downcounty Consortium Update**

*by George Gadbois*

Montgomery County State Senators were able to secure a massive infusion of new school funding for the support of smaller learning communities. Nearly \$1 million of the approximate \$1.3 billion secured will go toward the Downcounty Consortium initiative, of which Wheaton High School is a part. Wheaton High School will unveil its Academy of Technology in the fall of 2003. Strands of this academy will be focused around themes of Biotechnology/Medical Careers, Engineering Technology, and Information Technology. As a gateway experience, all incoming 9th grade students will begin their Wheaton High School Academy of Technology experience as part of a 9th Grade Academy. This 9th grade academy will be composed of cohorts of students who will be under the tutelage and guidance of a select team of instructors who can focus together on the whole student to ensure not only ninth grade success, but also preparedness for the technology strands. An exploratory course will be designed to introduce them to the rigorous coursework and the specific technology strands Wheaton has to offer. Each academy will provide a more personalized smaller learning community in our school that is devoted to offering excellent and rigorous curriculum to students of all abilities as well as the opportunity to participate in meaningful hands-on and experimental activities which will enable them to make informed educational and career choices.

A complete timeline for consortium activities can be found on the MCPS Downcounty Consortium web site under the heading of Consortium Timeline. By the opening of school in September, all entering 9th grade students within the consortium will enter a high school in which they will be immediately connected to the adults within the school. First year students will be provided with structured opportunities to set goals, connect with

*(continued on page 16)*

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## Wheaton High and the Downcounty Consortium (continued from page 15)

adults within the school and community, make interdisciplinary connections, and build a foundation for high school success.

At Wheaton High School, freshmen (425) will enter the Ninth Grade Academy, a school within a school. Each student will be assigned to a team of 100 to 110 students for that entire school year. Additionally, each student will be assigned to an advisor who will remain with that student over the four years of high school. The goal of this academy will be to prepare all students for the rigors of a career academy, and provide connections for these students into one of the Wheaton Academies of Technology for their remaining three years of high school.

As a result of this partnership, all entering freshmen within the consortium will enroll in a one-semester freshman seminar course, which will first and foremost deal with interest assessment and personal goal setting. This course, which is presently under development by a task force of consortium teachers will (1) support students in their transition from the middle school; (2) connect each student to the programs and practices of their high school; (3) introduce each student to the career and academic academies available in grades 10 to 12 within the consortium; and (4) result in the creation of an elec-

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Wings & Things (4 wings)	\$4.00

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tronic portfolio that will serve as a roadmap for that student's next four years – the remaining three years of high school and the initial year of post-secondary activity.

The RCA's understanding is that this year 8th grade students WILL NOT be "choosing" a Consortium high school other than their own "home" cluster high school, i.e. WHS. Choice has been put off at least one year. However, the Signatures at WHS will be fully implemented as described above and on the Wheaton High School and Downcounty Consortium websites. The Board of Ed has, through the State-secured money mentioned above, been able to approve funding money for this program among others. This funding approval was mentioned recently in the April 24th Gazette. Also, next school year WHS will expand from the current three AP course offerings to thirteen. Looks like things are SLOWLY moving in the right direction.

*Note: Some information in this article was taken from Gazette articles and MCPS websites for Wheaton High School and the Downcounty Consortium.*

## Got A Minute?

by David C. Murphy

HELLO NEIGHBORS! I wasn't going to write another "Got A Minute" letter until this fall, and I was going to try and make them more amusing...that was until last night at our monthly meeting!! There were only 13 people at the meeting *OUT OF 1500 HOUSEHOLDS*.

I don't expect that everyone can make every meeting, but can we make at least a few?

Next month is the election of association members to the board. Are we, the 1500 households, going to let 13 people decide the fate of our community? All of the people running for office are great people and we need their hard work to keep our community strong and to continue to be a political force to be listened to. I have no problems voting for the list of candidates nominated at the last meeting, but I think we need more neighbors to come out to vote to show our support. I for one can tell you that I do not always agree with the officers of this association, and I will go to the meetings and let my voice be heard. A couple of meetings ago we had a good crowd and we had different view points and different ways of looking at some problems, and that is what we need more of!

Please come out to the June meeting and meet your NEIGHBORS.

Thanks for the minute.

P.S. Do not forget our web site at <http://www.randolphcivic.org/>



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**Glenmont Air Conditioning and Heating** service manager Brian Rose thinks the real tragedy is that "most people don't realize how deadly carbon monoxide is and that a simple check and an inexpensive detector can deter this threat. Also, they might think it is a heating related problem but gas hot water heaters and ovens are often culprits as well. We insist that our technicians take a reading every time they run a service call to insure that the customer is secure from carbon monoxide problems."

He adds, "That is why for a limited time we are offering a **FREE carbon monoxide detector (\$129.95 value)** with purchase of a **whole house duct cleaning**. We are a full service contractor and we want the public to know how important your safety and health is to us. Call today at 301-468-2665 and find out for yourself."

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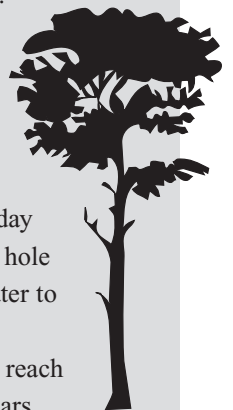


This year's **MS Walk Team** walked 8 miles to raise money for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Our participants were (from left to right): Michael Gresalfi, Frank Shore, Josie Shore, Mary Jo Shapiro, Bonnie Wahiba, Eileen White, Evelyn McClung, Richard Zierdt, Katie McClung, and Julie Stanish. Hope you'll join us next year!

## Gardening Tips

Gypsy moth caterpillar infestations erupt in June and build until early July, when the caterpillars will enter into a two-week resting stage. The caterpillars will then transform into moths and fly away. Gypsy moths will eat anything during an infestation. They may completely defoliate one or two nearby trees. Trees will survive one defoliation, but will succumb to repeated defoliations (three or four) in one season. Combat the caterpillars by wrapping a piece of folded burlap around tree trunks about waist-high. This stops and traps the caterpillars as they attempt to crawl up the trunk. Home Depot & Lowes offer several sprays.

Tent caterpillars (not gypsy moths) have exited their egg clusters and will weave silken tents in the crotches of trees. They will not go far until early June. Then they will devour your foliage day and night. For high-up tents, poke a hole in the tent and direct a stream of water to break it apart and knock it down. A propane torch works best if you can reach the tent. Kill the remaining caterpillars.



## CLASSIFIEDS

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.

**WANTED: BASEMENT APARTMENT** to rent for single woman, very quiet. References. Please leave message if no one answers. Thanks. Louise 301-468-6310.

**FOR SALE. Bay Club, Ocean City, Maryland time share**, 3 bedrooms, week #42, Member of Interval International. Low price of just \$3,500.00. Call Blair on 301-770-1789.

**FOR SALE.** Trimmer/Edger and Lawn Mower. Call 301-770-8757 in the evenings.

### Are you staying at home with your toddler(s)?

If you would like to form an informal playgroup in the RCA neighborhood, call or e-mail Jane at 301-984-0201; jkarakashian@juno.com.

### Yard Work and Grass Mowing: Here's Your Help

Here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, grass mowing, general yard work, etc.

**Andrew Souder** 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive

**Matt Bebawy** 301-881-4698 Red Fox

**Brett Valenta** 301-816-0293 Ashley Drive

**Brendon Tolley** 301-947-1486

**Alex Cassel** 301-770-8757 Macon Road

**Mike Couture** 301-984-8647 Creekshore Drive

**Steven Santos** 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way

**Chris Geerman** 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive

*Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood? Call 301-881-2722*

**RCA Hotline – 24 hours**

### Note to Contributors:

The Echo is on summer break. The deadline for the September/October issue will be in late August. Have a great summer!



## Important Phone Numbers



Police: Non-Emergency . . . . .301-279-8000  
(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

Police: Emergency . . . . .911

Park Police . . . . .301-949-3010  
(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)

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  
(wildlife nuisance problems)

Disability Resources . . . . .240-777-1246

Fire Non-Emergency . . . . .240-777-0744

Housing Code Violations . . . . .240-777-3600  
(for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.)

Large Item Pick-up . . . . .240-777-6410

Libraries: Hours, etc. . . . .240-777-0002  
Telephone Reference . . . . .240-777-0001

Metrail 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 . . . . .301-948-3177

Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance . .240-777-7700  
(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)

Parking Violations . . . . .240-777-8960

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](http://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  
(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)

Transit Information Center ([www.dtwp.com](http://www.dtwp.com)) . . . .240-777-7433

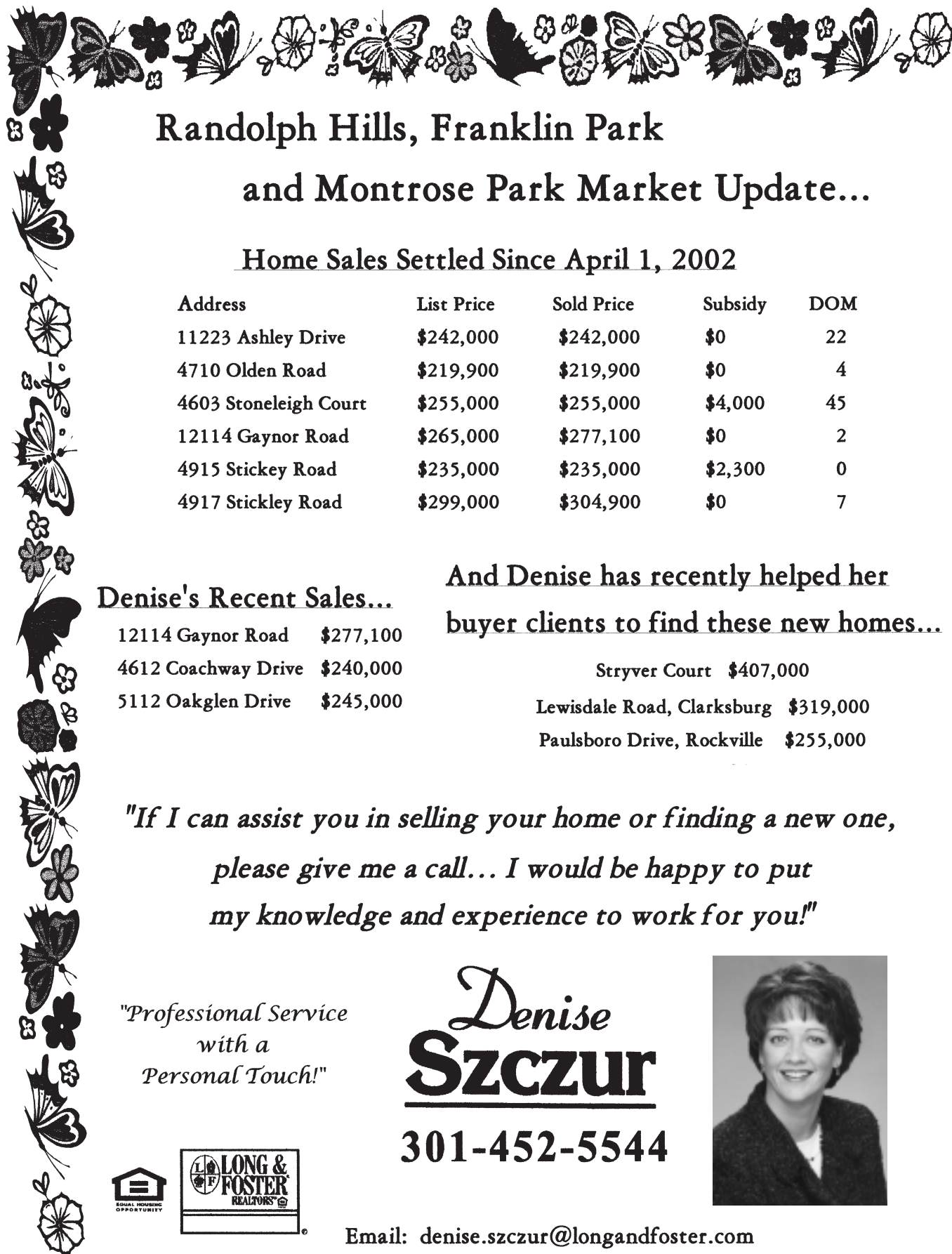
Trash Collection . . . . .240-777-6410

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, Franklin Park and Montrose Park Market Update...

### Home Sales Settled Since April 1, 2002

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy	DOM
11223 Ashley Drive	\$242,000	\$242,000	\$0	22
4710 Olden Road	\$219,900	\$219,900	\$0	4
4603 Stoneleigh Court	\$255,000	\$255,000	\$4,000	45
12114 Gaynor Road	\$265,000	\$277,100	\$0	2
4915 Stickey Road	\$235,000	\$235,000	\$2,300	0
4917 Stickley Road	\$299,000	\$304,900	\$0	7

### Denise's Recent Sales...

12114 Gaynor Road \$277,100  
4612 Coachway Drive \$240,000  
5112 Oakglen Drive \$245,000

And Denise has recently helped her  
buyer clients to find these new homes...

Stryver Court \$407,000  
Lewisdale Road, Clarksburg \$319,000  
Paulsboro Drive, Rockville \$255,000

*"If I can assist you in selling your home or finding a new one,  
please give me a call... I would be happy to put  
my knowledge and experience to work for you!"*

*"Professional Service  
with a  
Personal Touch!"*

**Denise**  
**Szczur**  
**301-452-5544**



Email: [denise.szczur@longandfoster.com](mailto:denise.szczur@longandfoster.com)