

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 48, Issue 8 June/July/August 2005

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Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2005, 8:00 p.m.

Agenda:

Vote on Scout Yard Sale Concessions RCA Officer Elections

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, September 1, 2005, 8:00 p.m.

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



The RCA's beautification project on Boiling Brook Parkway added a bright splash of springtime color to RCA-land!

Pilot Program Proposed to Solve Local Park Issues

by Richard Zierdt

Public Hearing Set for Thursday, June 2, 2005, 7:30 PM

(The following is from a notice in the weekly Planning Board Agenda of May 19, 2005)

The public is invited to testify on a proposal that would bring added resources to nine local parks to address issues with increased usage, particularly as they relate to adult soccer. A public hearing will be held in the auditorium of the M-NCPPC's Regional Office, 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring. The issues are large crowds, trash, noise, and sometimes violations of existing park usage behavior.

Park and Planning staff is proposing that a pilot program be conducted at nine local parks including our own Randolph Hills Park.

Suggestions within the proposal include returning trash cans and collections, installing port-a-johns, increasing bilingual signs, posting permits, and recruiting more resident volunteers to become a part of Park Police volunteers. Park Police will also commit additional resources to these pilot parks.

To testify, please sign up in advance by calling the Community Relations Office at 301-495-4600.

(continued on page 3)

RCA Executive Committee for 2004-2005

OFFICERS

PresidentMatthew 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

Kevin Kline 4808 Randolph Road 301-230-1486

TreasurerRichard Zierdt
4707 Coachway Drive
301-881-0283

DirectorsJack 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

301-770-7590

Echo Advertising Mauro Biondo 11508 Monongahela Court COMMITTEE CHAIRS (continued)

Membershi

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 Folay Street

12104 Foley Street Silver Spring, MD 20902 301-933-0048

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

Scout LiaisonFrank Rossomondo
11611 Ashley Drive
301-770-7450

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

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487Pat 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 eewhitedesign@comcast.net.

The Randolph Civic Association was formed in 1955 and incorporated in 1958. As stated in the original Articles of Incorporation, the purposes of the RCA are "to stimulate interest in all community problems and improvements that will better the general welfare of the community [and] to pay strict attention to any attempt to lessen the value of property within its borders..."

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

Pilot Program Proposed

(continued from page 1)

June 2 is also the RCA's general meeting, but the RCA's voice would be best served if one or more RCAers testified that night. The RCA has experienced numerous problems with unpermitted, apparent pick-up soccer games at Randolph Hills park, including excessive auto traffic, parking, public urination, commercial food vendors selling off trucks, consumption of alcoholic beverages on park property, excessive trash (especially beer bottles and cans), excessive noise, even a knife fight. Currently, no permit is required to play on the fields as long as no other group has a permit. However, park rules must be obeyed with or without a permit.

The RCA is on record as supporting youth-only permitted soccer (yops) at Randolph Hills Park. I note that this is not one of the "suggestions" of the pilot program. The RCA believes yops would be the easiest to enforce by Park Police, and that youth groups would be better supervised.

AM Traffic Restrictions Supported; PM Restrictions Undecided

by Richard Zierdt

The RCA, at its May, 2005 general membership meeting, voted to support proposed morning rush-hour traffic restrictions through Randolph Hills. This would be accomplished by prohibiting all southbound traffic on Rocking Horse Road at Randolph Road from 7 AM until 9 AM, Monday through Friday. The vote was unanimous, but contingent upon an exception for school buses.

This means the County transportation department may move ahead with the next phase of the approval process by scheduling a public hearing. The hearing would be open to all residents of Montgomery County, not just RCA members. No date has been set, and it will likely take months just to schedule it.

A word of explanation about the vote is in order. My article in the May *Echo* said no vote would be taken on this issue (AM and PM restrictions). However, there was general consensus that AM restrictions were benign to most RCAers; the main concern was local residential access in the afternoon if the PM restrictions were approved (no northbound Rocking Horse traffic at Boiling Brook Parkway, 4 PM – 6 PM), and that other streets (Ashley and Wyaconda) would be inundated with extra traffic. However, there was a general sense that something should be done about the excessive out-of-area cut-through traffic, and that AM restrictions were a good start. The motion (and its second) to approve AM restrictions came from the floor, not from RCA officers. RCAers who oppose the AM restrictions should call an RCA officer and/or attend the June meeting.

No decision was made about the PM restrictions. I asked the County transportation department to look at traffic on Wyaconda; it will take months before a traffic study will be done. The RCA will keep all residents informed about progress on this issue. The next issue of the *Echo* is the September/October issue, due out in mid-September. In the meantime, updates will be posted on the RCA website. ■

Minutes for the RCA General Meeting

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

May 5, 2005

President Matt Shore presided over a good turnout of approximately 30 people. Matt started by noting that Boy Scout Troop 1083 was in attendance. The RCA supports this Troop and Cub Scout Pack 1081, and Girl Scout Troop 1487. Scout Liaison Frank Rossomondo explained that the Scouts were learning to be good citizens, by earning their Community Badges (there are also Nation and World Badges). The President requested we run the meeting more formally, according to RCA bylaws, in deference to the Scouts' presence.

The first speaker, Jacob Bolt, explained he was working to become an Eagle Scout. Jacob presented a plan whereby he was going to spray-paint the house numbers on the curb in front of every RCA house (that wanted it, of course). Jacob explained that house numbers facilitate quick response-time by emergency personnel, and deliveries of goods and services to the correct address. He was raising money, and arranging for donated paint, but planned on providing this service for free. RCAers offered suggestions and words of encouragement. The RCA will print an article informing residents of Jacob's plan. Passed by unanimous voice-vote: The RCA encourages all residents to allow house numbers to be painted on the curb in front of their house. Jacob and all the Boy Scouts were given a round of applause.

Starting with old business and without discussion, passed by unanimous voice-vote: the meeting minutes as published in the April Echo. Then Treasurer Richard Zierdt briefly discussed his report. As usual, extra copies of the April Echo were on-hand, and distributed to the membership. Passed by unanimous voice-vote, the Treasurer's Report, as published in the April Echo.

Without further adieu, the President turned to presenter Richard Zierdt to discuss the number-one topic: cut-through traffic. A front-page article in the April *Echo* announced that we would discuss proposed traffic restrictions, with a possible vote in June.

The membership had 11 outstanding questions from the April meeting, so a guest speaker from the County's trans-

(continued on page 4)



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General Meeting Minutes

(continued from page 3)

portation department was invited to address traffic measurements, stop signs, traffic lights, speed humps, "Local Use Only" signs, resident parking stickers, etc. Disingenuously, the County representative cancelled at the last minute, so the executives were unable to arrange an alternate speaker. Instead, Richard distributed printouts from the County's webpage that addressed some of our concerns. Also, the execs have long experience in trying to get stop signs and traffic lights installed in RCA-land.

For the next hour, Richard presided over the cut-through traffic discussion, explaining speed hump procedures (possibly for Ashley Drive), curb extensions (as seen at the intersection of Schuylkill and Garrett Park Road), and edgelines (painted white lines that designate the "parking lane" and the "roadway") that help to to slow drivers down. Wyaconda Road would be specifically added to the RCA's traffic study. The RCA does not want to reduce traffic in one part of RCA-land to the detriment of another part. The discussion was lively but friendly. Secretary Kevin Kline noted that both at the April meeting and this meeting, the one signage everyone agreed to was the "No Left Turn 7am - 9am" traveling west on Randolph Road, turning left onto Rocking Horse Road. RCAers leaving the neighborhood in the morning would not be affected. The only RCAers that could be affected are night-shifters, or "night owls" entering into RCA-land early in the morning. Some wanted to vote on this signage right away. Kevin said that the RCA had not planned to vote on traffic signs at this meeting, only to discuss it. However, signage at this intersection has been discussed at these two meetings, both with heavy turnouts and with no opposition. Richard carefully explained in detail that this "signage" is actually three signs: "No Left Turn" traveling west on Randolph Road, turning onto Rocking Horse Road; "No Right Turn 7am - 9am" traveling east on Randolph Road, turning onto Rocking Horse Road; and "Do Not Enter 7am - 9am" traveling straight-through from Gaynor to Rocking Horse Road. Passed by unanimous voice-vote: for the RCA to pursue getting this signage installed, contingent upon resolving any negative impact on school buses. One RCAer was concerned with heavy traffic on Schuylkill, and that the county had not sealed the blacktop roadway vet. Another RCAer complained of a burnt-out street light. Matt Shore said he would look into both of these matters.

Turning to education issues, George Gadbois reported that the School Board ignored the citizen's committee suggestions, and decided on its own to rename Belt Middle School after Mario Loiderman, an Argentinean who emigrated and became a local arts activist. Their decision is being appealed.

A "party" house on Ashley was discussed – drug use, police response, etc. The RCA said it has experience in these

matters, previously breaking up a drug dealing RCA-land house, and another full of illegal Chinese immigrants.

The massive new development at White Flint Metro, the Bethesda North Town Center, will have a grocery store, and the developers have requested permission (a waiver) to reduce the parking spaces required by the County. Passed by unanimous voice-vote: to write the County opposing any reduction in required parking spaces by the developers.

WSSC Water Main Alignment Study Update

by Eileen White

WSSC has narrowed their Bi-County Water Main Study from nine possible alignments to three, and I am happy to report that none of the alignments still under consideration are close to RCA-land. The proposed water main is a new 5.5 mile 84" diameter pipe that will connect two large existing water mains in Montgomery County. This project was described in detail in the April 2005 *Echo*.

The alignments still under consideration are the T1, which runs alongside 270, through Rock Creek Park paralleling the Beltway, and ends at Stoneybrook Drive; the T2, which runs under Tuckerman Lane and through Kensington under Saul Road; and the T4, which runs under Tuckerman Lane, through Rock Creek Park to the railroad bridge over Beach Drive, then under the CSX tracks to Stoneybrook Drive. All alignments would be constructed using the underground tunnel method only; no open cut trenches will be involved.

The alignments of concern to the RCA were the C5 and the T3, which would have run under the railroad tracks alongside RCA-land, adjacent to Waverly-Schuylkill Park. These options have now been dropped. ■

(New) Officers Needed for the RCA

by Richard Zierdt

Matt Shore has announced his "retirement" from his RCA presidential seat. Matt has done a great job running the meetings and keeping attendees focused on the issues at hand. Matt has been RCA president longer than anyone in RCA history(!), who, like Franklin Roosevelt, exceeded the traditional two-term limit to serve this community. Though he is stepping down as president, he will remain an RCA officer as one of its Directors.

Which brings us to RCA elections at the general membership meeting June 2. So far, we have no nominees for president, but we will survive until one is elected – if not in June, then later. In addition, new blood is crucial to viable, dynamic organizations. So, help your community and help its executive committee!

DAVID S. SCHLUTZ, D.M.D.



4618 Randolph Road Rockville, MD 20852 (301) 770-7369 Fax: (301) 770-7631

DENTIST

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

Jewell Elizabeth Golden, MSW

Licensed Clinical Social Worker Board Certified Diplomate

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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

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Treasurer's Report by Richard Zierdt

As of May 15, 2005, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$7,833.39. There is one issue of the *Echo* to print (this one!) costing about \$1,000. We owe Boy Scout Troop 1083 \$960 for *Echo* deliveries, and the RCA makes an annual \$400 donation to the Troop. We will end the fiscal year June 30 with about \$5000 still in the kitty.

Kim and Cary Williams did yeoman's work by buying, transporting, and painting huge wooden posts that will support new RCA signs (yes, they are coming). Also, they purchased those great hot dogs, hamburgers, and sodas for the RCA yard sale concessions. See RCF check 1076 below.

Big, BIG, thanks are in order to Mauro Biondo, who as RCA commercial editor gathered over \$6,000 in RCA income through *Echo* advertisements. Without this support, we'd be out of business. Remember our advertisers!

The next *Echo* will be distributed around September 15th. Enjoy the summer! ■

4/09/2005 through 5/15/2005					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 04/09/20	005		9,780.93
04/11		RCAssociation	advertising	100.00	9,880.93
04/13	754	Erie Insurance	May 1 - April 30	-728.00	9,152.93
04/16	755	Quick Printing	May ECHO 20 pages	-997.50	8,155.43
04/18	E-xfr	Verizon	March 22 telephone	-23.73	8,131.70
04/18		RCAssociation	—SPLIT—	40.00	8,171.70
		advertising	Seigel	5.00	
		membership	four memberships	35.00	
05/07	756	RC Foundation	transfer of donations	-1,000.00	7,171.70
05/09		RCAssociation	Schuler - Troy Road	20.00	7,191.70
		BALANCE 05/15/20			7,191.70

RCF Checking Register 4/09/2005 through 5/15/2005					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 04/09/200	05		68.29
04/29		interest received	.09%	0.02	68.31
05/09		RCFoundation	donations via RCA	1,000.00	1,068.31
05/14	1075	The Sign Shop	8 streamer for yard sale	-60.00	1,008.31
05/14	1076	Kim Williams	RCA reimbursements:	-366.62	641.69
			RCA sign posts/paint -147	'.51	
			concession food -219	.11	
		BALANCE 05/15/200	05		641.69
		RCF bank balance, A	pril 30, 2005: \$68.31		
Total RCA+RCF cash assets					7,833.39

The RCA Hotline



301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received April 9 to May 15, 2005

General Note: The RCA gets a lot of calls about code violations (untagged cars, tall grass, etc). Please note that phone numbers for agencies that handle such matters are published in the ECHO almost every month. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA is here to help everyone keep our neighborhood as orderly as possible, so please use these numbers. Please call the RCA as well. We appreciate knowing and learning about our community.

2005-04-10 (Sun) 1:33 pm Not anonymous. Yesterday morning, caller noticed the driveway was dirty and sticky, and so was the windshield. Caller thought some animal peed on the car. Some prankster had sprayed caller's car all over with Coke. Caller thinks caller knows who the perpetrator is, but wanted to let other residents know about it and be aware.

2005-04-13 (Wed) 9:48 am

Anonymous. Please put on your phone message the date of the next yard sale, so people know when to prepare their items for sale.

2005-04-13 (Wed) 1:51 pm Bethesda. Caller is an RCA member, but does not receive the *Echo* because caller does not live in RCA-land. Caller would like to pay the postage so caller could receive the *Echo* at caller's residence. [The RCA will mail a copy of the ECHOs for \$5 per year.]

2005-04-16 (Sat) 11:45 pm

Patapsco(?) Drive. Caller was walking on the street pushing a baby stroller because the sidewalk was blocked by parked car(s). Some man ("idiot") velled at caller to walk on the sidewalk. Man made racist comments because caller is Hispanic. Caller is angry to think these comments would not have been made if caller were white. Caller hopes that residents will be more neighborly, and to not block the sidewalk. [RCA is sorry to hear of this. Most residents are neighborly and would never make the comments described. But apparently there are a few who would. Caller did not mention the street on which street caller was walking. Regarding cars blocking sidewalks, this is a police matter, and the RCA supports all resident effort to report such cars to police (301-279-8000). You do not have to give your name. If you are nervous about doing this, call the RCA.]

2005-04-21 (Thu) 10:53 am Section 1 Randolph Hills resident since 1954. Comments about proposed rush-hour traffic restrictions: Regarding school bus travel during such hours, caller reports that some rush-hour "Do Not Enter" signs in Bethesda also have "Except Buses", so school buses can be accommodated at all times. Caller believes some restrictions are warranted. Also, on another matter, Christmas lights should be removed by now. Thank you.

2005-04-22 (Fri) 11:17 am Caller wants to know the boundaries of the RCA. Caller reports problems in caller's neighborhood. Please call.

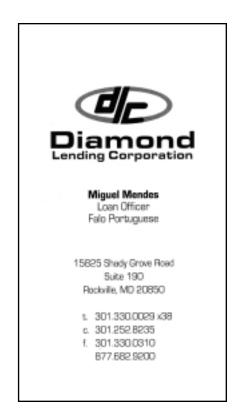
2005-04-25 (Mon) 5:24 pm 115xx Schuylkill Road. Did not receive *Echo* this month. [See entry of 04-28 below.]

2005-04-25 (Mon) 7:47 pm Caller offers to research a new RCA sign for Franklin Park. The current sign on Hunters Lane is hard to see and rather old looking. Perhaps a sign for Randolph Farms sections could also be investigated. [Thanks for the offer! The RCA has an additional wooden plank for the current "Franklin Park"

sign (the new plank reads "Randolph Civic Association"), but it is not installed yet. This plank could be incorporated in a new sign. One interesting thing about the current sign: it is the last original sign in the entire RCA. All others have been hit or rotted away.]

2005-04-28 (Thu) 9:46 pm 115xx Schuylkill Road. Caller received the Echo. [Glad caller received it. Boy Scout Troop 1083, which distributes the ECHO, has until the Monday before the first Thursday of the month to deliver.]

2005-04-30 (Sat) 10:11 am Troy Road. Reports that 112xx Troy Road has a board lying between that house and the adjacent house. Also, there is some plywood against the fence of the adjacent house. It's been there for months, and looks trashy. This wood should be moved to the back or stored in the basement. It puts a very bad look to our neighborhood. Caller would appreciate if this could be checked out. [Please call housing code enforcement at 240-777-3600.



You don't have to give your name, but this department is very good about keeping names private.]

2005-05-02 (Mon) 9:30 am

Ashley Drive. Caller would like to complain about kids sitting in/hanging out around their cars with stereos blasting at full volume with booming bass. Parents, please tell your kids how inconsiderate this is to your neighbors.

2005-05-02 (Mon) 10:44 am Macon Road. Is it legal for someone to just park in front of your house and take a nap, and who should you call about this? [Richard Zierdt here. As far as I know, it's not illegal as long as it is not over 24 hours, but what a way to get some shut-eye! If caller is understandably nervous about this, call the police at 301-279-8000.]

2005-05-04 (Wed) 4:13 pm Oxbow Road. Caller noticed that a cap was

off the fire hydrant at Rocking Horse and Macon, with water running from it going down the sewer. [This happens from time-to-time, but it is typically not a prank. WSSC (water utility) seems to do this for maintenance.]

2005-05-xx (Mon) 6:13 pm Hilltop Square. Caller has cellular telephones for a Scout's Eagle project. Please call. ■

Ride-On Offers Free Rides

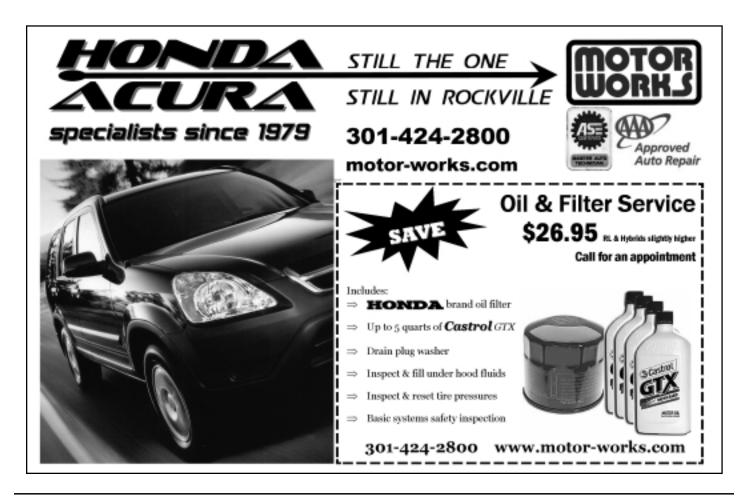
Montgomery County's Ride-On service will be free until July 31, 2005 on 16 of the 80 routes, including routes 5, 6, 34, and 38, all around RCA-land. Route 38 travels on Schuylkill and Boiling Brook. See www.montgomerycountymd.gov, then click on "Ride On" in the lower, left-hand corner. Take advantage of free rides now! ■

Offer to Boy Scout Troop 1083

by Richard Zierdt

In order to improve our Community Yard Sale experience, I'm asking the RCA/RCF to donate \$250 per yard sale to the Troop in exchange for their running the concessions at our yard sales. The Troop would use the profits to fund their High Adventure program for Scouts. The Troop would have to buy the food and manage the whole operation, which up to now had been performed for years by a few well worn-out RCA volunteers.

This is a good cause for our youth, a nice addition to the community atmosphere of the yard sales, and a relief to RCA volunteers. A vote is scheduled at the June meeting.



This Summer, Use RCA-Provided Yard Sale Signs

by Richard Zierdt

The RCA has several relatively attractive signs for you to use free-of-charge when advertising your private yard sale. These signs are more attractive than nailing your own to utility poles and trees. Plus, they are free.

Just call Lorena Segura at 301-984-8727 and she'll leave 'em out for you to pick up (Lorena's contact information appears with most other RCA volunteers on page 2 of every *Echo*). Return them to Lorena when your sale is over.

Please save money and use these signs. Signs posted on utility poles and trees are subject to immediate removal.







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

But that's not all. When you are lucky enough to get a plumber to show up he can talk rude, smell like a goat, leave your house in a mess, charge you "an arm and a leg"...and as a final insult, act like 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?

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Weed Warriors Recognized for Five Years of Service in Waverly-Schuylkill Park

In April 2005, Frank Shore of Troy Road and Margaret Dikel of Ashley Drive received certificates and accolades from Jayne Hench, Volunteer Services Coordinator, and Carole Bergmann, Forest Ecologist for the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission, for their efforts in controlling invasive weeds in Montgomery County parks.

For the past five years, Frank and Margaret have spent hundreds of hours in or very near Waverly-Schuylkill Park, pulling and cutting non-native invasive plants including Garlic Mustard, Kudzu, Mile-a-Minute Vine, Multi-Flora Rose, Porcelain Berry, and Japanese Honeysuckle in an effort to save the trees and native plants in the park.

Their efforts have been rewarded by the M-NCPPC with extra attention being given to this park. In the Fall of 2004, contractors were brought in for a large-scale Kudzu clipping-and-spraying program and in December 2004 75 new native trees were planted in the upper clearing, including red maples, river birches, tulip trees, and pin oaks. While we're still holding our breaths hoping the kudzu will not come back, you can already see many native plants like Jack-in-the-Pulpit popping up under the trees where the kudzu vines used to carpet the ground.



Jayne Hench with Frank Shore and Margaret Dikel.

Of course, now M-NCPPC is expecting their new trees to be protected from invasives. Frank and Margaret are ready and willing to continue their work, but they cannot do it alone, and they really can't expand their efforts to other parks in our community. Additional volunteers are needed in all M-NCPPC parks in Randolph Hills and throughout Montgomery County. Training is easy, you set your own hours and choose where you want to work, and you will be making a real difference in the local community. For more information, call the Weed Warriors program at 301-495-2464 or visit them on the web. (http://www.mcmncppc.org/Environment/weed_warriors/intro.shtm).

Scenes from the RCA Community Yard Sale May 14, 2005

Left: Bargain hunters browse the offerings. Top right: Boy Scout father Ken Wood looks on as Scouts sell concessions. Bottom right: A face painter provides entertainment for the kids.







News from Pack 1081

by George Gadbois



Our April pack meeting featured our annual Native American "Pow Wow" ceremony, along with an array of awards. After our Medicine Man, Mr. Bochniak, presented ceremonial names upon our newest members in the Pack, the Order of the Arrow American Indian Ceremonial Team performed their always-impressive ceremony for our Webelos II scouts earning the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Congratulations to our hard-working Webelos IIs who earned this award: Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart and Scott Levengard. The final Webelos Activity Pins earned by these boys were: Readyman & Scientist to Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart and Scott Levengard; Traveler to Jason Beam, Jake Blakely and Gregory Gadbois; Family Member to Jason Beam and Gregory Gadbois; and Outdoorsman to Scott Levengard. Jason, Jake and Gregory earned their South Compass Point while Scott received his East. The Compass Point patch and associated "point" pins are given to Webelos scouts as they earn increments of Activity Pins. Special recognition for having earned all 20 possible Activity Pins was given to Jason Beam, Jake Blakely and Gregory Gadbois.

The Webelos I scouts have been working on additions to their Native American costumes, including chest armor and other embellishments.

Our Bear scouts also were busy this month preparing Pow Wow costumes and working on Bear electives for additional Arrow Points. **Brad Gessford** completed requirements for, and was awarded, his Leave No Trace achievement patch, which has to do with responsible outdoorsmanship.



Scouts ready for a ride in the park.

The Wolf scouts this month were also busy working on electives and Native American attire. Wolf Silver Arrow Points for electives were presented to **Kyle Baal, Adam**Levengard and Preston Polk who each earned one, and Aidan Gibbons who earned three.

Our Tigers stayed busy working on elective beads for their totems and attending "Go See Its", which are mini field trips to places like the library and the fire department.

A few other awards were distributed to our boys in April: the Religious Award Square Knot went to Steve Hernandez and Gregory Gadbois for earning the Roman Catholic Emblem (Parvuli Dei). Physical Fitness Day (from back in September) Presidential Challenge Awards – Presidential: Brenton Polk; National: Elijah Evans, Brad Gessford, Joshua Murtagh, Matthew Best, Joshua Hart and Alan Costas; Participant: Preston Polk, Aidan Gibbons, DJ Terry, Tyler Bochniak, Sawyer Kibbe, Richard Torres, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong, Maxwell DeMulder, Gregory Gadbois, Jake Blakely and Antonio

Garcia. Service Project Recognition for Conservation & Stream Clean at Boiling Brook was given, by way of a patch, to all attending Cubs that were mentioned in the last *Echo* edition.

Our April meeting ended with the traditional bridging ceremony where Pack 1081 says good-bye to our graduating Webelos II scouts. Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart and Scott Levengard crossed the bridge with their parents and became the newest members of Boy Scout Troop 1083. Scoutmaster Talbott and other leaders and troop members welcomed them with new insignia, Scout manuals, hearty handshakes and a follow up reception. Thanks also went out to our "graduating" Webelos II leaders and helpful others for their hard work: Mary Anne Gadbois for Webelos Den Leader, Moses Hart, Assistant Cubmaster and Mary Anne's official assistant, and Fred Beam, the Pack's Committee Chair. George Gadbois, Cubmaster for the past six years, along with Fred and Moses, will be officially stepping down in a transition ceremony at the May Pack meeting. New leadership taking over in May

will be: **Mark Kibbe** as Cubmaster, **Don Gibbons** as Committee Chair and **Daryl Terry** as Assistant Cubmaster. Best wishes to these dedicated new leaders.

We had great weather again this year on the morning of April 16th for our Pack bike ride where we peddled from the Veirs Mill Rec Center to Connecticut Avenue and back. In attendance were: Kyle Baal, Preston Polk, Aidan Gibbons, David Villerreal, Patrick Owen, Matthew Best, Brenton Polk, Jake Blakely and Gregory Gadbois. Assisting were Troop 1083 Boy Scouts Kyle Blakely and Den Chief Anthony Gadbois, as well as several siblings.

The annual Billy Goat Trail hike was scheduled for May 7th where a number of our Cubs were signed up to attend the fun but challenging outing.

We are again looking forward to the rest of our Pack members graduating at the May Pack meeting, camping at Smallwood State Park in Southern Maryland (also in May), as well as many summer activities including day camp and overnight camp, a picnic, a mother/son softball game, a carwash and pro baseball games with special scout or kid promotions. 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/pack1081. ■



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Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Scouts in Troop 1083 had a busy month preparing a ceremony to welcome our newest members. In April, Troop 1083 welcomed these 2nd year Webelos from Pack 1081: **Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josha Hart**, and **Scott Levengard**. We would also like to welcome new scout: **David Santos**. The ceremony is rich with symbols, including drumming, fire, and traditional Native American dress. During the ceremony, each scout must walk across the bridge — a bridge which symbolizes the departure from cub scouts into boy scouts, and down a trail towards achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Many ranks must be achieved before a scout can reach Eagle, all of which are challenging and enriching. Some aspects of achieving these ranks involve giving back to the community, in addition to acquiring leadership skills. One of our scouts is working on his Eagle Scout Leadership Project. For his project he organized the "Scouting for Phones" event, to collect unused cell phones to distribute to battered women, the elderly, and disabled for emergency use. Many thanks to Scott Talbott for his leadership in this event, which could potentially save someone's life, and a big thank you to everyone in the community who donated cell phones. With your generosity, Scott was able to collect approximately 250 cell phones. The scouts and leaders who participated in Scott's project are: Greg Skolnik, Mark Bushong, Galen Miley, Moses Hart, Bubba Hart, Josh Hart, Amie Hart, Michelle Gessford, Brad Gessford, Edwin Fuentes, Cindy Strobel, Doug Strobel, George Gadbois, Anthony Gadbois, Richard Fieller, Fred Beam, Matt Fieller, Jason Beam, Mark Bennett, Kristi Gessford, Geoff Owen, Patrick Owen, Joseph Owen, Dave Talbott, Matt Binsted, Otilia Santos, David Santos, John Pitkin, Jaime Todaro, Scott Talbott, David Turish, Vickie Binsted, Judi Talbott, Ben Pitkin, Alex Cassel, and Jacob Bolt.

We haven't just been working hard though — we've been playing hard too! Our weekend campout in April was at the C&O Canal, on a beautiful farm. The rain didn't dampen our spirits, or stop us from hiking through the famous Paw Paw Tunnel. Scouts who camped: Jason Beam, Matt Fieller, Gregory Gadbois, Anthony Gadbois, Scott Talbott, Jacob Bolt, Alan Costas, Jake Blakely, Kyle Blakely, Alex Cassel, Edwin Fuentes, Scott Johnson, Joseph Owen, Johnny Hilderbrand, Bubba Hart, and Josh Hart. Leaders who camped: Richard Fieller, Fred Beam, John Hilderbrand, Dave Talbott, George Gadbois, Brian McGahey, and Bill Blakely.

Upcoming events include a whitewater rafting campout, the relay for life, and a beach campout. 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.



A Message from Eagle Scout Candidate Scott Talbott

My Eagle Scout Project collecting cell phones was an outstanding success! Thank you to everyone in Randolph Hills who supported this project by donating their old cell phones. My goal was to provide the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department with 100 cell phones. I collected approximately 300 phones on Saturday, May 7! The Sheriff's Department will use a number of cell phones in their Domestic Violence Division, with the remaining cell phones available to our County's Senior Citizens. Before the cell phones are delivered to Lt. Brian Roynestad, all personal information stored on the phones will be deleted. Thank you for your support with this project and helping me as I take the steps necessary to achieve my goal of Eagle Scout.

Scott Talbott Senior Patrol Leader Boy Scout Troop 1083

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Dear Mrs. Brown



When I go out to dinner with a large group of people, I am never sure which glass of water is mine. Also, which roll is mine? What if someone has a piece of food stuck between two teeth?

Water is on the right and bread is on the left.

Sometimes food does get lodged between teeth. Spinach, parsley and tiny seeds on rolls or buns are common culprits. Also, sometimes food ends up around the mouth – like the infamous milk mustache. If you are sharing a meal with someone and either of these instances occurs – tell them! It is even helpful to pick up your own napkin and place in at the corner of your mouth where their food is and say, "You have some food/sauce/mustard right here." It is actually more embarrassing for the other person if you do not tell them and

embarrassing for the other person if you do not tell them and they discover it themselves later (when they have visited the restroom for instance). Then they may think; Oh, my gosh! I've been talking for the past half hour with this food stuck here! It is better to tell them right away – let them fix it – and forget about it.

What kind of advice do you have on being a good neighbor?

This is a broad question, but here are a few tips from the *Amy Vanderbilt Complete Book of Etiquette*: (with a few of my own added in italics)

- Avoid making excessive noise, particularly at night. Try to think of your neighbors when you are playing music, vacuuming, doing home repairs, exercising, honking your horn, or having loud arguments. (The Montgomery County noise disturbance laws allow noise during daytime hours from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekends and holidays. It is very considerate to refrain from making noise cutting the lawn, using your leaf blower, hammering, etc. until noon on Sunday.)
- Try to prevent your dog from barking. (When walking your dog on a leash it is important to clean up any mess made in front of someone else's house. You can't clean up urine and it kills grass and plants so be sure your dog stays clear of neighbor's property. Walk them on the county side between the sidewalk and the street. We have a great park in our neighborhood where children run and teams

play sports. People like to walk their dogs here a lot (especially large dogs) – but remember it is no fun to play here if you are always stepping in something!)

- Give your neighbor privacy. Don't drop in unexpectedly and don't inquire about his comings and goings. (Don't intrude by talking to your next door neighbor every time you see them in the backyard either.)
- If you borrow a tool, book, frying pan, or even a cup of sugar, return it immediately and with appreciation.
- If you, your child, or your pet breaks anything, replace it right away.
- Be generous about sharing your lawn mower, or jumper cables, or whatever else your neighbor might need to borrow. (And if you are the borrower, don't forget to return the item as soon as you finish using it.)
- Keep your yard as neat and attractive as possible.
- Teach your children to address your neighbors politely.
- Wipe your feet before you enter a neighbor's house and teach your children to do the same.
- Don't light up a cigarette or cigar in someone else's house without asking permission.
- Offer to watch your neighbor's house (perhaps water plants, pick up paper or mail, turn on porch light or feed animals) when they go on vacation.



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- In a supermarket, tell someone who has significantly fewer items than you to go ahead of you.
- Welcome new neighbors by dropping them a note introducing yourself and offering to help them in any way you can.

If you have the misfortune to live near someone who is inconsiderate of others, you may encounter some problems. Neighbors who don't respond to a polite knock at their door to ask them to turn down the stereo at three in the morning can be dealt with by the police. However, any intervention on your part will not endear you to your neighbors. For that reason, sometimes it's easier to listen to the occasional dog barking in the middle of the night than to begin a feud.

To establish good feelings with your neighbors, consider having an annual open house, perhaps on a Sunday or at holiday time. Everyone will enjoy getting together and sharing a few refreshments. (Attending the annual RCA picnic is another good way to meet your neighbors!)

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. ■

Restaurant Good! Scallops with Angel Hair Pasta

Thirty minutes to prepare. Serves 4.

Preheat oven to 400°

Put a large pot of salted water on to boil. In a large glass casserole dish, toss:

- 1 1/2 pounds scallops
- 6 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1/2 cup finely chopped parsley
- 2 tablespoons minced garlic
- 1 small dried chipotle chile with seeds, stemmed and finely chopped
- · Sea salt to taste

Bake uncovered for 15 minutes, or until the oil is sizzling and the scallops are firm.

Meanwhile, add to boiling water and cook until al dente; about 3 minutes.

• 1 lb. Angel Hair Pasta

Drain the pasta and transfer to a large serving bowl. Pour the entire scallop mixture on top of the pasta, toss well and serve immediately. This recipe should be eaten with bread to scoop up the delicious sauce.

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Note to Contributors:

The deadline for the September/October issue of the Echo is Saturday, August 20th.



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.

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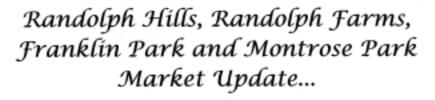
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#308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)		
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)		
Police: Emergency		
Park Police	.301-949	9-3010
Abandoned Cars (on private property)		
Animal Control	.240-773	3-5960
Building Permits		
Consumer Affairs		
Crisis Hotline (24 hours)		
Department of Natural Resources (wildlife nuisance problems)	.800-442	2-0708
Disability Resources	.240-77	7-1246
Fire Non-Emergency	.240-77	7-0744
Housing Code Violations		7-3600
Large Item Pick-up	.240-77	7-6410
Libraries: Hours, etc		
Metrorail and Metrobus schedules & info	.202-63	7-7000
Montgomery County Humane Society	.240-773	3-5900
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Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville	.301-23	1-5973
Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.)	.240-77	7-3986
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Neighborhood Home Sales Settled Since April 2005

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Dom	Subsidy	Date Settled
4818 Mori Drive	\$435,000	\$435,000	10	\$0	4/12/2005
4602 Creek Shore Drive	\$369,500	\$385,000	7	\$0	4/29/2005
5112 Oakglen Drive*	\$439,000	\$450,000	7	\$0	5/06/2005

Homes Under Contract

	Address	Original Price	Address	Original Price
١	12011 Ashley Drive	* \$389,900	4703 Topping Road	\$464,900
12121 Hunters Lane \$449,90			11135 Schuylkill Roa	ad* \$445,000
	11219 Troy Road*	\$419,900	11801 Old Drovers	\$350,000
h	4815 Topping Road	\$449,000	12101 Putnam Road	\$419,900
7	4605 Olden Road*	\$448,000	12100 Galena Road	\$445,000
	12005 Galena Road	\$425,000	* Sold By Denise	

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