

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 50, Issue 5

March 2007

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President's Message

by Mike Saunders

By the time you get your March edition of the *Echo*, the weather should more closely resemble Spring in RCA-Land. We are experiencing a brief (I hope) cold spell in the later part of January and first part of February as I write this column, and now that March has arrived, hopefully it came in without the last of the winter lion's roar. Hope everybody survived the winter and will now start thinking about more pleasant things than snow shovels and dead car batteries. Next month, in my April message, I plan to say a little more about the fun I had in February with the snow blower, if I do get to go out with it this year.

By now, many of you have noticed the new street lights installed in RCA-land. We have been successful in moving the county in that direction. Street lights are considered a deterrent to crime. We need your help in reporting burnt-out street lights (240-777-2190). Be sure to copy the street pole number from the small metal tag on the pole. The county will send street light maintenance contractors to replace the burnt out bulbs within 72 hours.

Speaking of spring, there are several days set aside in the county for spring cleanup. That includes cleanup in the neighborhood parks in late March and April. This year the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts will participate in those efforts as they have in the past. We'll have more information on cleanup activities next month. The first date of planned cleanups is the Potomac Watershed cleanup (March 31st, April 1st). This year, we are planning to coordinate RCA community spring cleanup activities with the Scouts. Several boys in Troop 1083 are working toward their Eagle Scout service project. I will encourage them to lead a spring cleanup effort within a park inside of the RCA boundaries. Of course, community help is always welcomed and it gives all of us a chance to get out and improve our neighborhood. Please look for any announcements in the *Echo* on these projects.

See you around the neighborhood. Remember to say hello. ■

Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, March 1, 2007, 8:00 p.m

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, April 5, 2007, 8:00 p.m.

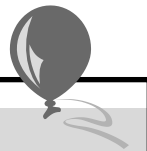
Meetings are held at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center at the corner of Ashley Drive and Macon Road on the **first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.**, except January, July, and August. Usually, we alternate between General and Executive meetings. All are welcome at every meeting.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

RCA Community Yard Sale

Saturday, May 5, 2007 • 8:00 am - 1 pm

Details in next month's Echo!



RCA Executive Committee for 2006-2007

OFFICERS

President

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Vice President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

2nd Vice President

Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-770-5985

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 Rossonondo
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 Schuykill 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: Roger Berliner 240-777-7828
email: Councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov

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: Ike Leggett 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: Richard Madeleno 301-858-3137

Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181

Jane Lawton 301-858-3638

Jeffery Waldstreicher 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

Benjamin Cardin 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 Martin O'Malley

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 eehwitedesign@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

Sam's Club Update

by Richard Zierdt

Did you know that buying your annual Sam's Club membership from the RCA at \$35 is \$5 less than the usual \$40 Sam's charges mere mortals? Yep, you save \$5, *and* because RCA/Sam's are *business* memberships, you have the advantage of greater shopping hours six days a week. This is but *one* reason to join your neighborhood association.

But on a personal note, after 10+ years of managing this program, I'm looking for my replacement. Here's what's involved:

- 1) Renewing RCA/Sam's memberships;
- 2) Buying new Sam's accounts for new RCA/Sam's members (with an RCA check, of course!);
- 3) Working with the RCA membership chair, deleting those RCA/Sam's accounts that are not renewed;
- 4) Synchronizing RCA's membership database with the lists of Sam's members provided by Sam's Club.

This program requires about five trips to Sam's Club in Gaithersburg each membership season, about October - December of each year. When I went, I combined it with my shopping there. A computer is a necessity, so if you need one, the RCA will provide it.

Let me know if you're interested. Richard Zierdt, 301-881-0283. ■

Franklin Park Sign Update

by Richard Zierdt

During the 2006-07 RCA Membership Drive that started last September, RCA residents donated \$487 towards replacing the Franklin Park sign at the corner of Randolph Road and Hunters Lane. The RCA also provides \$600 towards each sign as part of its neighborhood sign program.

There was interest in looking at different sign designs other than the usual wood signs you see around RCA-land, e.g., Boiling Brook Parkway off Nicholson Lane. On the RCA website (www.randolphcivic.org) is a sign design proposed by Patrick Signs. The proposal is contained in a PDF file that, when you click on it, changes the picture of the current sign to the proposed sign. Kinda cool in itself! The sign itself costs \$1670, not including the two brick columns, so another \$583 is needed just to buy the sign (\$1670-\$487-\$600).

This money might be donated, or lent, but what's really needed is some interest in this project. We need:

- 1) A volunteer to guide the project;
- 2) Someone in the neighborhood who may be willing to build the brick columns, or a plan to have the work otherwise paid for.

If no one comes forward to guide this project, a wooden sign similar to the one on Boiling Brook Parkway will be installed, with donations received so far going towards embellishment to the new wooden one, such as a brick planter. The Franklin Park sign will be discussed at the March 1 general meeting. ■

Minutes of the RCA Executive Committee

by Kevin Kline

February 1, 2007

President Mike Saunders presided over an informal meeting to discuss issues important to your neighborhood. Vice-president George Gadbois reported that new street lights have been installed in the Section II area of Randolph Hills (e.g., Topping Road) and also in Franklin Park. This was good news to Matt Shore, who as RCA President spearheaded this effort (see RCA meeting notes of April, 2003). The RCA did get many new streetlights installed, and submitted an expanded 'final list.' County representative Mike Crisin told the RCA our final list of light installations would be delayed due to lack of funding. Mike also told the RCA that we were good at wrangling county services (that's why you elected us!).

(continued on page 4)

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Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 3)

Long-time RCA'er Frank Shore watched as some of these streetlights were installed. It's an efficiency marvel, taking workers only 45 minutes to install these streetlights. You can identify the new lights, because the arm stretching over the street is longer. We need your help in calling in burnt-out streetlights (240-777-2190). Write down the street pole number, printed on a small metal tag attached to the pole. County contractors will replace the burnt out bulbs within 72 hours. Good job keeping up RCA-land!

The discussion turned to our nearby parks, and woodland cleanup. Frank reported that Park and Planning workers did a great job of cleaning up Waverly-Schuylkill Park, located at the back of Randolph Hills, leading into Rock Creek Park and Beach Drive (note: the RCA was a driving force in creating this new park). Recently, Park and Planning used major equipment to tear down a shack and haul away several tons of junk in four dump truck-loads. You can see the improvement for yourself by walking through Waverly-Schuylkill Park to the Garrett Park Train Station. An arborist reported that our Park is "an upland forest in a healing process." Frank said more light cleanup is needed, like cutting down the kudzu. In the past, we have chosen spring-cleaning projects, rented equipment, and RCA volunteers have cleaned our woodlands, including Waverly-Schuylkill Park, Randolph Hills Local Park, and Boiling Brook Creek under the auspices of Earth Day (April 22) or Montgomery County clean-up day. Every year our Boy Scouts participate in the Potomac Watershed cleanup (March 31st, April 1st). The action plan is that RCA will coordinate a spring cleanup, maybe coordinating with the Boy Scouts.

Secretary Kevin Kline reported on nearby zoning issues, and asked the Execs to approve an RCA application for an Adopt-a-Road sign. If County approved, the RCA would have to clean a 1/2 mile of Randolph Road of roadside trash, from Hunters Lane to Rock Creek. In return, the County will install two street signs with the Randolph Civic Association's name on them. This is the RCA's second application.

This spring we will install two RCA red wooden signs we have already had made. The Montrose Park sign is in storage. The Randolph Farms sign is temporarily mounted on RCA Secretary Kline's fence, on Randolph Road. Kline's house is located in Randolph Farms. We have not installed these signs because the Execs like to coordinate with nearby homeowners to get their approval. RCA President Mike Saunders noted that, while nearby neighbor's cooperation is desirable, we do not need their approval. RCA signs are installed on County right-of-way, and have the needed permits (note: rental and for-sale signs on the County right-of-way are illegal).

Franklin Park also needs a new sign, and we will revive the Sign Committee of Franklin Park residents that was spearheading this effort. Finally, passed by majority voice-vote: the meeting minutes as published in the November *Echo*. ■

Treasurer's Report *by Dell Pillers/Cline*

As of February 2, 2007, the balance in the RCA checking account was \$7,570.33.

Inflows for the two month period totaled \$191. Expenses totaled \$1,372.76. Check # 1005 is missing from the register below because it is earmarked for the last of the Sam's Club renewals but has not been written yet.

According to our membership chair, John Kehoe, 517 households have paid their membership dues this fiscal year. \$487.00 of the funds in the checking account are contributions designated for the Franklin Park sign. ■

RCA Checking Register 12/31/2006 through 02/02/2007					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
BALANCE 12/31/06					\$8,752.09
12/28/06	EFT	SunTrust Bank	rebate on checks ordered	75.00	8,827.09
12/30/06	1004	Sam's Club	Sam's Club renewals	-245.00	8,582.09
01/08/07	DEP	Randolph Civic Assc	inc:membership	116.00	8,698.09
01/17/07	EFT	Verizon	Dec phone bill	-25.26	8,672.83
01/18/07	1006	Quick Printing	Jan-Feb ECHO	-1,102.50	7,570.33
BALANCE 02/02/07					\$7,570.33

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(2RCA)



**Calls Received January 7 to
February 3, 2007**

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!

2007-01-09 (Tue) 2:59 pm Brenda Irolla (sp?) from the Polk Development Division of Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission calling about the article "History of RCA-Land" in the Jan-Feb 2002 *Echo*. Brenda is doing research on Veirs Mill and has further questions about the flour produced and its branding, etc. Historian Rob Gromberg (sp?) was referenced, and Brenda would like to contact him. *[The ECHO gets around, even from five years ago!]*

2007-01-22 (Mon) 2:35 pm Anonymous. There are two trucks parked on or around Stoneleigh Court and Ashley Drive. Caller noticed the odor of diesel fuel emanating from one of the trucks. It's not good that commercial trucks are parked in our neighborhood.

2007-01-23 (Tue) 4:51 pm Not anonymous on Troy Road. Caller understands there is going to be a group home on Troy Road, and wonders if the residents should have been notified about this. The residents were not. Would the RCA address this?

2007-01-25 (Thu) 2:26 pm Not anonymous. There's a house at 471x Boiling Brook Parkway that looks like a slum. There are five garbage cans lined up in front of the house, and another garbage can on the side; other trash in the yard. The back yard is all torn up. In warm weather they hang clothes in the front of the yard (they have a clothesline in front of the house). The whole street is just going to the dogs. It's terrible. Caller feels sorry for anyone who lives there or wants to sell their house. Please do something about it.

2007-02-02 (Fri) 11:30 pm Anonymous from the 11600 block of Ashley Drive. Caller reports that earlier this evening at approximately 7:30 pm, as caller was sitting in caller's car, caller was approached by a suspicious male. Caller is safe, but wants to remind our neighbors to be vigilant and be safe. Thank you.

2007-02-03 (Sat) 6:08 pm Anonymous. This is in reference to the anonymous caller on Ashley Drive on 2006-12-04 concerning the commercial vehicles parked at 120xx Ashley for the last month and a half. When you call the police, tell them that you would like those vehicles ticketed under county code 31-14 [no commercial vehicles may be parked on residential streets unless conducting official business]. There was a truck parked at 1180x Ashley Drive. Caller called the police about eight or nine times. The police eventually did respond after the ninth call when caller quoted 31-14, and ticketed the vehicle for \$250. The vehicle continued to be parked there, and the fine was doubled to \$500. On the third

time, owner was threatened with towing, and the vehicle has been removed from the neighborhood. Also, there were two R&M (?) maintenance vehicles parked further up on Ashley that have been removed, again quoting 31-14. Caller will check out the vehicles cited in the call of 2006-12-04, and if caller sees them, caller will call the police as well. Thank you so much. ■

**Keep in touch
with your
neighbors!**

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at
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randolphca/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/)

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Summer Flower Bulb Sale by Richard Zierdt

As I write this, the temperature is 21, and there is almost nothing certain in life, but I guarantee spring will come, and flowers will bloom – especially if you bought crocus, daffodils, and tulips during RCA’s membership drive last September.

Missed that one? Here’s another chance to buy summer bulbs that are planted in the spring. We’ve selected seven bulbs to choose from at wholesale prices. The only extra cost is \$5 to deliver them to your door, regardless of quantity, and that \$5 goes to help one of RCA’s sponsored groups, Boy Scout Troop 1083. Three of the varieties are perennial and four are annual. I’m not a botanist, but I believe perennials will bloom every year and survive winters; annuals must be

planted, well, annually (unless you take them inside during the winter). [If I’m wrong, please write an article for the *Echo* about this and correct me. I won’t be offended!] Pictures of each plant in bloom are posted at RCA’s website, www.randolphcivic.org.

To order, clip or tear the order form below and mail it to my house, or simply drop it by. My address is 4707 Coachway Drive, zip 20852 (everyone in RCA is 20852). Make checks payable to the Randolph Civic Association.

I will order all the bulbs on March 20.

This RCA bulb program is but one of the many ways the RCA tries to keep our community the best it can be. ■

Order Form – Summer Flower Bulbs

See pictures at www.randolphcivic.org

Item #	Description	Type, height	Price	Quantity	Total
E	Spectacular Gladiolus	annual, 4'-5'	.10 ea.		\$
G	Tiger Lilies	perennial, 3'-4'	.60 ea		\$
J	Blazing Stars	perennial, 4'	.10 ea.		\$
K	Anemone De Caen	annual, 8"-12"	.12 ea.		\$
N	Peacock Orchids	annual, 2' - 3'	.15 ea.		\$
P	Camellia Begonias	annual, 6"- 8"	.72 ea.		\$
Q	Daylily Stella D'Oro	perennial, 18"	1.00 ea.		\$
	Delivery Charge				\$ 5.00
GRAND TOTAL					\$

Make checks payable to the Randolph Civic Association

c/o Richard Zierdt, Environment Committee
 4707 Coachway Drive
 North Bethesda, Maryland 20852

Montrose Parkway Update

by Richard Zierdt

If you've driven on Montrose *Road* close to I-270 in the past six months, you can't miss the construction of Montrose *Parkway*, on the south side of the road. This is known as Montrose Parkway *West*, as opposed to Montrose Parkway *East*. What's the difference? Plenty. *West* runs from Montrose Road at Tildenwood Drive (approximately) to Rockville Pike (close to it) and is clearly under construction. It is expected to be complete by Fall, 2008 (it looks like it could open this summer!).

East runs from Parklawn Drive to Veirs Mill Road, and is only in the planning stages. No funding has been provided for construction.

Here are two County websites about the projects (these URLs may be easier to grab from this newsletter online at www.randolphcivic.org):

Montrose Parkway West:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dpwt/capital/dcd/index.asp?pageid=2&pid=5>

Montrose Parkway East:

<http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/content/dpwt/capital/dcd/index.asp?pageid=2&pid=242>



These two sections actually do not meet, so what's missing? The new Rockville Pike / Montrose Road / Randolph Road Interchange! This is a Maryland State road project, not a County project. Confusing, yes? Here's the Maryland website about it:

<http://www.sha.state.md.us/WebProjectLifeCycle/ProjectInformation.asp?projectno=MO8302115>

The website says construction of this project will begin this year, 2007.

While *West* is a done deal, it is possible that the *East* portion might not be built, even though planning for it is well underway. This is my reading of the politics, not the science. Since the newly-elected County Council is decidedly less pro-growth and less pro-road than the previous Council of eight years, this Council may decide not to appropriate any funding to *construct* the eastern Parkway, even if the *planning* for it were complete.

Now the RCA is on record as *supporting* Montrose Parkway. It will provide for us an easier path to I-270, just as the neighborhoods around Montrose Road have had for decades. I suppose half a loaf is better than none, but we will wait longer in traffic without the eastern portion. ■



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Wheaton High School Gets AP Recognition

by George Gadbois

Some of you may have seen the news story on WUSA 9 back on February 9. Our own Wheaton High School was featured and recognized as one contributing to Montgomery County's success in helping the State of Maryland achieve a ranking of #2 behind New York in students passing AP (Advanced Placement) exams, according to the College Board. In recent years, Wheaton has increased the number of AP offerings from just a few to well over a dozen. The demographics of those students enrolled in AP classes are proportionate to that of the entire school. This, together with the success rate of passing the exams, which gives the student college credit, is among some of the positive strides and ongoing proud achievements of the school. For the full story and video clip of WHS, go to:

http://www.wusa9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=55646 ■

Vandalism at Loiederman MS

by George Gadbois

During the weekend of December 8-10, several students entered the A. Mario Loiederman Middle School property, and at some point began breaking out window and door glass in the rear of the school. As it turns out, some of the students were Loiederman students, others were from other schools. Reportedly, school officials, security and police were called to the school for increasing episodes of this Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings of that weekend. All participants in this series of events have been caught and have received disciplinary action from MCPS. The matter is under police investigation and will likely result in, at least, the affected families splitting the restitution of \$4,000 in repair costs. Loiederman, as a school, will not be burdened with these costs; MCPS will facilitate repairs and coordinate with the courts for repayment without affecting Loiederman. By all accounts, the vandals did not enter the building and as a result, nothing was taken and only a few small items were damaged. MCPS maintenance staff was able to have the building appropriately secured with plywood to avoid any class cancellation the following Monday. It was determined afterwards that lighting in the rear of the school was not satisfactory and has since been upgraded. Loiederman is on a list, among other middle schools, to receive security cameras in the near future. ■

Progress on Parkland MS Modernization

by George Gadbois

According to MCPS, the modernization work being performed on Parkland is on schedule, and plans for reopening for the Fall 2007 school year are on track. The current schedule even has some built-in "punch-out" time before the start of school, to minimize disruption once classes begin. Students moving back from the Tilden holding facility, where they have been for the last two years, will enjoy a fully air-conditioned building with centralized wiring and networking for computers, phones, TV and PA in nearly every room. The entranceway has been reconfigured to force visitors by the main office prior to proceeding elsewhere in the building. There will be special accommodations for the aerospace theme such as four additional labs, including one for robotics. Parkland will be one of the first County middle schools outfitted with school-wide security cameras. (Loiederman reportedly will follow soon after.) Adequate exterior lighting will also be installed about the entire building perimeter for security.



Parkland's new exterior as of January 31st.

Since the performance stage is part of the gym, it too will be air-conditioned as well as having a standard projection screen and public address system. See photo for progress on the exterior. ■

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News from Pack 1081

by Mike Mulcahy



Cub Scout Pack 1081 winter activities are in full swing! The annual Klondike Derby at Little Bennett, with activities for our Webelos and a Troop 1083 dinner invitation, was held on Saturday, January 20th. The Klondike Derby is a winter outdoor event for our Webelos Scouts involving "arctic-themed" competitions that test scout skills along with teamwork. Webelos II Scout **Sawyer Kibbe** competed at the event and had a great time. At the Derby, Sawyer crossed a "river" on coffee cans, poured "oil" through a pipeline and also, among other things, observed some of the Boy Scout competitions. Sawyer then was invited to Boy Scout Troop 1083's campsite for a hamburgers & chips dinner and warm campfire. Way to go, Sawyer!

As in previous years, song favorites like "409", "Who Let The Dogs Out?" and "Little Deuce Coupe" coming from the boom box, got the scouts "revved-up" again for this year's Pinewood Derby. Race winners for Tigers: **Mark Kimball** 1st, **Wolfie Wollard** 2nd, **Brian DeOliveira** 3rd; Bears: **Matthew Kimball** 1st, **Mateo Streed** 2nd, **Nick Galkin** 3rd; Webelos I: **Aidan Gibbons** 1st, **Chris Mulcahy** 2nd, **Colin McLean** 3rd; Webelos II: **Jose Velasquez** 1st, **Gabriel Hernandez** 2nd, **Sawyer Kibbe** 3rd.

There were winners in many other categories from "best flames" to "best creative placement of weights."

Congratulations to all the winners and all that participated in this year's Derby races! Many thanks to our judges as well as the pit crew of our dedicated Pack parents and leaders. The District Pinewood Derby finals will be held in mid-March. Our top winners for speed were **Aidan Gibbons**, **Matthew Kimball** and **Chris Mulcahy**. **Sawyer Kibbe** won the best "Show" car. Congratulations to all the winners! Our Pack will be represented in the District races by **Mark Kimball**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Aidan Gibbons**, **Jose Velasquez** and **Sawyer Kibbe**. Good luck in the District competition, guys!

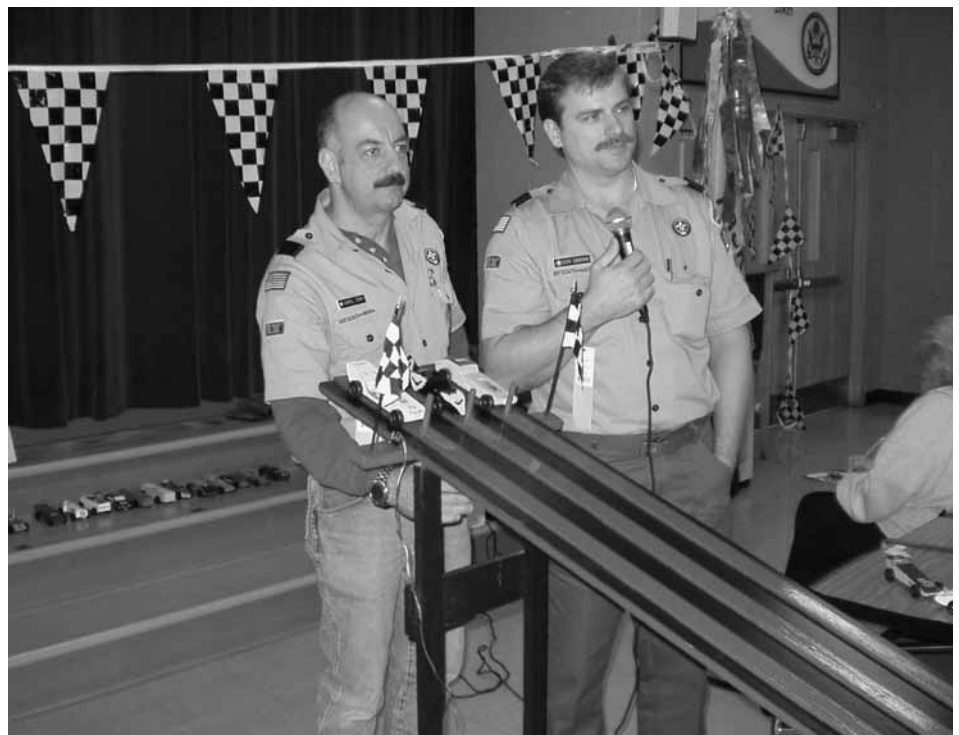
Since our last *Echo* column, the following scouts have worked hard to earn the following advancement awards: Tigers: Sports and Academic Belt Loops and Pins in Basketball for **Pedro Cerriteno**; Bears: Sports and Academic Belt Loops in Art for **Nicholas Galkin**, **Cameron Lett**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Mateo Streed**,



The Pack 1081 winners for fastest cars. Congratulations, boys!

Jassir Begazo, **Kenneth Mills-Bonhomme** and **Jonathan Romero**; Webelos I: Webelos Activity Pins in Engineering for **Noah Reidinger**, **Aidan Gibbons** and **Adam Levangard**; and Webelos II: Whittling Chip Badge for **Gabriel Hernandez** and **David Villereal**. Also, the Bobcat

Scouts, get your engines ready...



Rank pin was awarded to **Pedro Cerriteno, Brian DeOliveira, Mark Kimball and Noah Reidinger**. Noah earned the Bobcat Patch as well. Let's hear it for our award-winning Scouts!!

At press time the Pack is looking forward to an ice-skating outing at Wheaton Park on Saturday, February 10th, our annual Blue & Gold Banquet on Thursday, February 15th, and a Ski trip to Liberty Mountain on Sunday, February 18th. Please visit our website: www.pack1081.org.

If you are interested in learning more about the Cub Scout program for your 1st – 5th grade son, please stop by Veirs Mill ES any Monday evening at 6:30 or call Mr. Mark Kibbe at (301) 946-6393. It's never too late to join! ■



The cars have passed inspection and are ready for the races!



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Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Troop 1083 would like to express our gratitude to everyone who supported us by ordering mulch. Orders will be delivered the weekend of March 9-11.

In January, many of our scouts and leaders traveled to Little Bennett Regional Park for the Rock Creek District "Polar Nights, Northern Lights" Klondike Derby. Competitions were held in areas such as Compass Reading, Fire Building, Knots, Lashings, First Aid, and Catapult. Troop 1083 sent fifteen scouts to participate in the competition: **Jason Beam, Anthony Gadbois, Gregory Gadbois, Kyle Galkin, Steve Hernandez, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Johnson, Scott Levengard, Joshua Murtagh, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, Daniel Pouridas, Ray Turish, Erik Uglem, and Andy Wood.** Six leaders participated: **Fred Beam, Brian McGahey, Greg Skolnik, Dave Talbott, Scott Talbott, and Ken Wood.**

In January, eight scouts completed Junior Leadership Training (JLT), where they began developing skills necessary to be a good leader, such as communicating effectively, setting goals, planning, problem solving, resolving conflicts, and making ethical decisions: **Anthony Gadbois, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Johnson, Joseph Owen, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, Hafez Taghavi, and Andy Wood.**

In our February Court of Honor, we awarded ten merit badges, and four rank advancements. Five scouts earned the Citizenship in the Community merit badge: **Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois, Scott Levengard, and David Santos.** One scout earned the Citizenship in the Nation merit badge: **Bryan Bravo.** One scout earned the Citizenship in the World merit badge: **Bryan Bravo.** One scout earned the Communications merit badge: **Joseph Owen.** One scout earned the Personal Management merit badge: **Kyle Blakely.** One scout earned the Snow Sports merit badge: **Joseph Owen.** **Kyle Galkin** advanced to the Scout rank, **Erik Uglem** advanced to 1st Class rank, **Johnny Hilderbrand** advanced to Star rank, and **Bryan Bravo** advanced to Life rank. Congratulations!

Upcoming events include Ski Liberty, Mulch Delivery, and Webelos weekend at Cabin John. If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade you can join us. We meet Monday night at 7:30 at Veirs Mill ES, or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. Check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org. ■

**Check out the RCA's Web Site at
www.randolphcivic.com**

“Mayor” of Topping Road, Gone But Not Forgotten

by Kim Williams

When my husband and I bought our home 9 years ago, we looked forward to getting to know the neighbors and building our lives on Topping Road. One of the first people we met, and forged a loving relationship with, was Sally Hite. Sally lived a few houses down from us, and over the years, we affectionately referred to her as the “Mayor of Topping Road.”

Sally was a vibrant 77 year old widow who took pride in helping others and keeping law and order on our street. She was quick to school you as to how to get your trash to the curb every Monday morning, and the do’s and don’ts of recycling. If you ever sat out something for the garbage man and they didn’t take it, she’d be on your door step faster than you can say ‘Jack Robinson’ handing you the number to call for ‘special pickups.’ If she liked you, she’d bring your garbage cans and recycling bins back to your house from the curb every Monday afternoon. Rain, sleet, and even snow, rarely slowed Sally down. I shudder to think how long it took her to carry all those trash cans back,

But trash day wasn’t her only interest; she was passionate about people, kids and animals especially. She always had a cookie or ice cream to offer the kids in the neighborhood, and a cool drink for a weary mailman or homeowner on a hot day. She fed the birds and squirrels on our street, and there was always a buffet of peanut butter jar lids on her porch filled with peanuts, birdseed, and water. Any local cat or dog smart enough to saunter past her house was also treated to kibble or dog biscuits and a bowl full of water, as well as the amazing Sally Hite massage!

Sally walked through the neighborhood, and sometimes I would watch her; as she had kids and dogs join her for her walks, it was almost like she was the Pied Piper. She possessed a quick wit and a devilish laugh, and was always available if you needed a caring ear or friendly advice. She was the best neighbor one could ever hope to have, and we thought of her as our family. She never missed a party, and would always dance and sing with all the boys, large and small. It was obvious how much she loved life.

As the years passed, she wasn’t always as energetic. Even as her health slowly declined, she continued doing as much for the residents of our street as she could. My dear friend Sally passed away this past January. Words can’t say how much she will be missed, not only by me and my family, but by all of the other residents of Topping Road who were lucky enough to have known her and see the lust for life that she exuded. We will miss her kindness and humanity, her laugh, and smile. God bless you Sally. . . you enriched our lives. ■

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Dear Mrs. Brown



Two nicely dressed ladies happen to start up a conversation during an endless wait in the LAX airport. The first lady was an arrogant California woman married to a wealthy man. The second was a well-mannered elderly woman from the South. When the conversation centered on whether they had any children the California woman started by saying, "When my first child was born, my husband built a beautiful mansion for me." The lady from the South commented, "Well, isn't that precious?" The first woman continued, "When my second child was born, my husband bought me a beautiful Mercedes-Benz." Again, the lady from the South commented, "Well, isn't that precious?" The first woman continued boasting, "Then, when my third child was born, my husband bought me this exquisite diamond bracelet." And again, the Southern lady commented, "Well, isn't that precious?" The first woman then asked the Southern lady, "What did your husband buy for you when you had your first child?" "My husband sent me to charm school," declared the Southern lady. "Charm school?" the first woman cried, "Oh my Gosh! What on earth for?" asked the first woman. The Southern lady responded, "Well for example, instead of saying 'Who gives a damn?' I learned to say, 'Well, isn't that precious?'"

What do you do with your napkin when you leave the table for a minute or two in the middle of a meal?

Please put the napkin in your chair. Once it has been in your lap, used to wipe your mouth, etc. it wouldn't be nice to put it back on a table where other people are eating. And while you're getting up – don't forget to push your chair in too!

Dinner is an excellent time to talk with your children. Here are some questions – not to be used all at one time! – which may start some interesting conversations and certainly provide the opportunity to teach.

- What do you think are some good manners?
- What do you think are some bad manners?
- Can you think of some good manners that are bad manners in another country?
- What are the titles of some books on manners? Have you ever read them?
- What are some good manners for using a cell phone?
- What are some good table manners?
- What are some good party manners?

- Is kissing in public good manners?
- Do you say "hi" to people even if they are strangers? Why? Why not?
- Do you listen to other's people conversations on the street?
- Do you think it is good manners to hug or kiss another person in greeting?
- Do you let people pass you when you are driving in your car? Is it considered a good manner?
- Do you honk your horn to people when you drive?
- Why are manners important?
- Do people have more manners now or in earlier times?
- Can manners affect your success in life? How?
- What's the best way to teach manners to children?
- What culture do you think is the most polite? Explain.
- What advice would you give a foreigner visiting your country who would like to show good manners?
- What things about manners in the USA do you find difficult to adjust to?
- Is there anything about manners in the USA that you prefer to manners in another country?

In addition, if any reader has comments they would like to share about these questions, please write to me so we can share your thoughts and opinions.

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. ■

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

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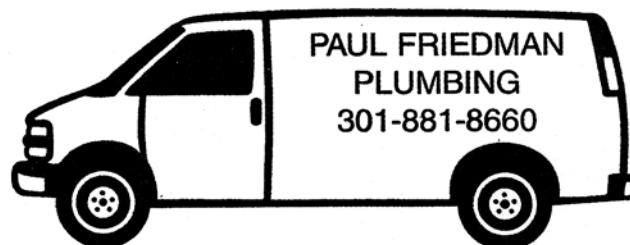
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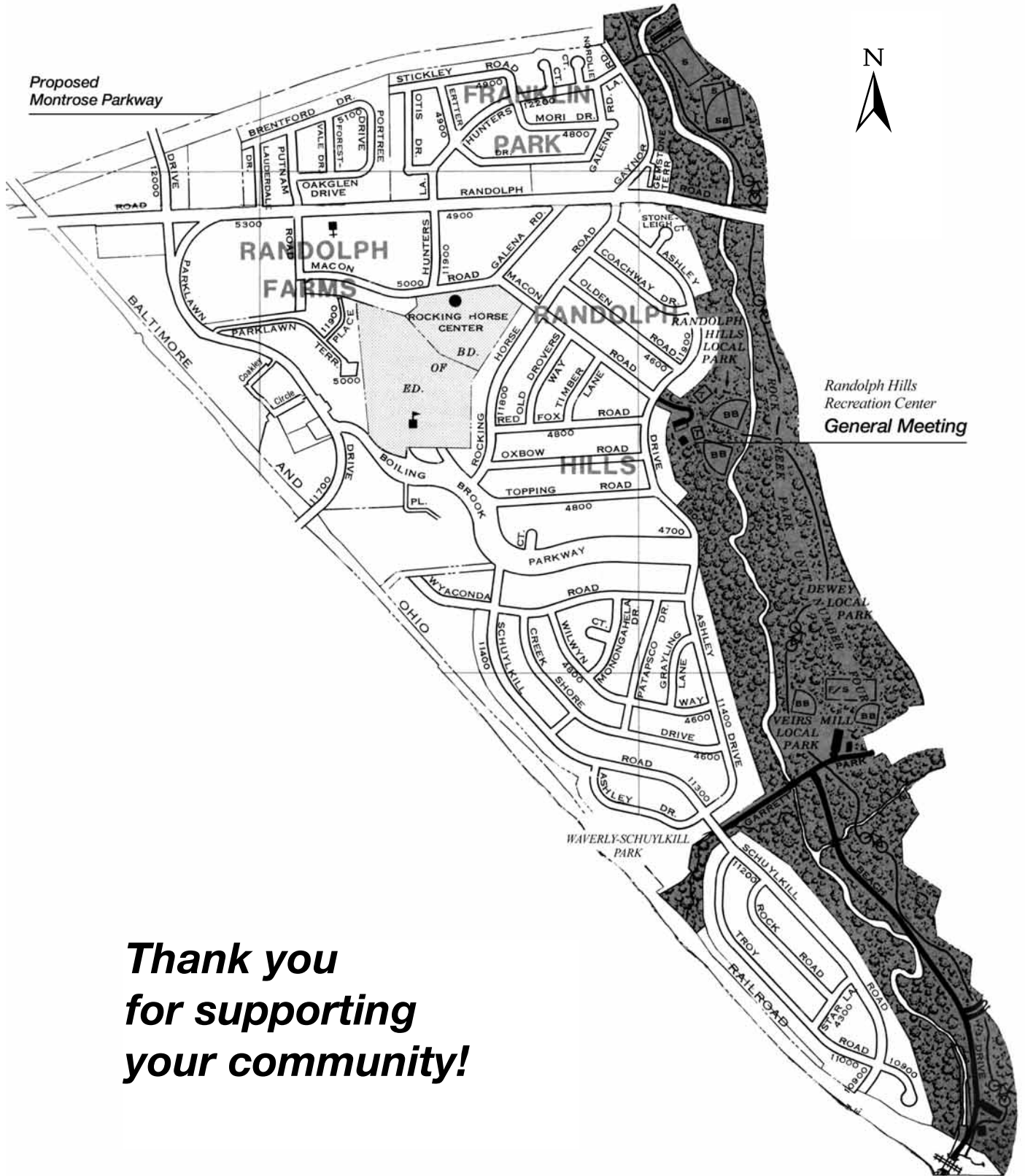
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Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the April issue of the *Echo* is Saturday, March 3.

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RCA Meetings

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. All are welcome at every meeting. The current meeting schedule is:

- March 1, 2007** General Membership Meeting
- April 5, 2007** Executive Committee Meeting
- May 3, 2007** General Membership Meeting
- June 7, 2007** General Membership Meeting

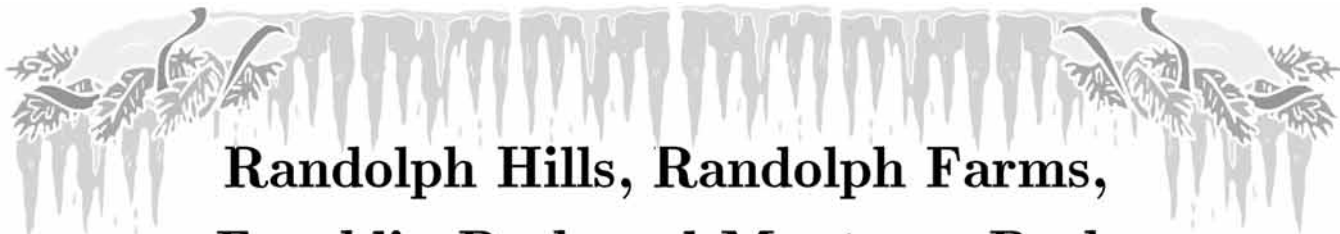
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Police: Emergency ONLY	911
Police: Non-Emergency (County-wide)	301-279-8000
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	240-773-6070
Park Police	301-949-3010
<i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)</i>	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	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
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Montgomery County Humane Society	240-773-5960
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Parks: Information & Permits	301-495-2525
PEPCO: Power Out	toll free 1-877-737-2662
Emergency/Life Threatening	202-872-3432
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Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org)	240-777-6400
Recreation Information	240-777-6804
School Information	301-279-3391
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Transportation (Highway Services)	240-777-7623
<i>(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)</i>	
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Trash Collection	240-777-6410
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Water and Sewer (WSSC)	301-206-8000
Weeds/Rubbish Complaints	240-777-6400



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

Address	List Price	Sold Price	DOM	Subsidy	Date Settled
11008 Schuylkill Road	\$469,900	\$463,000	74	\$0	19-Jan-07
4708 Coachway Drive	\$398,888	\$390,000	31	\$11,700	23-Jan-07
4615 Creek Shore Dr	\$429,000	\$426,500	69	\$8,500	26-Jan-07
11450 Schuylkill Rd	\$399,000	\$399,000	64	\$6,100	26-Jan-07
4703 Red Fox Road	\$455,000	\$435,000	65	\$13,050	29-Jan-07
4705 Olden Road	\$469,000	\$457,000	355	\$0	30-Jan-07
Average	\$471,499	\$428,417	89		
Low	\$398,888	\$390,000			
High	\$469,900	\$463,000			



What a change in the market! Currently, there are "only" four listings on the market in Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, Franklin Park and Montrose Park... the average list price is \$471,499 and the average number of days on the market is 89. There are nine homes that have gone under contract since December and lots of buyers out there looking at open houses. Call Denise for a complimentary market analysis today.

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