

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 48, Issue 7 May 2005

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Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, May 5, 2005 8:00 p.m.

Speaker: Marcy Katzman, Montgomery County Transportation Dept. – see page 3

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 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.

Proposed Traffic Restrictions Tabled; Possible Vote in June

by Richard Zierdt

The proposed traffic restrictions for the RCA (Randolph Hills) were tabled at the April RCA meeting because of concerns about cut-through traffic on Wyaconda Road and Ashley Drive. Other concerns were the danger of inadequate/missing crosswalk lines, the Stop Sign with No Stop Right Turn at eastbound Boiling Brook Parkway and Schuylkill (this causes havoc when a motorist actually stops for pedestrians), and traffic avoiding the proposed restrictions by travelling on Wyaconda, adding to the traffic that already uses that road to avoid speed humps on Schuylkill Road.

Many residents would be happy with "Local Traffic Only" signs, and cited some of these signs in other parts of the County. One innovative resident suggested Do Not Enter signs for six months, to be replaced with Local Traffic Only. However, it turns out that these signs are in *incorporated* areas of the County, such as Kensington, Chevy Chase, etc. The County government does not do local traffic restrictions. I proposed municipality for the RCA some years ago but did not receive RCA approval at that time. Maybe this is another reason to revisit it.

I called Marcy Katzman from the County's transportation department, and she agreed to speak before the RCA at its May 5 meeting. She will discuss the process of traffic mitigation, what tools are available to communities, etc. While she will use RCA as a backdrop, her discussion is meant to be general, rather than address specific household complaints. Of course, street traffic will be addressed.

Specifically:

- 1 How traffic is measured
- 2 What is considered (un)acceptable amounts of traffic

(continued on page 3)

RCA Spring Community Yard Sale

Saturday, May 14, 2005 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM at Loehmann's Plaza



See www.randolphcivic.org website for details, but basically, just show up!

RCA Executive Committee for 2004-2005

OFFICERS

President

Matthew Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Vice President

Mike Saunders 12107 Hunters Lane 301-468-9268

2nd Vice President

George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Secretary

Kevin Kline 4808 Randolph Road 301-230-1486

Treasurer

Richard Zierdt 4707 Coachway Drive 301-881-0283

Directors

Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Frank Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

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Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo 11508 Monongahela Court 301-770-7590

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Membership

Carol Brown 4615 Olden Road 301-770-7440

Environment

Jack Stillwell 5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker 12111 Galena Road 301-468-6335

Yard Sale Signs

Lorena Segura 4802 Macon Road 301-984-8727

Special Projects

Kim and Cary Williams 4710 Topping Road 301-881-4554

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

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

Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders 12107 Hunters Lane 301-468-9268

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487

Pat Hart 4905 Randolph Road 301-230-2740

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

Kevin Kline, Matthew Shore, Eileen White, Richard Zierdt www.montgomerycivic.org

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):
Councilman: Howard Denis 240-777-7964
email: Councilmember.Denis@montgomerycountymd.gov

Mr. Denis's aide: Ken Hartman

 $\label{lem:councilmember: Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959} Councilmember: Nancy Floreen @montgomery countymd. gov$

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

> 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:

Delegates:

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

Proposed Traffic Restrictions Tabled

(continued from page 1)

- 3 How various "grades" of roads are evaluated in term of traffic service (street width, divided streets, streets with painted lines, streets with parking, etc.)
- 4 Techniques used to control traffic; the (dis)advantages of each.
- 5 How/when Stop Signs are used
- 6 How/when traffic lights are used
- 7 How/when speed humps are used (also traffic circles or other forms of street contours to control traffic)
- 8 How/when parking lines are painted on streets to delineate driving lanes from parking (Cedar Lane in Kensington has them)
- 9 "Local Use Only" signs: Why none are supported by the County. However, are there laws within Montgomery County Code that still refer to them? For example, could a County police officer issue a ticket in the Town of Chevy Chase? Is it time to re-visit this concept?
- 10 Anything else your staff might think valuable as the RCA considers it options
- 11 How effective have "Do Not Enter" signs been in other County neighborhoods? ■

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

April 7, 2005

President Matt Shore presided over the large turnout of approximately 30 people. This April meeting was originally scheduled to be an Executive Meeting. The Execs changed it to a General Meeting so RCA'ers could discuss the problem of cut-through traffic driving through our neighborhood – and discuss it they did! The hour-long discussion was lively, civil, and still friendly. One group favored the proposed traffic signs restricting rush-hour (only) traffic on Boiling Brook, Schuylkill, Ashley, and Rocking Horse Roads. The second group were concerned that the signs would steer traffic down their streets, using Wyaconda Road to circumvent the "No Left Turn" getting onto Ashley Drive.

The discussion was constructive, with several suggestions regarding traffic on Ashley Drive. Some of the suggestions included mid-block stop signs, speed humps, and different signs, like "Resident Traffic Only." Montgomery County insists that stop signs are to control intersections only, and have rejected the RCA's requests for stop signs in the past. "Resident Traffic Only" signs are largely unenforceable by police.

One suggestion no one objected to was a "No Left Turn" (7-9 AM) travelling west on Randolph Road, turning left onto

Transportation Speaker to Address RCA at May 5 Meeting.

Ms. Marcy Katzman from the County's Transportation Department will discuss the process of traffic mitigation, especially as it affects RCA with the proposed traffic restrictions. Don't miss it! (No vote will be taken on this.)

Rocking Horse Road. The dilemma for the RCA Execs is they do not want to hamper the efforts of residents to get traffic control signs (e.g., on Rocking Horse Road), nor do they want to dismiss the concerns of the residents of other streets that may be impacted (e.g, Wyaconda Road).

A key moment came when a motion from the floor was seconded. The motion was to accept the proposed traffic restriction signs as published in the May *Echo*. This opened the motion to debate (discussion). (Note: parliamentarian questions of proper procedure arose regarding the voting. An after-meeting review of Robert's Rules of Orders revealed correct procedure was followed).

During the friendly but lively discussion on the motion, all parties agreed cut-through traffic was a real problem, and perhaps some type of signs (e.g., "Local Traffic Only") could be agreed upon. Some opponents to the proposed traffic restriction signs also wanted an immediate vote, perhaps believing the votes were in their favor. But the discussion turned to the idea of amending the original traffic control plan to include more signs on other streets, like Wyaconda and Ashley. A subsidiary or secondary motion – to table the original (principal) motion (of accepting the proposed signs) was narrowly passed by a show of hands 15 to 14! Then the original motion – to accept the proposed traffic restriction signs as published in *Echo* – was withdrawn by the RCA'er who proposed it. Whew!

Turning to more mundane matters, passed by unanimous voice-vote: to hold the RCA Community Yard-sale on Saturday, May 14th. Earlier in the evening: passed by unanimous voice-vote: the Treasurer's Report and Meeting Minutes as published in the May Echo. Also passed by majority voice-vote: to keep the name of "Belt" for our middle school.

2nd Vice-President George Gadbois reported how the Boy Scouts recently cleaned up Boiling Brook Creek. The Scout Leaders and Scouts were given a round of applause for making RCA-land a cleaner place to live. From the floor an RCA'er commented on the beautiful spring flowers around the RCA signs, so Lester Bollinger, Dawn & Richard Zierdt, and Bette Walling were also given a round of applause for making RCA-land a prettier place to live. The meeting finished 1/2 hour early! ■

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President's Message

by Matt Shore

After a heated debate on signs limiting cut-through traffic on Rocking Horse, Boiling Brook and Topping Roads at the April meeting, it was decided to table the motion to erect said signs until a later date. This was decided by a single vote after an hour long discussion on the issue. The reason for not taking a vote was because of many questions that residents had that remained unanswered. Hopefully all of those questions will be addressed at the May meeting resulting in a vote.

The first question was about the wording of the signs. Will they say no left turn or do not enter at certain times. The second question was about putting "residential traffic only" on the signs. The third question was about where the traffic would go if limited on these roads (Ashley and Wyaconda?) The last question was about police enforcement. The one thing that was not questioned by anyone was the large numbers of cut-through traffic and the need to try and curtail this, which will benefit all residents.

We need to get a vote at an upcoming meeting if we want to get our input into the County. I look forward to another meeting with active debate on this issue. The more residents we have at the meeting will be more that are heard. Your opinion will make a difference.

See you at the May meeting! ■

Letter to the Editor

by Andi Jones, Ashley Drive

I went to the RCA meeting last night, which I have not done in quite a while, because while I would like to see less traffic on Rocking Horse Road, I had some concerns about the proposed changes to our traffic patterns. First, I'd like to say, I was reminded how important it is for us to be involved in the matters that affect us, and our community. I would encourage others to please attend meetings (at least periodically) whenever possible. Last night it was left up to about 30 of your neighbors, many from Wyaconda Road, to decide whether or not roads in our neighborhood were to be closed for use at various times or not.

I thank those who were involved in the study of Rocking Horse Road for their incredible effort. I realize this has been a very time consuming project and that "something good" for our community is trying to be accomplished. Unfortunately, we found we could not vote for this proposal unless some questions were answered first. Although so much effort was concentrated on Rocking Horse Road traffic, there did not seem to be as much thought to the impact these restrictions might have on other streets. It seems as if a piece of the picture was intently focused on, but perhaps we need to see the whole thing?

Some of us are particularly worried that these strictures might funnel more traffic than we have now onto roads such as Wyaconda and Ashley. We see on the proposal that traffic coming down Boiling Brook cannot make a left turn onto Ashley Drive, but that there is nothing prohibiting vehicles from turning onto Wyaconda (from Schuylkill) and proceeding straight up Ashley Drive (which is already done to avoid stop signs and speed bumps). Beach Drive commuters would also be able to turn from Schuylkill to Ashley and proceed up to Rocking Horse. This does not seem a safe alternative. Although they are being used at a much heavier volume than intended, both Rocking Horse and Schuylkill Roads were built to handle two-way, thru traffic safely. Our side streets were not. To address this the sign at Boiling Brook and Ashley would also have to be a "Do Not Enter" to oncoming traffic – those cars would have to be diverted up the other side of Boiling Brook to Nicholson or Schuylkill. There was also some discussion of having signs on either end of Wyaconda to restrict commuter traffic and/or possibly a stop sign for traffic control.

Unfortunately, by forcing others to only use Randolph Road, I would also be with them. If Ashley Drive is made "Do Not Enter", I, and probably many others, will be trying to go down Dewey Drive and to make a left on Randolph, or if I am at Shoppers' on my way home, I would be forced to come down Nicholson to Randolph. While I greatly dislike sitting in traffic in my own neighborhood, I also greatly dislike sitting in even more traffic on other roads. I don't think I would like to be that restricted from using my neighborhood roads.

There is the concern that while we are prohibiting ourselves access to this piece of our neighborhood, we may also be restricting the school busses that transport our children. School bus drivers have told me that "do not enter" and "no turn" would apply to them too. Morning busses can be seen until 8:30 am – afternoon activity busses usually drop off between 4-4:30 pm. So the county would have to be willing to change the routes (or the signs to reflect residential usage allowable.)

We asked if a provision could be made to have the signs state "Residential Use Only" during the restricted times to address the above concerns. We have seen this type of sign in other areas of the county (such as Bethesda). Apparently the county says this is not enforceable. We were told that police would not want to stop every car if they were trying to enforce this provision. A viable solution would be for residents to have "RH" decals for their vehicles enabling officers to identify them. They would only have to stop the vehicles without one. I would be willing to pay an extra dollar with my dues so that my vehicles could have decals and less traffic.

I'm not asking anyone to throw the baby out with the bath water – but could we at least make sure the water is the right temp before we put the baby in? I am not against change, but do realize that a small change here can sometimes have an unexpected effect there. Any changes we make should be good for all of us "both here and there." There were some at the meeting that seemed to think, "Something has to be done about the traffic on Rocking Horse." I would like something to be done so that traffic is not from-one-end-to-the-other at times. Hopefully that will be possible and we can all be accommodated without causing a problem elsewhere — or that getting from here-to-there will not be even more inconvenient than it is now. We should want to be as sure as we can be that this change really is for the "greater good" of our "whole community" with as little adverse impact as possible.

We believe the goal is to vote on a proposal at the June meeting. We are hoping that the concerns expressed at last night's meeting will have been addressed so that a proposal can be approved. (We're hoping that the current proposal might be refined before then – splitting this into two proposals was mentioned as an option if afternoon traffic concerns could not be met.) You are encouraged to come to the meeting. If you live in this community, any changes in our traffic patterns might affect you. As in all things, don't let folks who don't know how a change might affect you and your family make your decisions for you.

VOTE!!! ■





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Treasurer's Report by Richard Zierdt

As of April 9, 2005, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$9,849.22.

About \$2000 in donations received via the RCA need to be transferred to the RCF, but the total amount will be the same. There will be two more issues of the *Echo* to print (\sim \$2000), *Echo* delivery payment to Scout Troop 1083 (\sim \$1000), corporate insurance (\$750), and some donations that will leave the RCA with about \$5000 at the end of the fiscal year (June 30). Pretty good!

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Δ.	Mount	Balance
		BALANCE 02/23/200	5			10,329.56
03/14		RCAssociation	membership / donations		188.00	10,517.56
03/14	751	Sam's Club	1 RCA/Sams mbrshp		-30.00	10,487.56
03/16		RCAssociation	Katia Georgiev, real estate	•	400.00	10,887.56
03/21	E-xfr	Verizon	Feb 22 telephone		-24.13	10,863.4
03/22	752	Quick Printing	April ECHO, 20 pgs		-997.50	9,865.93
03/29		RCAssociation	Vital Skin Care		100.00	9,965.9
03/30		RCAssociation	— SPLIT —		25.00	9,990.9
		inc:advertising	Local Lawn care	20.00		
		inc:advertising	classified ad	5.00		
04/08	753	Eileen White	6 mnths internet access		-210.00	9,780.93

RCF Checking Register 2/23/2005 through 4/09/2005					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 02/23/2005			388.60
02/28		interest received	.10%	0.03	388.63
03/31		interest received	.09%	0.03	388.66
04/08	1072	Margaret Dikel	photo delevopment	-13.77	374.89
04/08	1073	Cub Scout Pack 1081	donation	-200.00	174.89
04/08	1074	Brian McGahey	candy canes / Xmas Santa	-106.60	68.29
		BALANCE 04/09/2005			68.29
		Total RCA+RCF cash a	assets		9,849.22



The RCA Hotline



301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received March 11 to April 9, 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.

2005-03-24 (Thu) 7:31 am Franklin Park. Anyone know about some surveying activity behind Stickley Road? Orange cones, etc. [No, but it may have to do with planning for Montrose Parkway East, which has received neither final approval or funding. Anyone willing to call the County's Transportation Department at 240-777-7623?]

2005-03-26 (Sat) 12:55 pm

Anonymous. Christmas lights are still on in the neighborhood, especially on Schuylkill Road. Caller understands that neighbors may not want to take them down, but couldn't residents simply not turn them on?

2005-03-26 (Sat) Anonymous. Why is it taking over a year to replace the damaged RCA sign at Garrett Park and Schuylkill Roads? Obviously, there is no lack of funds, according to the treasurer's report. Also, will the Beautification Committee remove the artificial flowers from the garden at that location? [Now that blows our cover! Ouch!]

2005-03-28 (Mon) 9:35 pm 114xx Schuylkill Road. Did not receive *Echo*. Can caller get another one?

2005-03-29 (Tue) 6:19 pm Old Drovers Way. Concerning the proposed traffic restrictions, how are residents supposed to get back into the neighborhood? Does this mean we can't get into our development? [Richard Zierdt here. Residents of Section 1 who arrive home using Nicholson/

Boiling Brook from 4 to 7 PM, Monday-Friday, will be the most affected. One alternative is to continue on Nicholson Lane (then Parklawn Drive) to Randolph Road (around Loehmann's Plaza) and enter the neighborhood via Rocking Horse Road. Yes, it will take longer for these residents to get home, but the benefits to our neighborhood will be quieter, safer streets. For the record, I will have to take this route myself.]

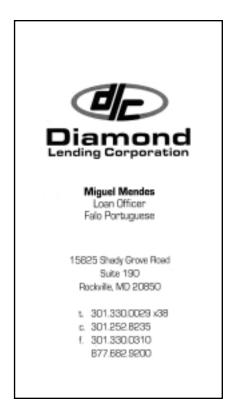
2005-04-04 (Mon) 2:04 pm Galena Road (Randolph Farms). There used to be a No Parking sign on Macon Road in front of the old elementary school. When cars park on both sides of Macon, there is no passing; there is no way to get around. It causes a big traffic jam; it happens numerous times. What can be done about this? [Call County Transportation services, 240-777-7623]

2005-04-05 (Wed) 8:23 am When is the yard sale? [Saturday, May 14]

2005-04-05 (Sat) 8:34 am Ashley resident, towards Rocking Horse Road. Regarding the proposed traffic restrictions, caller is concerned that traffic will be diverted onto Ashley, which is not meant to handle that kind of traffic, as opposed to Rocking Horse, which is wider and can handle increased traffic. Ashley can't handle its traffic now: it's not plowed, there are no speed bumps, people race up and down Ashley Drive at 11 o'clock at night. The last thing we need is more traffic on Ashley. Very upset

about this. Caller cannot make evening meetings. A lot of the residents don't understand it, they don't understand what was written in the Echo, and they haven't read it clearly. A lot of people can't make the meetings due to work. If there is going to be a vote on this, then it's necessary to let *everybody* be a part of it, either by online voting, ballots, or some other way. You can't expect people to automatically be able to go to an 8 o'clock meeting if they are not here. All need to be represented. A lot of people on Ashley are upset about this. Use sticker, decals, etc. There needs to be much, much more research about this. Caller is thankful for the RCA and what it does, but this needs more study. [Richard Zierdt here. The idea is not to increase traffic on Ashley, although that remains a possible result. I believe it remains to be seen. It depends on how much trouble cutthrough traffic is willing to tolerate to avoid simply staying on Nicholson/Parklawn/Randolph. Remember the time restrictions: 4-7

(continued on page 10)



RCA Hotline

(continued from page 9)

PM, Mon-Fri. Traffic at any other time/day is unaffected. Unfortunately, we will still have speeders on Ashley (and several other streets) at 11 PM. I believe that RCAers do understand what is written in the Echo: I've seen no evidence to the contrary. Some residents attend meetings; most do not, but this is not a bad thing. Most of what the RCA does is not controversial. At the April meeting, there was an unusually large, but not record, attendance. The concerns against the restrictions were well represented, and in fact, caused the idea to be tabled to another time, possibly June. See the update article in this Echo. The comments about voting and representation make for a great discussion about fairness in general, direct representation vs. republican forms, especially in this day of modern communications. But for now, residents must attend meetings to vote. If you can't make a meeting, then ask other residents to represent your views. I can assure the caller that caller's views were well represented at the April meeting, and in fact, carried the day.] ■

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) for verification. All are welcome at every meeting.





The Ins and Outs of Trash Services in Montgomery County

by Margaret Dikel

At this time of year, many of us begin cleaning and renovation projects in and around our houses, generating a large amount of trash, recyclables, and yard waste which we place at the curb for pickup. Based on what I'm seeing curbside as I walk the neighborhood right now, I think many neighbors are unaware of the rules governing curbside pickups, how to bundle yard trim for collection, or how to make arrangements for the free collection of items like stoves and old bathtubs. Having had things "left behind" by the trash trucks, I know that some of the rules and regulations the county has in place can be confusing if not annoying, so I have put together this information from the Division of Solid Waste's website. I encourage everyone to call 240-777-6400 for quick answers to your trash and recycling questions.

For example, did you know that each residential property receiving county-provided trash collection is entitled to 5 special collections per calendar year for certain types of miscellaneous and/or bulky household trash, including recyclable scrap metal items? This includes stoves, those old cast-iron bathtubs, television sets, and the like. These special collections must be scheduled in advance with the County by the occupant or resident

either by phone or online, and the collection will be made on your trash collection day. To schedule a special collection, call the Division of Solid Waste Customer Service Line at 240-777-6410 no later then 9:30 a.m. on the business day before your regular collection day to schedule a pick up, so for a Monday pickup you must call no later than 9:30 am on Friday.

You can also schedule a collection online by going to the Solid Waste Services page (http://www.mont gomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste). At the top of the page select Online Services, then select either "request scrap metal" or "request bulk trash collection." Again, this must be done before 9:30 am the last business day before your regular collection day, and you will receive a return email confirming your request.

Most other trash and recyclables are picked up curbside on a weekly basis by the county, but you must help them by preparing the materials for pickup. None of the required preparations are difficult, but as we all know not getting it right means it just sits out there, looks ugly, and kills the grass under it until we figure out why it was rejected. Here's a quick review of what can be set out, how to prepare it for pickup, and what is not accepted by the county for recycling.

Brush / Branches / Yard Trim / Storm debris

Collected: curbside on your regular recycling day every week.

How to prepare it: Branches and yard brush can be bagged in paper bags or placed in reusable trash cans labeled "Yard Trim" (make your own sign or order free decals by calling 240-777-6410). Plastic bags may not be used.

Alternate method: Branches can be bundled and tied with twine. Bundles should not exceed 30 inches in diameter, and individual branches cannot be longer than 4 feet in length and 4 inches in diameter.

Please note: The total weight of each bag or can cannot exceed 45 pounds.

They will not take: rocks, dirt or sod, root balls or tree stumps, lumber.

Aluminum and Metal Cans / Glass / Plastic Containers

Collected: curbside on your regular recycling day every week.

How to prepare it: all of these items go in your Blue Bin (not the Big Blue Cart)

Alternate method: If you don't have a blue bin, or yours is too small, place these recyclables in paper bags or another container. However, it is unlikely they will be seen without the blue bin, so please call and request one (number is at the end of the article)

What is included: All metal food, beverage, and pet food cans. Aluminum foil products (foil wrap, pie plates, and other food trays). Tins from cookies, fruit cakes, popcorn, and similar items. All glass food and beverage jars. All clear and colored plastic bottles with necks with resin numbers 1 – 7 (no lids or caps).

Please note: Please rinse out or wipe food remnants from all items. Lids separate from metal cans cannot be accepted. They will not take: glass or ceramic products (Pyrex, Corelle, etc.), window glass, mirrors. No plastics without necks, including yogurt containers, margarine tubs, pint-sized baskets for fruit, beverage cups, salad bar containers, and flower pots. No bottles from hazardous products (automotive and garden products).

Paper, including Newspaper and Cardboard

Collected: curbside on your regular recycling day every week. **How to prepare it:** Place everything in your Big Blue Cart. **Alternate method:** Put in paper bags curbside.

What is accepted: Newspapers and inserts, corrugated cardboard, cereal and other boxes, telephone books, computer and office paper, paperback books, unwanted mail, magazines, catalogs, shredded paper, envelopes and boxes with plastic "windows", all other clean and dry paper.

Please note: Boxes do not need to be broken down flat. If they don't fit in the bin, set them next to the bin.

They will not take: Packing material such as styrofoam or plastic, waxed or plastic-coated paper, carbon paper, hard-backed books, beverage containers such as milk or juice cartons, paper or cardboard contaminated with paint, chemicals, food, or kitty litter, foil gift wrap, paper towels, napkins, or tissues.

Large Items (furniture, rugs, etc)

Collected: You must call 240-777-6410 and request a Special Collection.

How to prepare it: Set the items curbside but separate them from your regular trash.

What is accepted: Furniture, rugs (please roll and tie), box springs and mattresses, trash cans, large toys, nonmetal (plastic and porcelain) sinks and bath tubs (no concrete items), nonmetal laundry trays, nonmetal shower stalls, nonmetal toilet bowls.

Please note: Metal sinks, tubs, etc. are accepted in the curb-side scrap metal recycling program.

They will not take: Hazardous materials, animal waste, automotive parts, paint, home remodeling and construction materials, windows and doors, soil, rocks, sod, tree trunks / limbs / stumps resulting from tree removal.

You can take unacceptable items directly to the County's Solid Waste Transfer Station, 16101 Frederick Road, Derwood, MD. Proof of residency (driver's license and registration) may be required. However, I urge you to call and ask before you assume they won't pick it up.

Scrap Metal (stoves, microwaves, cast iron bathtubs, etc.)

Collected: You must call 240-777-6410 and request a Special Collection.

How to prepare it: Set the items curbside but separate them from your regular trash. Do not place small items in your blue bin.

What is accepted: Large household appliances, bicycles, cabinets, doors, grills, iron furniture, and railings, metal sheds (dissassembled), shower stalls, aluminum lawn chairs, swing sets (dissassembled and without concrete on legs).

Accepted with conditions: Refrigerators and Freezers by law doors must be removed (the county cannot accept units with doors still attached). Chain link and wire fencing must be rolled and free of rust. Lawnmowers must be emptied of all fluids (gasoline, oil) and any batteries must be removed.

They will not take: Vehicles or automotive parts, paint cans

They will not take: Vehicles or automotive parts, paint cans, oxygen or propane tanks, bicycles, riding mowers.

Riding mowers will be accepted in the scrap metal recycling at the Shady Grove Transfer Station if drained of their gas and oil and transported directly there. You may donate

(continued on page 15)

News from Pack 1081

by George Gadbois



Pack 1081's Webelos Scouts got in from the outdoors for the annual indoor science exploration adventure weekend this past March. The boys "camped" overnight at the Maryland Science Center in Baltimore on March 12-13. Enjoying the theme of "Explore-ology", our scouts attended workshops on gyroscopes & trajectory and a trip through the digestive system, visited the Planetarium and the IMAX theater, and rode on the virtual reality capsule, which simulates a variety of fantasy vehicles. Our new junior scientist scouts were Jason Beam, Gregory Gadbois, Joshua Hart, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Scott Levengard, Matthew Best, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong and Maxwell DeMulder.

On Sunday March 13th, the Potomac District Pinewood Derby Final was held at the Hebrew Center



Junior Webelos scientists at the Maryland Science Center.

on Arctic Drive in Rockville. Racecar entries from **Preston Polk, Brad Gessford, Steve Hernandez** and **Scott Levengard** gave the others some fierce competition in the many heats. All boys were recognized for making it to the finals with a commemorative patch, but the Pack did not fare well enough for any District trophies this time. **Gregory Gadbois**,

whose car won our Pack's "Best Looking" award, represented us in the appearance category with his "Carrotmobile" but was not chosen by District judges for a trophy. All the boys seemed to have a good time at what turned out to be a long afternoon. Congratulations go out to all the boys!

The March "St. Patrick's Day" Pack Meeting was abundant with boybaked cakes and pies at our annual Parent-Son Bake-Off event, this year with an Irish theme. The pleasant aroma of cookies, fudge and other baked items filled the air as they were judged for taste and appearance. Scouts participating in baking a treat with their adult partner were Conor McGinley, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Christopher Mulcahy, Preston Polk, DJ Terry, Tyler Bochniak, Brad Gessford, Sawyer Kibbe, David Villarreal, Matthew Best, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong, Maxwell DeMulder, Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois and Scott Levengard. Sawyer Kibbe won First Place for the best looking cake (Pot o' Gold) and Brad Gessford

Pack 1081's finalists at the District Pinewood Derby event.



received First for the best tasting one (Red Velvet Holiday). All the boys received a ribbon for their creations. There was a bidding frenzy as all the baked items were auctioned to generous parents who contributed over \$475 to our fundraising efforts. Many thanks to our coordinator, Andrea Kibbe, as well as to our judges, Mr. Dave Talbott, Ms. Amy Keplinger, Ms. Robin Fish and Viers Mill staff members Ms. Carrie Frankel and Ms. Patti Keplinger for all their help.

For March awards, we had Webelos IIs Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois and Josh Hart receive the World Conservation Award. Webelos Is awarded their Webelos Rank Badge were Matthew Best, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong and Maxwell DeMulder. A



Our Potomac Watershed Day Cleanup crew ready to attack the Boiling Brook Creek.

Bear Silver Arrow Point for Elective Activities was awarded to **Tyler Bochniak**, **Brad Gessford** and **Sawyer Kibbe**. Our Wolf scouts earned the following: Sports & Academics Program Soccer Sports Pin by **Christopher Mulcahy**; Chris also earned his Language & Culture and Communicating Academic Pins from this program too. Six Silver Arrow Points for Electives were presented to **DJ Terry**. Good work Chris and DJ! For the Tiger group, the Weather, Map & Compass and Chess Belt Loops were presented to **Conor McGinley**.

Webelos II scouts **Jason Beam, Gregory Gadbois, Jake Blakely** and **Scott Levengard** joined Troop 1083 at Cabin John Park on March 18-20. They practiced map & compass, learned fire-building techniques and worked as a team cooking and learning other scout crafts. On Saturday evening, they went to Rockville Swim Center for a dip before retiring to camp for a campfire cracker barrel and a taste of Mr. Gadbois' dutch oven peach cobbler.

If you think the area along Boiling Brook Parkway on the creek side appears a little cleaner, well it is! Our Cub Scouts, along with Boy Scouts with Troop 1083, picked up an assortment of trash on the annual Potomac Watershed Cleanup Day, April 2nd. Cub Scouts participating and weathering the pouring rain were Conor McGinley, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Christopher Mulcahy, Preston Polk, Tyler Bochniak, Sawyer Kibbe, Joshua Murtagh, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong, Maxwell DeMulder, Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois and Scott Levengard. Adding in some RCA residents and helping parents, we had over 45 people in

attendance filling more than 80 bags with garbage from the creek along with a myriad of bikes, boards and tires as well.

We would like to note a correction from the April edition in that **Brenton and Preston Polk** were omitted from the list of March outing National Building Museum attendees. Sorry about that guys!

Pack 1081 would like to formally thank the RCA membership for the recent donation made to our unit. The funds go a long way in the development of young boys into responsible citizens.

We are looking forward to our April bike ride outing, and annual Native American Pow Wow where our Webelos II scouts will be graduating to Boy Scouting on April 21. If you are interested in learning more about the Cub Scout program for your 1st − 5th grade son, please stop by Viers Mill ES any Monday evening at 6:30 or call George Gadbois at 301-770-5386. It's never too late to join! Visit our website at: http://hometown.aol.com/pack1081. ■

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

Call 301-881-2722 RCA Hotline – 24 hours



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Help make your community a safer place to live

My name is Scott Talbott and I grew up in Randolph Hills where I often participate in community service projects as a scout in Boy Scout Troop 1083. The Randolph Civic Association sponsors Boy Scout Troop 1083. I am a candidate for Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts. In order to achieve this rank, I need to complete an Eagle service project. My service project is to collect used cell phones and battery chargers for use by the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department in their Domestic Violence Division. *Did you know that a cell without paid service can be used to dial 911?* The Sheriff's Department will designate some of the cell phones for our County's senior citizens. Our county will benefit greatly by being a safer place to live.

A volunteer associated with my project will be coming to your door to collect your used cell phones on **Saturday, May 7, 2005**, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are not home, you may leave the cell phone in a bag hanging on your doorknob. In addition, we will be manning a drop box at Safeway at Loehmann's Plaza on April 30, May 1 and May 7-8, 2005, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at **301-933-0048**. Thank you for helping me achieve my goal and supporting this Eagle Project.

Scott Talbott Senior Patrol Leader Boy Scout Troop 1083

Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

In March, Troop 1083 delivered mulch orders, camped out at Cabin John, and in early April participated in a clean up of the Potomac Watershed.

The Cabin John campout was the first time for some of the graduating Webelos II cub scouts to join Troop 1083 on a campout. As an introduction to boy scouts, some time was spent covering basic outing skills. Scouts had a chance to participate in many fun activities, including swimming as well as some Klondike events that we missed on our January campout do to inclement weather. Scouts who attended the Cabin John Campout are: Kyle Blakely, Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel, Matthew Fieller, Edwin Fuentes, Anthony Gadbois, Bubba Hart, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Johnson, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, Scott Talbott, David Turish, and Andy Wood.

As part of the Boy Scout commitment to community service, members of Troop 1083 cleaned up the trash at the Potomac Watershed. Nothing too unusual was found, except for a bike. The scouts worked so efficiently the clean up was finished ahead of schedule, despite the downpour and threat of flash floods. A big thanks to all who participated! Scouts who participated are: Kyle Blakely,

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...

Anthony Gadbois, Edward Huggins, Joseph Owen, and Hafez Taghavi.

Upcoming events include a weekend campout, the Webelos II Bridging Ceremony, and a whitewater rafting 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. ■

Trash Services

(continued from page 11)

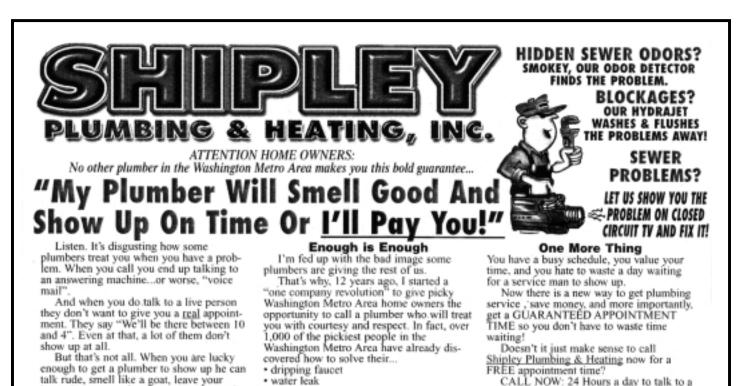
no-longer-wanted, repairable bicycles, parts, and accessories for donation, reconditioning, and reuse overseas, directly through Bikes for the World (www.bikesfortheworld.org or call 703-525-0931). Again, I urge you to call and ask before you assume it will not be picked up.

For even more information on trash and recycling programs, to order blue bins or big blue carts, or for answers to other questions you may have, call the Division of Solid Waste at 240-777-6400 or check their website at http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste. Let's help keep our neighborhood looking great by getting unsightly trash off our streets and onto those trucks as quickly as possible.

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Around the Neighborhood . . .

By Janis Brown

Imagine the most prestigious orchestra hall in Georgia. Not Georgia, USA; the Republic of Georgia, in the former Soviet Union. While performing one evening on stage, Vera, a pretty petite ballerina, catches the eye of another performer, Temur Tsaguriya.

Before dancing with the State Orchestra of Georgia, Vera was taught by the star of the Kirov Ballet, renowned dancer and teacher, Vachtang Chabukiani. She also studied at the Moscow Ballet Academy to become a ballet teacher. She formed a dance studio in the province of West Georgia and worked both as a teacher and choreographer to bring education to the area students that had never taken ballet classes.

Temur is a big, strong man with a booming bass voice. Twice he won the grand prize at the International Competition of Singers. Along with his singing, he has written a book of poetry and self-produced a CD putting this poetry to music.

It was love at first sight and Vera and Temur got married and started a family. Twelve years ago this extraordinarily talented couple moved to the U.S.; and more recently RCA-land became their home. How lucky we are to have them here!

Vera and Temur started a home-based business in 2003 called Vital Skin Care. Vera earned an esthetician license from Yvonne de Villar and Temur graduated from the Baltimore School of Massage. One can literally "dash off" to a soothing facial or healing massage without leaving the neighborhood! Need an idea for Father/Mother's Day? A gift certificate from Vital Skin Care could be the start of something beautiful. And if you enjoy hearing a booming resonant bass, Temur can be heard every Thursday and Friday night at Café Mozart, 1331 H St. N.W. ■

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

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

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PERSONAL ASSISTANT SERVICES Offered. Your personal errand runner. Grocery shopping, cleaning, organizing. Door to door pick up and drop offs, etc. Great references. Call Michelle @ 301-770-2503.

WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, 24 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

Note to Contributors:

The deadline for the June/July/August issue of the Echo is Saturday, May 7th.

Yard Work and Grass Mowing: Here's Your Help

Here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, grass mowing, snow shoveling, general yard work, etc. Negotiate cost and payment with each boy.

Andrew Souder 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive Matt Bebawy 301-881-4698 Red Fox Alex Cassel 301-770-8757 Macon Road Steven Santos 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way Chris Geerman 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive Mark Bushong 301-942-5890 Bennion Road Andy Wood 301-946-4634 Idlewood Road Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Need Babysitting Services?

Casey Stillwell 301-231-4934 Macon Road





Important Phone Num	bers	
Police: Non-Emergency	#306;	
#308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)		
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	.301-279	9-1591
Police: Emergency		911
Park Police	.301-949	9-3010
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	.240-77	7-3600
Animal Control		
Building Permits	.240-77	7-6200
Consumer Affairs	.240-77	7-3636
Crisis Hotline (24 hours)		
Department of Natural Resources (wildlife nuisance problems)	.800-442	2-0708
Disability Resources	.240-77	7-1246
Fire Non-Emergency		
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 Emergencies only Licensing Dept	.240-77	3-5900
Motor Vehicle Administration	-800-950	0-1682
Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance (noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leak		
Parking Tickets	.240-45	3-0113
Parks: Information & Permits	.301-49	5-2525
PEPCO: Power Outtoll free 1 Emergency/Life Threatening		
Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville	.301-23	1-5973
Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.)	.240-77	7-3986
RCA Hotline	.301-88	1-2722
Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org)	.240-77	7-6400
Recreation Information	.240-77	7-6804
School Information	.301-279	9-3391
Senior Citizens (Holiday Park)	.301-46	3-4448
Street Light Out	.240-77	7-2190
Transportation (Highway Services)(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, pothol		
Transit Information Center (www.dtwp.com)	.240-77	7-7433
Trash Collection	.240-77	7-6410
Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist)	.240-77	7-7623
Voter Registration	.240-77	7-8500
Water and Sewer (WSSC)	.301-20	6-8000
Weeds/Rubbish Complaints	.240-77	7-6400



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

Neighborhood Home Sales Settled Since January 2005

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Dom	Subsidy	Date Settled
11811 Rocking Horse Rd	\$369,900	\$369,900	3	\$0	1/18/2005
11808 Ashley Drive	\$389,990	\$390,000	47	\$5,902	2/10/2005
12116 Otis Drive	\$425,000	\$418,500	67	\$0	2/28/2005
4604 Coachway Drive	\$369,900	\$369,900	4	\$0	3/02/2005
11802 Ashley Drive	\$399,000	\$385,000	21	\$4,000	3/15/2005
12004 Ashley Drive	\$380,000	\$390,000	9	\$5,000	3/22/2005
11214 Troy Road	\$397,000	\$397,000	3	\$0	3/22/2005
12119 Hunters Lane	\$400,000	\$430,000	43	\$0	3/25/2005
4910 Randolph Road	\$690,000	\$650,000	18	\$0	3/28/2005
4818 Mori Drive	\$435,000	\$435,000	10	\$0	4/12/2005



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