

The ECHO

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association

Volume 55, Issue 7

May 2012

RCA MusicFest 2012 Benefit show coming to Mem Sahib May 6th!

by Matt Tifford

Do you like music? How about food? Wouldn't it be great if you could enjoy all of these great things while helping your community at the same time? Well, you are in luck, because you can do all three at the upcoming annual RCA Musicfest. The event will be held on Sunday, May 6th from 4-6pm at the Mem Sahib Restaurant in Randolph Hills Shopping Center. If you've never been to Mem Sahib it is a wonderful Indian restaurant right in our backyard with great food and entertainment. Proceeds from this yearly fundraiser go to the Randolph Civic Foundation sign beautification fund. Last year we raised enough money to purchase our beautiful new signs, but landscaping and maintenance are a regular expense, and the more we raise the better our entrances can look.

This year, our headliners will be Washington area legend Mary Ann Redmond joined by guitarist Mike Ault in a special guest appearance. We will also feature performances by singer/guitarist Mark Nensel, Margaret Dikel on French Horn, Julianne Martinelli on Flute, and Cellist Matthew Tifford.

Tickets are currently on sale for \$25 per person or \$40 per couple. Children ages 6-18 are \$15. The ticket price includes hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages. Tickets can be purchased online via PayPal at www.randolphcivic.org. If you prefer to pay by check, please contact Lindsay Hoffman at (240)668-4722 or e-mail musicfest@randolphcivic.org. If you are not able to attend the event, but would like to donate to the fund, your donations are welcome.

Potomac Watershed Clean-up Report

by Ben Pitkin

Saturday April 14 was the 24th Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup, an event that draws volunteers to over 80 cleanup sites in Montgomery County and scores of other sites in D.C., Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. By the thousands, volunteers give up a Saturday morning to clamber down embankments and haul all kinds of trash out of the streams that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. It's hard work, but the payoff is enormous—both for the health of the watershed and the appearance of the local community. The difference is immediately apparent.

Each year for almost 20 years, Boy Scout Troop 1083, Cub Scout Pack 1081, and affiliated Girl Scout and Venturing units have taken part in the Watershed Cleanup, rain or shine, conducting their efforts in Boiling Brook, between where Boiling Brook Parkway splits into a divided highway to the west and Ashley Drive to the east. Local coordination of the event is still handled by Troop 1083. However, in recent years, the number of Scouts has grown, and they have been joined for the stream cleans by additional volunteers—either as members of civic, church, or school groups, or simply as individuals from the community.

As the number of volunteers has grown, so has the geographic scope of the stream clean. In the last couple years, the Scouts and other RCA-Land volunteers have extended their efforts to include Boiling Brook all the way to Rock Creek; an upstream section of Boiling Brook near the Macon Road cul-de-sac behind Safeway; the western bank of Rock Creek that borders the length of Randolph Hills Park; and both of the streams in Waverly-Schuylkill Park. This year, 46 stream

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Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting

May 3rd, 2012 8:00pm-9:30pm, Veirs Mill Recreation Center

RCA Community Bazaar

May 5th, 2012 8:00am-1:00pm, Loehmann's Plaza

RCA MusicFest

Call (240)668-4722 for tickets or email musicfest@randolphcivic.org
May 6th, 2012 4:00pm-6:00pm, Mem Sahib Restaurant, Randolph Hills Shopping Center

RCA Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for 2012-2013

OFFICERS

President
Chad Salganik
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301-275-2874
chad@randolphcivic.org

Vice President
Amber Tedesco
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301-641-2946

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Jason Ott
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301-230-2179

Treasurer
Nick Kriesle
4302 Star Lane
301-770-0119

Directors

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Brian Hooker
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brian.r.hooker@gmail.com

Mara Greengrass
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COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND POINTS OF CONTACT

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Echo Advertising
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echo@randolphcivic.org

Communications Committee
(Primary Contact for Media Requests)
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301-938-7494

Membership and Welcome Committee
Cindy Zelaya
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301-984-1006

Environment and Services Committee
Matthew Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

Education Committee
George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Yard Sale Signs
Lorena Moyer
4802 Macon Road
301-984-8727

Webmaster
Chad Salganik
4818 Mori Drive
202-359-6158

Public Safety Committee
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External Affairs Committee
Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-938-7494

Ways and Means
Nick Kriesle
4302 Star Lane
301-770-0119

President's Message

by Chad Salganik, RCA President

Hello neighbors, my name is Chad Salganik, and I am the new RCA President. I've lived in RCA land for seven years. I have been on the RCA board for over four years serving as Vice President. In that time, I've seen first hand some great folks such as Mike Saunders and Matt Tifford lead the association. I want to thank them for the leadership they've shown over the years. I've had the pleasure of working closely with outgoing president Dan Hoffman. Dan has been a tremendous asset to our neighborhood. I would like to publicly thank him for his service. It's critical that we get new folks involved in the leadership of the association, and this year I'm happy to welcome Secretary Jason Ott and Director/Safety Chair Mara Greengrass. In addition, I want to thank all of the other board members, along with our neighbors who take time to attend our meetings. It is appreciated.

I am excited to get started as president. First and foremost, I intend to maintain the momentum the Association has generated. Whether its signage improvements, Neighborhood Watch or the MusicFest event, we've had some wonderful successes in the last twelve months. We need to maintain the momentum on those successes as we strive for new ones.

Next, I have a keen interest in the development of White Flint and its potential impact on our neighborhood. I serve on the White Flint Implementation Advisory Committee (WFIAC); a committee comprised of residents and property owners. We are tasked with reviewing assumptions made regarding traffic, including trail use and parking, monitoring plan recommendations, and recommending action by the Planning Board and County Council. As Dan reported in last month's Echo, development in White Flint is happening now, with more to follow. I will continue to work with the WFIAC and report back.

Planning for the White Flint 2 Sector Plan will begin this year. The White Flint 2 Sector Plan area covers approximately 290 acres in a horse-shoe shape on either

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RCA Telephone Number: (240)668-4722.

Recorded announcements of community events, 24 hours a day. Callers may leave messages.

Membership in the RCA is \$10.00 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. If you would like to send an article in for consideration, please email the article to info@randolphcivic.org.

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

Neighborhood News in Brief

- **RCA MusicFest 2012 is Coming!** As you may have seen from the ads we have been running, we will once again be holding the RCA MusicFest on Sunday May 6th at the Mem Sahib Restaurant. Musicians from around the neighborhood will perform to help raise money for our beautification efforts around the community sign areas. While the full list of performers hasn't been set, the RCA is proud to announce that this years MusicFest will include a special guest performance by Mary Ann Redmond with guitarist Michael Ault. We hope you will join us. MusicFest, which we hope to continue as a regular yearly event, is a great opportunity to hear some terrific music, hang out with neighbors, help us raise money for the community, and enjoy some delicious Indian food as well!
- **The Membership Drive for 2011-2012 is now closed.** We totalled 403 member for the 2011-2012 Echo year. This is below our target and we intend to conduct a enhanced membership drive this fall.
- **Randolph Civic Foundation Board Nominees for 2012-2013:** The slate of nominated officers for the Randolph Civic Federation has been announced. For President: Lindsay Hoffman; Vice-President: Matt Tifford; Secretary: Bob Walker; Director 1: Mike Saunders; Director 2: Alison Dewey. Karen Helfert and Mark Nensel are not up for election this year, and George Gadbois will be stepping down.

Do you have a quick bite of news you'd like to share with the neighborhood? Please feel free to submit a few sentences to info@randolphcivic.org by the deadlines posted on page 12 of this issue. Thank you!

Randolph Hills Township?

By Matt Tifford

Almost twelve years ago, then-RCA Treasurer Richard Zierdt proposed in a series of Echo articles that the neighborhoods of the Randolph Civic Association attempt to incorporate as a municipality, or town. The effort was soon abandoned when a group of residents, alarmed at the possibility of higher taxes, showed up to express their displeasure at the next general meeting and the RCA board decided to table the issue.

A lot of time has passed since then, and a lot has changed in our community. A large percentage of the homes in our community have turned over in the last 12 years, and we have a very different civic association. Also, we are at a point where we have many allies on the County Council -- which would have to approve such an effort if we were to undertake it.

Back in 2000, when the original effort failed, it did so with little or no discussion on the merits. Pros and cons were not debated, and the community was left none the wiser. I propose that this is a discussion that should be had, and that now is the time to start.

Is incorporation as a municipality right for our community? There are many questions that need answers. Here are a few to consider.

-- Many towns give up county services and levy additional taxes so they can provide improved services at the local level. However, each town does this to a different degree, and some don't give up any county services at all. Are towns truly able to provide better services to their constituents? And if so, at what cost?

-- Further, some towns, like Takoma Park, levy hundreds of dollars in additional taxes on their residents, while others, like Chevy Chase View, charge a rate that would cost most of us \$10-\$15 per year. For that matter, Chevy Chase Section 5 levies no taxes at all. Is there an amount of additional taxation that would be acceptable to our community, if the benefits made the tax worthwhile?

-- Towns generally maintain that they are able provide a personal level of service to their residents that is difficult to achieve at the county level. They also, through an elected Mayor, have an official advocate to county and state government. Are we satisfied with the current county services that we are receiving? When we have a grievance, is the county response satisfactory?

-- What effect, if any, would incorporation have on property values? Are homebuyers in our area attracted to towns, or repelled? Most of us are somewhat familiar with home prices in nearby towns like Garrett Park, Kensington, and Chevy Chase. Does township play a role in determining their home pricing?

-- Finally, when communities attempt to incorporate, one of the main reasons they cite is to create an identity for their community, what is often referred to as a "sense of place". Becoming a municipality quite literally puts a community on the map. Is this something we want for our community?

Please consider some of these questions I have posed, and if you are interested in learning more, check out the Maryland Municipal League website at www.mdmunicipal.org. An effort like this takes years to accomplish, and cannot happen without an enormous amount of community support. Look for more articles in the future, and guest speakers on the topic as well. Also, feel free to come talk about it at any RCA meeting, or contact the RCA hotline with your thoughts via phone: 240-668-4RCA or e-mail: info@randolphcivic.org.

April General Meeting Minutes

by Jason Ott

1. Call to order: 8:05 P.M.
2. RCA Board Elections
• Dan Hoffman, outgoing RCA President, expressed thanks for the support during his two terms. He will continue to be involved in RCA and contributing to the Echo.

• Mark Nensel presented the slate of candidates for the RCA Board, which was then approved by elections. The new RCA board is:

- President – Chad Salganik
- Vice President One – Amber Tedesco
- Vice President Two – Christiana Drapkin
- Secretary – Jason Ott
- Board of Directors – Mara Greengrass

3. Guest Presentation: Rodney Riffle, Montgomery County Arborist

Rodney Riffle, Montgomery County Arborist, came to answer questions and to explain the process of managing trees in the right of way.

• If you don't have a tree in the right of way, then the county will plant one. Call "3-1-1" to register the request. The county is behind in their planting budget. As the budget grows, they are trying to catch up on planting requests. The stump removal budget was lost for three years. Once funding is restored, the stump will be removed.

• If you are due for a tree, you may request a specific species. The arborist has the final say on which tree is selected for a site. The county prefers putting major trees in where possible ("oak").

• If a tree is near a power line, then the responsibility for clearing it lies with Pepco. Pepco often has to prune trees to assure the integrity of their electrical lines and to provide a safety area for workers.

• Common trees planted under power lines are redbud, dogwood, paperbark maple, and many others.

• To care for a tree planted on your property, a few steps can be taken. Avoid "Weed-Eater-itis" (getting too close with a trimmer). Water the tree if it is dry, but only once a week. Make sure to give it a deep watering to encourage the roots to grow down.

4. Old Business

• RCA Music Fest will be held on May 6th, from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M., at Mem Sahib Restaurant. A number of local, talented musical acts are preparing to perform. This is a great way to spend an afternoon with your Randolph Hills neighbors. Plus, the proceeds benefit the RCF Beautification Fund.

• The RCA signs will be landscaped and stained soon. The plants that are going in were selected to accent the lower profile of the new signs. The final new sign will be installed by early summer.

5. New Business

• Nick Kriesle, Treasurer, presented a budget for the upcoming year. Money from selling advertisements in the Echo was down. A stipend will be paid to the Advertising coordinator. Plus, emphasis will be placed on increasing membership. The budget was approved.

• A MARC Station ZTA has been proposed (not by RCA), which would limit development around MARC stations. This is a new amendment, and more information will be presented as it comes available.

• The new advertising coordinator will work with Dan Hoffman on the advertisement layouts.

6. Standard Business and Reports

• The minutes from the March 1, 2012, meeting was approved by unanimous voice vote.

• Treasurer's report (presented during New Business)

• Committee Chair Reports

• Education: George Gadbois explained that construction is underway at Viers Mill ES. Loiderman MS and Parkland MS are maintaining their magnet status. Wheaton HS is no longer on the list for a delayed construction. Construction should start in one and one-half years.

• Services Committee: The stream cleanup is to take place April 14th. The RCA signs will receive new plants. New benches were installed in RCA-land. RCF purchased the materials, and the Boy Scouts installed them. RCA is looking into small markers to identify them as coming from RCA.

• Environment: The pedestrian crossing at Macon and Rocking Horse has been painted.

• Safety: Anyone interested in joining the Neighborhood Watch program should contact Mara Greengrass. RCA may need to reopen discussions with the county about the traffic and bump-outs on Boiling Brook.

7. RCA meeting was adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

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RCA Musicfest

Benefiting the RCF
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May 6th, 2012 - 4-6pm

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Stream Clean-Up Report

(continued from page 1)

cleaners hauled 70 bags of trash out of RCA-Land's streams. That doesn't count the items that could not be bagged: tires of all sorts and sizes, bicycle parts (along with at least one entire bike), and a television. In addition to the usual hazards – like twisting an ankle or inadvertently plunging a foot into the water – this year's volunteers had to be on the lookout for deer ticks hoping to hitch a ride. Fortunately, there were no casualties—except a couple wet feet. And the weather couldn't have been more perfect.

For what it may be worth: plastic shopping bags are still among the items most commonly encountered

during a stream clean, but they were noticeably less prevalent in 2012 than in prior years, according to an unscientific survey. Any number of factors could be in play, including the number of windy days in the week or two leading up to the stream clean. But it could also be that the plastic bag surcharge is working as intended. It will be interesting to see how this year's results compare with next year's.

Here's a big RCA pat on the back to all our stream cleaners. The Potomac River Watershed Cleanup is organized by the Alice Ferguson Foundation, and takes place in early or mid-April each year. For more information, visit the

Foundation's website at http://www.fergusonfoundation.org/trash_initiative/trash_cleanup.shtml. The event is also announced about a week in advance via RCA's Yahoo group.





Offers Expire 5/15/2012

OUR LOCATION
4860 Boiling Brook Pkwy
Rockville, MD 20852
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www.koshermart.com

STORE HOURS
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RCA President's Message

(continued from page 2)

side of Rockville Pike. Of particular interest to us, the plan area includes light-industrial and commercial properties along Parklawn Drive and the Randolph Hills Shopping Center. We've already fielded volunteers to begin helping to shape the vision that maintains the identity of our community while building upon the vision of the White Flint Sector Plan.

Lastly, I encourage everyone to sign up for the neighborhood email list. It's a great way to stay in touch with your neighbors. Go to <http://randolphcivic.org/> email for more information.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve. If you have questions or comments, please contact me at chad@randolphcivic.org. Thanks and see you at the next General Meeting, June 7th at 8pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

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West Marine	(301) 230-0945

Chris Knows The Randolph Area

Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, Franklin Park, and Montrose Park Sales

Latest Randolph Civic Area Sales

Status	Address	Beds	Baths	Listed	Sold	Sold Date	Seller Help
Sold	11101 Rock Rd.	4	2	\$364,900	\$355,000	4/27/2012	\$9,000
Sold	4917 Stickley Rd.	3	2	\$389,900	\$390,900	4/11/2012	\$750
Sold	4703 Olden Rd.	3	2	\$329,900	\$329,900	4/10/2012	\$0
Sold	4604 Wilwyn Way	3	3	\$388,000	\$388,000	3/29/2012	\$0
Sold	11004 Troy Rd.	3	2	\$349,000	\$335,000	3/6/2012	\$5,000
Sold	11322 Schuylkill Rd.	4	2	\$349,000	\$340,000	2/29/2012	\$9,779
Sold	10912 Troy Rd.	4	1.5	\$319,000	\$310,000	2/29/2012	\$6,500
Sold	11315 Ashley Dr.	5	3	\$374,990	\$376,000	2/28/2012	\$0
Sold	4723 Boiling Brook Pkwy.	4	2	\$349,000	\$337,500	2/10/2012	\$0
Sold	11413 Grayling Ln.	3	2	\$329,900	\$324,500	2/8/2012	\$8,000

Just Sold (Chris Mann Real Estate Co.)

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List Price: \$364,900

Sold Price: \$355,000



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Troop 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin, Assistant Scoutmaster

On March 10, Troop 1083 Scouts and Crew 1083 Venturers finished the last phase of their spring mulch sale by delivering (for free!) all those orders. Both groups thank all of our customers for making this year's sale, as always, a success; and for supporting a program that gives so much to its members and also gives right back to the community through service projects.

One example is Eagle Scout service projects, which have been occurring with ever-increasing frequency in recent months. March 2012 was no exception. By now, you have most likely seen at least one of the six handsome new benches that were installed throughout RCA-land: two locations on Randolph Road (directly across from Safeway and also near Hunter's Lane); two locations behind the Rocking Horse Community Center (one on Macon Road adjacent to the hiker trail, the other alongside the community garden); one on Ashley and Macon at the entrance to Randolph Hills Park; and one on Schuylkill near Garrett Park Rd. If you've seen the benches, chances are you've seen them in use. Many are near bus stops; all are a good spot to just take a quick rest. Those benches were designed, assembled, and installed by Troop 1083 Eagle Scout candidate Robert Skaats and his team of scouts, friends, and family on March 16, 17, and 18.

On March 24 and 25, Troop 1083 hosted WEBELOS II

scouts from Cub Scout Packs 1081 and 493 for the annual WEBELOS Weekend campout at Cabin John Park. The older Scouts taught the WEBELOS about fire building, axe safety, and hiking. On Saturday, the High Adventure crew went on a "shakedown" hike in continuing preparation for a trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico in the summer of 2013. In the evening, all the campers broke camp for a few hours to go swimming at the Rockville Swim Center, and then returned to the campsite for some toasted marshmallows before turning in.

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's web page at www.troop1083.org.



Robert Skaats (seated, center) with just some those who helped on his 3-day Eagle project, installing benches in RCA-Land

Nonprofit Seekings Housing for International Students This Summer

By Francesca Contento

Cultural Homestay International has 20 international college students who will be working at businesses in Bethesda, Georgetown, and Rockville this summer. We are looking for homeowners with furnished rooms to rent that are convenient for their work locations or near public transportation. Their budget is \$400-\$450/month. If you have a room that you can rent to one or two students, please contact me for further discussion.

Francesca Contento, Work & Travel
CoordinatorchifrancescaMidAtl@gmail.com or 240-575-4898

Sign up for Kindergarten Orientation May 17 & 18

By Lindsay Hoffman

If you have a child who will be starting kindergarten next year at Viers Mill Elementary, take note. Kindergarten Orientation is scheduled for next month, May 17 & 18. To sign up and learn more, please call the school at 301-929-2165 or stop by the school office.

And, please spread this message among other neighbors with school-age kids. The more kids who register for kindergarten on the early side, the easier it is for the principal to justify additional teachers. Our school is known for, among many other things, reduced class sizes and this is one way to keep them.

Finally - if you're joining the VMES community next year, don't forget to join the PTA!

The RCA Hotline

240-668-4722 (4RCA)

Calls Received March 6th, 2011
through April 17th, 2012



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 on the website. 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.

03-08-12 (Thurs) at 7:45pm. Not Anonymous. Calling from Hunters Lane in Franklin Park in response to the November 21st call complaining about the Franklin Park sign. I deeply appreciate all of the time and effort the RCA put into the design selection and construction of the sign. I have not seen all the RCA-land signs but those I have seen are on wooden posts which will deteriorate in the ground faster than the Franklin Park sign on its brick supports, excluding a vehicle strike. *[RCA Note: Since the brick sign was erected County regulations have changed and brick posts are no longer allowed in the County right-of-way.]*

03-18-12 (Sun) at 11:28am. Anonymous. I would like to know if livestock is permitted in this neighborhood. I have been woken to the sounds of roosters crowing in the morning on Boiling Brook Parkway and I have seen people chasing chickens in their front yard. I would like to know if this permitted and why are there chickens and roosters in this neighborhood. Thanks.

03-21-12 (Wed) at 5:41pm. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. Hello, I wanted to let you know about this incident, it may help others prevent someone stealing their property: 3 bicycles stolen from my home driveway on Troy Road. I suspect trucks coming into our subdivision with high bars on the truck bed. They pick up any metal and go over trash for things they like. They usually come on Sundays between 4 and 6pm. I have seen at least 4 different trucks.

03-25-12 (Sun) at 11:20am. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. Greetings. I am a long time resident of Randolph Hills and am interested in possibly finding a young person that might be interested in mowing our back and front lawn this spring and summer. I did not see a list in the last Echo, of those looking for summer employment, so would appreciate it if you have any interested people that I

might contact.

03-25-12 (Sun) at 3:00pm. Anonymous. There's a house on Ashley Drive, between Topping and Boiling Brook, that has many parties. There was another party last night well past 1am with shouting, screaming and a total disregard for the peace in the neighborhood. It seems this happens continually. I just wish everyone peace and that we can get to sleep at night. Please post the hours by law that there needs to be quiet or explain the policies precisely so that we can all know how it works in the next Echo edition. Peace to all. *[RCA Note: Certain noisy activities are not permitted after 10:00pm, but if at any time noise becomes a problem you should just call the police.]*

03-25-12 (Sun) at 3:05pm. Same Caller. I just called about the noise disturbances in the area and just mean this as a friendly reminder to all and not to finger point. I don't think it's important to specify the location except to say Randolph Hills. But we should be clear that we all understand what the policy is locally. Please post this – how it works and if there are certain hours for quiet time and if there are other things involved. If there's an ordinance, please specify and post clearly what it says so we can all understand what these rules are. I've seen some reference to this in the past but have never seen any specifics about what exactly is required of the citizens living peacefully together. I wish you a great day and thanks for your help. *[RCA Note: We printed articles about this in the past and will write another one in the future.]*

04-02-12 (Mon) 2:03pm. Not Anonymous. Will you kindly call me back because I don't know if my membership has been renewed? Thank you!

04-05-12 (Thur) at 1:47pm. Anonymous. Viers Mill Baptist Church has free movies the second Saturday evening of every month. They're free to everybody so come and enjoy yourself. There will be free refreshments. The movies start at 6pm and are open to everybody so come enjoy yourself. It's free and has free refreshments. That's Viers Mill Baptist Church on Viers Mill Road.

04-08-12 (Sun) at 11:09am. Not Anonymous. I'm calling about the flea market coming up in May in the shopping center. Please call me back; I'd like to know the date.

04-10-12 (Tue) at 9:42am. Not Anonymous. I was told that you have a parking lot yard sale at a Safeway in Rockville and that it might be sometime in May. Could you please call me back with some information about it?

Note to Contributors:

Deadlines for the remainder of the 2011-2012 Issue year are:

June/July/Aug 2012 May 11th

President's Message

by Matt Tifford

After four years, two as RCA president and the last two as RCF president, I am finally getting to write my last President's message. While my involvement will continue unabated, it is a relief to finally pass on the unique challenges of the president's position to someone else. Happily, I put the leadership of the Foundation in capable hands. Lindsay Hoffman, the presumptive nominee, has worked with me on the board these last two years and been an enormous asset to the Foundation. I hope long time readers will forgive me for covering old ground, but I think it is important to educate new residents (and remind everyone else) as to the important contributions volunteers from both the Foundation and the Association have made to the community over the years.

-- When you are out after dark, do you ever notice how well lit our streets are? Thank the RCA for that one. 15 years ago we had half the street lights we have now. From 1998-2006, RCA successfully lobbied Pepco to put a streetlight on every single telephone pole, doubling the lighting in the community.

-- When I moved here in 1998, our playgrounds at Randolph Hills Park and Viers Mill Park were in sad shape and rarely used. Most people took their children to Garrett Park or Kensington for their well-maintained playground equipment. Through a sustained lobbying campaign, RCA volunteers were able to get both of these playgrounds replaced, and a beautiful new picnic shelter added at Randolph Hills Park.

-- After the terrible power outages we experienced during the last big snowstorm, Pepco was pressured by the county into embarking on an extensive project to trim trees and upgrade power lines. However, in the initial plan our community was completely left out. RCA successfully lobbied to get our community added to the list and improvements have been underway.

-- Signs, signs, signs - how I love talking about those signs! With the help from your contributions, the Randolph Civic Foundation raised the thousands of dollars needed to replace our old signs and bring them up to code. We are also using your contributions to plant bushes, perennials, and annuals to keep those entrances looking great all year.

-- Unfortunately, every once in a while disaster does occur in our community. When it does, your Foundation is there to help. We have raised thousands of dollars for victims of house fires in the community.

-- Notice those new benches around the neighborhood? Every year, the Randolph Civic Foundation sponsors Eagle projects with Boy Scout Troop 1083. Your contributions make projects like these possible.

-- Ever been over to Waverly-Schuylkill Park? This lovely park was a dump overgrown with weeds just 20 years ago. Through the RCA, Frank Shore and his family were able to successfully lobby the county to create Waverly-Schuylkill Park and make it the jewel it is today.

-- While it is greatly underutilized, the Garrett Park MARC station is a tremendous asset to our community. There is no quicker or cheaper way to get downtown! During the White Flint Sector Plan process, we almost lost this station when planning board staff proposed moving it up to Randolph Road. Thanks to RCA volunteers working with the Town of Garrett Park, if the station does move, it will now end up on Wyaconda Road - an even better location for our residents.

-- For decades, RCA volunteers have held the Spring and Fall Bazaar at Loehmann's Plaza, and the RCA Fall Picnic. If you haven't already, we hope you will keep these events as a regular part of your calendar. They are fun for the whole family!

-- During the White Flint Sector Plan process, the RCA also attempted to get Randolph Hills Elementary School (now the Rocking Horse Center) re-opened. While the attempt failed, it did succeed in forcing Montgomery County Public Schools to fast-track an addition to Viers Mill Elementary School.

-- During the last couple big snowstorms, the RCA was able to coordinate volunteers to help elderly and disabled residents with snow removal. Even if this was the only thing we ever did, it would be worth it!

So, please consider helping out. The RCF Annual Meeting/Spaghetti Dinner is coming up on May 3rd, from 6-8pm at the Viers Mill Rec Center. This is a great opportunity for Randolph Hills residents to find out how you too can take part.

RCF Executive Committee for 2011-2012

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The Randolph Civic Foundation originated in 1996. It was formed to provide educational and charitable services to the Randolph Community. The address is: Randolph Civic Foundation, PO Box 489, Garrett Park, MD 20896-0489

www.RandolphCivicFoundation.org - Phone: 240-389-4723

Top 4 Kitchen Remodeling Tips



The kitchen is the heart of the home. It is where hearty meals are cooked and where majority of families gather to eat and bond together. Although precious moments are far more important than where they are being held, remodeling the kitchen should be a homeowner's priority as well. Kitchen remodeling is an enormous but fun undertaking. It is necessary to plan and carefully formulate a kitchen layout that is conducive to daily activities such as eating, cooking, socializing, and entertaining friends and loved ones. After all, an attractive kitchen gives positive energy and good vibes to each and every family member.

Here are some tips that you can apply to the process of remodeling your home kitchen space:

- A kitchen remodeling project should involve improving the look and function of this home space. Homeowners should consider the daily activities that regularly transpire within the kitchen in order to come up with a layout that will increase the productivity of each and every member. Consulting with other family members regarding the look of the kitchen should be a consideration as well. Get the approval of all family members before coming up with a final interior design plan.
- Update the look of your kitchen by changing appliances. Remodeling the kitchen not only means changing the layout and appearance of your kitchen, but also replacing items that are either useless or not in good condition. For a more coordinated look, consider purchasing brand new kitchen appliances as well. Old appliances that are not functioning properly or are simply outdated should be replaced with new ones. Make sure to coordinate the appliances with the current theme and interior design of your kitchen for a cleaner and seamless look.
- Add some color to your kitchen. By principle, a kitchen should be well-lit so activities such as cooking and eating can be performed efficiently. Without having to add too much lighting in your kitchen, consider using bright and vibrant colors for its walls and cabinets. Make sure to choose a color that is both appetizing and happy.
- Utilize materials that require minor cleaning and maintenance. For your kitchen remodel plan, consider using materials that are easy to clean. The kitchen can be messy, especially during food preparation and cooking. The countertops, flooring, and kitchen fixtures should be made from low-maintenance materials so you don't waste too much time on cleaning them afterwards. Try to use blinds or roman shades for the windows as they are easier to maintain than curtains.

Lastly, set a budget for your kitchen remodeling project. While there are lots of books and online resources that can guide you through remodeling projects and interior designs, it is best that you hire a professional remodeling agency. Kitchen remodeling is an investment and should not be disregarded or thought of as an activity that can be done over a weekend. After all, you will be enjoying the look of your new kitchen for years to come. So why wouldn't you invest in a professional company? It only makes sense to have the pros handle all the work for you. This is paid advertising from the owner of Modern Style Construction. Please contact us at 240-838-0553 or info@ModernStyleConstruction.com and ask us about our neighborly discounts.

CLASSIFIEDS

The Echo publishes classified ads free for RCA members, to a maximum of one ad per year per household. Additional ads may be purchased for \$5.00. The Echo makes no claims or guarantees regarding the quality of goods or services sold.

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, 27 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

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Girl Scout Troop 1028

By Tania Bingcang

Hello again, dear Echo readers! It hasn't been long since the last issue, but our troop has met twice since then. But of course, Troop 1028 has always been lined up with exciting news for you all.

Cookie sales have ended, and as a group, we have sold 1500 boxes of cookies! The girls all did their share of selling (and so did their mommies and daddies at work). The troop sales effort at Giant Wheaton Center was also a success. Many thanks again to cookie dad Jack Goldsby for being on top of it all. Good job, everybody!

The March 12 meeting for the girls was something new and fun. Parent troop leader Julianne Martinelli asked a friend to come in and teach the girls some sewing skills. Her name is Crystal Hulse. She is a teaching aide in 2nd grade at St. Marys in Rockville, MD. She has been in the girl scouts for years and she is an excellent seamstress! The girls were instructed to bring an old pair of pants with them to work on. By the time they came home, you could obviously see their happy and proud faces showing off their gorgeous finished creations. The old pairs of pants were transformed into fancy decorated purses for them to use. Oh it was beautiful! Thank you again, Crystal Hulse.

Last but not least, our troop is currently plan-

ning for our annual camp-out. It is set for Saturday, April 28 until Sunday, April 29, 2012 at Little Bennett Campgrounds. We will surely fill you in with the details in next month's issue of the Echo. So until then, on behalf of Girl Scouts Troop 1028, we bid you farewell.

News from Cub Scout Pack 1081

By Leora Hernandez

Cub Scout Pack 1081 is accepting boys from first grade to fifth grade into their pack. The boys enjoy learning all kinds of life skills and experience a wide variety of activities such as camping, trips to museums, bowling, and skiing.

At the March Pack Meeting the following awards were given: Bobcat Badge: Andre R; Wolves -Ski and Snow Sport Belt Loop: Tristen P., Conrad H.; Basketball Belt Loop: Andrew M.; Bears - Arrow Points (Gold): James T., Sergio H., Liam O., William M., Wai T., Thirien K., and Kevin H; Webelos I - Activity Pins - Craftsman: Franklin A., Jarod H., Mitchell C., and Jacob H.; Webelos II (5th graders) - Activity Pins - Athlete: Adiran S., Thomas A., Galen G., Nathaniel H. and Daniel H; Communicator: Adrian S., Thomas A., Galen G., Nathaniel H., and Daniel H.

At the March pack meeting we had the traditional Parent/Son Bake Off. The boys help prepare a delicious treat that is judged and then auctioned off. The following are the winners in each category:

Pies: Charron Family - 1st place for Best Appearance and 2nd place for Most Delicious; Muehlstedt Family - 1st place for Most Delicious and 2nd place for Best Appearance

Cupcakes/Muffins: Ayala Family - 1st place for Best Appearance and Most Delicious; Alder Family - 2nd place for Best Appearance and Most Delicious

Cookies/Brownies/Bars. Most Delicious: Charron Family - 1st place, Hernandez Family- 2nd place, Hernandez Family - 3rd place; Best Appearance: Rebelo Family - 1st place, Harley Family - 2nd place, O'Donnell Family - 3rd place; Special Award Richest Brownies: Adler Family Cakes. Most Delicious: Parker Family - 1st place, Metelko Family 2nd place, Hackenberg Family 3rd place; Best Appearance: Gibbons Family 1st place, Martinelli Family 2nd place, Ayala Family 3rd place; Special Awards: Tallman Family - Most Creative, Kyaw Family - Most Festive, and Hackenberg Family - Most Sugar.

April activities included the Potomac Watershed Cleanup on April 14th, and the Indian Pow Wow- Webelos II Graduation, and Bike Outing on April 22nd. In May we will hold a family camping trip to Greenbrier St Park.

The Pack meets Mondays at Viers Mill Elementary School during the school year starting at 6:30 pm. Boys in grades 1st - 5th are welcome to join. You can contact our Pack Master at don_gibbons@verizon.net.

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

<u>Address...</u>	<u>List Price</u>	<u>Sold Price</u>	<u>DOM</u>	<u>Subsidy</u>	<u>Date Settled</u>
11413 Grayling Lane	\$329,900	\$324,500	43	\$8,000	08-Feb-12
4723 Boiling Brook Pkwy	\$349,000	\$337,500	9	\$0	10-Feb-12
10902 Troy Road	\$389,900	\$375,000	125	\$0	23-Feb-12
11315 Ashley Drive	\$374,990	\$376,000	7	\$0	28-Feb-12
10912 Troy Road	\$319,900	\$310,000	22	\$6,500	29-Feb-12
11322 Schuylkill Road	\$349,900	\$340,000	67	\$9,779	29-Feb-12
11004 Troy Road	\$349,900	\$335,000	105	\$5,000	06-Mar-12
4604 Wilwyn Way	\$388,000	\$388,000	8	\$0	29-Mar-12
4703 Olden Road	\$329,900	\$329,900	167	\$0	10-Apr-12
4917 Stickely Road	\$389,900	\$390,900	6	\$750	11-Apr-12



Spring is here!



*If you're thinking of selling or buying a home this year,
call Denise for advice, timing and marketing strategies.
Denise has more than twenty years of experience as a realtor in the area.*



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