

# The Echo

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

Volume 45, Issue 2

November 2001

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## Upcoming Events

### **RCA Executive Meeting**

Thursday, November 1, 2001  
8:00 p.m.

### **RCA General Meeting**

Thursday, December 6, 2001  
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.

## President's Message

*by Kevin Kline*

Everyone had a wonderful time at the RCA Picnic. We cooked up free hamburgers and hot dogs, served with chips and sodas. I counted 40 people, with probably more with comings and goings.

The very next weekend, October 6th, we held the RCA Community Yard Sale. Loehmann's Plaza graciously provided a face-painter and balloon artist. Die-hards showed up early on a rainy Saturday morning. The RCA decided not to charge for booth setup, and gave away hot dogs and hamburgers instead of selling them. By noon blue skies began to clear up.

It's community that makes RCA-land – not the houses. Knowing your nearby neighbors and caring for your neighborhood is what makes this a great place to live. When my co-workers tell me they don't know who lives next to them, I'm genuinely surprised.

You will read elsewhere in this issue how we've met with Rock Creek Park officials, and with representatives of Loehmann's Plaza. In both cases

we voted on important matters that keep your neighborhood going up instead of down.

The RCA, representing 1,340 single-family detached homes, is big as associations go. When we speak for you to park officials or at zoning hearings – we are listened to.

We're getting things done to make your neighborhood a better place!

*U.S. Flags proliferate through RCA-land after the atrocity of Sept 11.*



## RCA Executive Committee for 2001-2002

### OFFICERS

#### President

Kevin Kline  
4808 Randolph Road  
301-230-1486

#### Vice President

Matthew Shore  
11230 Troy Road  
301-468-1225

#### Secretary

Open

#### Treasurer

Richard Zierdt  
4707 Coachway Drive  
301-881-0283

#### Directors

Wilbur Van der Linden  
11711 Ashley Drive  
301-770-7235

Frank Shore  
11230 Troy Road  
301-468-1225

### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

#### Echo Editor

Eileen White  
11225 Ashley Drive  
301-984-2579

#### Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo  
11508 Monongahela Court  
301-770-7590

#### Membership

Patricia Longenecker  
4703 Wyaconda Road  
301-770-1927

#### Environment

Jack Stillwell  
5106 Macon Road  
301-231-4934

#### Education

Elinor Walker  
12111 Galena Road  
301-468-6335

#### Mobile Watch

John Polk  
11216 Troy Road  
301-984-8015

### COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

#### Scout Leader, Troop 1083

Brian McGahey  
11805 Timber Lane  
301-770-7882

#### Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois  
4718 Topping Road  
301-770-5386

#### Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo  
11611 Ashley Drive  
301-770-7450

#### Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders  
12107 Hunters Lane  
301-468-9268

### COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:  
Kevin Kline, Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt  
[www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org)

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore

### MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

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

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

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

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000  
School Board Offices: 301-279-3617  
School System Information: 301-279-3391  
School Board Member for District 3  
(representing all of RCA):  
Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland State Legislative District 17 -  
South of Randolph Road:

Senator: Jennie Forehand 301-858-3134  
Delegates: Kumar Barve 301-858-3001  
Michael Gordon 301-858-3519  
Cheryl Kagan 301-858-3046

Maryland Legislative District 18 -  
North of Randolph Road:

Senator: Christopher Van Hollen 301-858-3137  
Delegates: Leon Billings 301-858-3028  
Sharon Grosfeld 301-858-3028  
John Hurson 301-858-3464

Montgomery County Delegation Office:  
All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8 (all of RCA):  
Constance Morella 202-225-5341  
email: [rep.morella@mail.house.gov](mailto:rep.morella@mail.house.gov)

U.S. Senate (all of RCA):  
Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654  
Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precincts:  
4-08 South of Randolph Rd. Vote at Rockinghorse Center.  
4-26 North of Randolph Rd. Vote at Montrose Baptist Church.

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 240-777-8500  
[www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections](http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections)



### RCA Telephone Number: 301-881-2722 (881-2RCA).

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

Membership in the RCA is \$5.00 per year.

The *Echo* is the official publication of the Randolph Civic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 2202, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852. The *Echo* is published 8 times a year and distributed free to all residents of Franklin Park, Hilltop Square, Montrose Park, Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, and Westminster. Deadline for submission of articles varies; the next deadline is noted in each issue. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Eileen White, 11225 Ashley Drive, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, 301-984-2579, email [eeewhite@erols.com](mailto:eeewhite@erols.com).

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

Web site: [www.randolphcivic.org](http://www.randolphcivic.org)

## Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

October 4, 2001

Boy Scout Troop 1083 presented an Honor Guard, and we all said the Pledge of Allegiance with gusto. The Scouts were given a round of applause as thanks.

The RCA had several guest speakers. RCA Park Committee Chairman Frank Rossomondo introduced the three representatives of the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission (MNCPPC): Carolyn Wainwright from the permitting office; Peter Boettinger, the park manager for this area; and Park Police Cpl. Mary Carlin.

Frank explained that our guests were here to discuss RCA concerns of the large unsupervised soccer crowds in Randolph Hills Local Park (RHLP). Frank gave some background, that the soccer field is really an "all purpose field," not a soccer field (later, Peter agreed, and suggested the permanent soccer goals could be removed to return the field to "all-purpose"). Earlier, Frank and MNCPPC representatives met at the soccer field, and Frank pointed out beer and liquor bottles, and where players change clothes and urinate in the bushes, etc. Almost all of the soccer players are from out of this area, with DC and Virginia tags. Frank focused on ways of controlling and monitoring this soccer activity. Kevin Kline emphasized that, because our park is designated a "local park" that it belongs primarily to the surrounding community – that's RCA-land.

Frank then turned the floor over to Carolyn Wainwright. Carolyn spoke at length on how our park was so good that everyone wanted to use it. She explained the various park designations: Regional Parks, Valley Stream Parks, Local Parks, etc. Carolyn said that, perhaps at one time a local park meant just that but that "it was an old term, and today it means something very much different." She discussed the 75-year history of the park, how we are in the mist of evolutionary change, the challenges of upcounty parks, and how the pressure is even greater for downcounty parks like ours.

Carolyn said Montgomery downcounty was changing from suburban to urban, and becoming less white and more culturally diverse. Other cultures spend the entire day at the park, not like the typical "soccer moms" we are used to.

As the hour dedicated to this issue was up, RCA President Kevin Kline interjected with community concerns. Firstly, Kevin respectfully disputed the contention that this was a cultural problem, of an older white community clashing with younger Latinos. Secondly, he reiterated that the MNCPPC's own Capital Budget clearly states that "local parks" are indeed for the local surrounding neighborhood. Kevin hoped this was not just

"old terminology" as Carolyn had suggested, because we believe the Randolph Hills park is our park. Momentarily, Kevin and Carolyn had a semantic debate over what "local" means.

Kevin returned to his central point: that the Park representatives, through their permitting offices, are attracting large groups of park users to our park. If they do not know large groups are in the park, they should. These large groups of park users need monitoring, trash cans, toilets, and all these needs should be coordinated by the Park representatives themselves. Instead, we the community have to call the police, check on trash, report violations, etc.

Park reps responded with some good answers – that there is coordination, that the Park Police know when large permitted groups are to be in the park, etc. Several suggestions were discussed, and **Passed by majority voice vote: That RCA request the MNCPPC to limit use of the soccer field to permit holders only, and that the permits be restricted for use by youth (up to 18 years) only. Failed by a tie vote: That RCA request the MNCPPC to remove the permanent soccer goalposts.**

Park Police Officer Polk is newly assigned to our area, and he revealed that during the upcoming weekend he would be strictly enforcing speeding and park regula-

(continued on page 4)

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## RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 3)

tions in our park and in the surrounding Rock Creek. All the Police and park officials were given a round of applause for meeting with us.

The RCA President introduced Loehmann's Plaza representative Grant Ehat. Loehmann's Plaza Shopping Center has secured Chuck E. Cheese restaurant as a potential tenant in the space vacated by Rite-Aid Pharmacy. Loehmann's Plaza has requested a parking waiver regarding the number of parking spaces required under the County's Zoning Ordinance to serve a restaurant. Grant said that a Chuck E. is "theme" restaurant catering to children and families, and does not draw the same volume of vehicles, nor do they need as much parking, as conventional restaurants.

After a short presentation, **Passed by unanimous voice-vote: to support Loehmann's Plaza's parking waiver request, with the caveat that the waiver should be granted for the Chuck E. Cheese restaurant only. This parking waiver should expire if Chuck E. Cheese vacates Loehmann's Plaza.**

The RCA President briefly explained how anyone can download from the internet a Sexual Offenders list.

Kevin wanted to discover if any sexual deviants were in RCA-land. Much to his surprise, the list is 10 pages long, and the perverts are all around us! To avoid privacy issues, we will only say there are sexual offenders that live or work on RCA-land's Wyaconda Drive; on Parklawn; two at the Nebel criminal pre-release center; two on Wilkens Ave. (off Parklawn); one on Randolph near Veirs Mill; on Nicholson; two on Old Georgetown Road; several in Rockville; in Kensington; and in Wheaton! Do not call the RCA for specifics. Instead, find out for yourself at [www.emontgomery.org/police](http://www.emontgomery.org/police).

RCA director George Gadbois said that generally, the County is proceeding with RCA-land sidewalk repair per their most recent schedule in completing the first section this season. However, some of the work is unsatisfactory. Evidence of crooked formwork, inadequate thickness and overall sloppy workmanship was presented by various RCAers. If you don't like what you see, leave your name & number on the RCA hotline at 301-881-2722, and he'll coordinate our complaints. If you pay for work done on the county strip (i.e. aprons, lead walks) and are dissatisfied with the quality, you should both leave a hotline message AND contact the County directly with your complaint (the phone number is on the contract you signed). We hope the quality of work improves.



**PETER CRAWFORD**

301/ 570-7631

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## Sidewalk Improvements in RCA-Land



◀ *Sidewalk at Ashley and Coachway Drive – before*

▲ *Sidewalk at Ashley and Coachway Drive – after*

### ***Your tax dollars at work.***

Half of RCA sidewalks get repaired this summer; the rest by next summer. Sidewalks and street curbs from Montrose Park/Franklin Park south to Boiling Brook Parkway were inspected and replaced where warranted. The rest of RCA, Randolph Hills sections 2 and 3 will be repaired by next summer.



*Driveway apron – before* ▲

*Driveway apron – after* ►



## Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of October 7, 2001, combined RCA+RCF cash assets total \$3,865.86. Membership and SAMs income of \$6,780.34 to October 2 has not been deposited yet, which will then yield \$10,646.20 in assets. Of this, approximately \$2,500 must be paid for SAMs memberships. Also, seven issues of the ECHO must be paid, about \$7,000. Additional membership income is expected, but so far, it looks like a typical RCA/RCF fiscal year.

### RCA Checking Register 8/27/2001 through 10/07/2001

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		<b>BALANCE 08/26/2001</b>			<b>2,607.32</b>
09/04		RCAssociation		900.00	3,507.32
		inc:advertising	Peter Crawford	420.00	
		inc:advertising	Shipley Plumbing	420.00	
		inc:advertising	Local Lawn Care	60.00	
09/08	649	Quick Printing	Sept ECHO, 24 pgs	-1,260.00	2,247.32
09/12		RCAssociation		870.00	3,117.32
		inc:advertising	Loehmann's Plaza	720.00	
		inc:advertising	Park & Plan. refund	145.00	
		inc:advertising	Martha Seigel (ad)	5.00	
09/17	E-xfr	Verizon	Aug 22 Telephone	-21.34	3,095.98
09/18		RCAssociation	inc: Earful of Books	120.00	3,215.98
09/29	650	Sam's Club	food, Community Picnic	-86.25	3,129.73
10/04	651	The Sign Shop	10 generic yard sale signs	-104.48	3,025.25
		<b>BALANCE 10/07/2001</b>			<b>3,025.25</b>

### RCF Checking Register 8/27/2001 through 10/07/2001

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		<b>BALANCE 08/26/2001</b>			<b>940.10</b>
08/31		interest	Suntrust - .35%	0.26	990.36
09/17		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	1,040.36
09/28		interest	Suntrust - .33%	0.25	1,040.61
10/03	1048	Erie Insurance	community yard sale	-200.00	840.61
		<b>BALANCE 10/07/2001</b>			<b>840.61</b>

**Total RCA+RCF cash assets**

**3,865.86**

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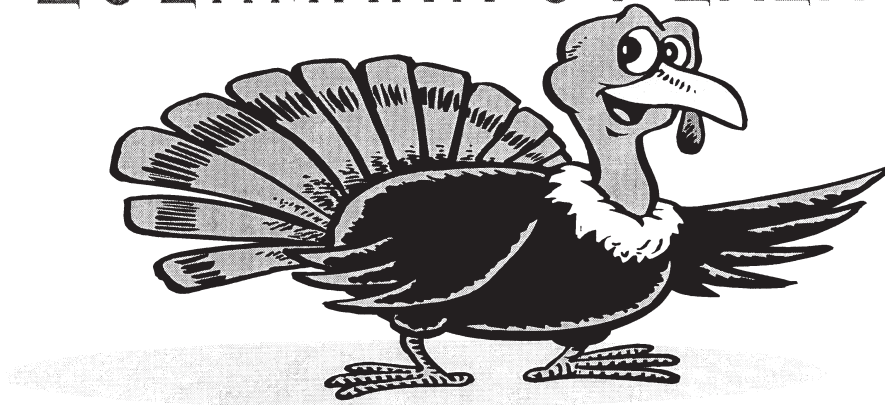
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## Membership Report

by Pat Longenecker

As of October 4, we have 502 paid members for the year 2001-02. 111 have renewed their SAMs membership, 26 have signed up for new memberships, and 20 have deleted their memberships. 38% of RCA residents have joined the RCA. The Association represents 1,333 homes and has 9 out-of-area associate members.

## Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

August 26, 2001 to  
October 9, 2001



*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.*

**2001-08-25 (Sat) 9:35 pm** Light is out on light pole at 4702 Topping Road. Would you kindly assist us to replace the light, maybe? *[Here's what to do. Call 240-777-2190, and tell the dispatcher the street address and whether the pole is wooden or metal (this determines who gets billed: the County or PEPCO). You do not need the pole number.]*

**2001-08-27 (Tue) 9:12 am** 4800 Topping Road. Wants to place ad in the *Echo* about a lost dog.

**2001-09-10 (Mon) 2:53 pm** Anonymous. To all the people who have something to do with printing the *Echo*, should stop showing their stupidity and start printing "Rocking Horse" as two words.

**2001-09-11 (Tue) 8:52 pm** Anonymous, Franklin Park. We got our *Echo* in Franklin Park, but we did not get our pull-out section. We got our envelope for our renewal. *[Richard Zierdt here. I'm not sure what "pull out" the caller refers to. There should have been a membership renewal card, individually addressed, and a return envelope. Would the caller please call again?]*

**2001-09-12 (Wed) 3:00 pm** Ertter Drive. Interested in having a tree installed in caller's front yard [County

right-of-way area]. Please call back with the number. *[Caller did not leave her/his number, but here's the phone number of the County arborist: 240-777-7623 (County highway services)]*

**2001-09-14 (Fri) 10:01 am** Anonymous. Perhaps a bit of a long message. Three things about September *Echo*. (1) Thanks for the list of those who are willing to mow lawns and thanks to the gentleman who takes care of the

*(continued on page 10)*

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## RCA Hotline

(continued from page 9)

corner of Ashley and Boiling Brook (brush, trash, etc). (2) Even though the police choose not to respond to calls about cars blocking sidewalks, it would be wise to consider that nowhere in this country is sidewalk parking permissible. Sidewalks are for walking, not parking. Blocking sidewalks gives rise to accidents and inconveniences to disabled, children, etc. Also, it speaks to the consideration that one resident has toward another in the neighborhood. (3) Offers a suggestion to the caller who called asking about a neighbor who complains all the time: a self-check. Is the caller being a good community neighbor? That implies being even more than a neighbor. Are you doing things that pollute the environment; that perhaps cause great inconvenience and perhaps hardship for the people with whom you live (outside of your house)? Are you conducting a business that would not be permitted? Look to yourself first. Reach out and respond to people first. It would be nice to act as a community of neighbors. It would be wonderful to have an association take a more active enforcement role to step up to someone's door and inform them of a problem. Residents with multiple cars are a problem. Remember how precious

life is, particularly in this time, and to be good to one another.

**2001-09-17 (Mon) 6:04 pm** Topping Road. The sidewalk contractors are here, but they blocked both entrances to Topping, and were somewhat rude about it. Caller talked for 20 minutes to the contractor about this.

**2001-09-20 (Thu) 8:48 pm** Boiling Brook Parkway. Relatively new residents. Concerned about the (public) schools. Caller heard that the Association supports changing the school districts. Is there anything the caller can do to help? *[RCA is on record as wanting all its children to attend the same school cluster; and that the cluster be in North Bethesda. More parents are always needed to keep in touch with local school PTAs and school board actions.]*

**2001-09-22 (Sat) 11:26 am** Anonymous. There is a dog at 47xx Olden Road that is out all day and barks continuously.

**2001-09-22 (Sat) 12:09 pm** Three cars parked illegally at Ashley Drive at Boiling Brook Parkway. Caller called the police; caller is calling the RCA so that the Association has a record of this. *[Thanks]* However, the idea of painting white-stripes on the roadway to delin-

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---

ate the parking area is not going to slow traffic. Caller has driven through Aspen Hill, Kensington, and Montgomery College, Rockville campus. It may be useful for a bike lane, but other than that, it would only be used to measure parking violations, as when a car would park over the line, creating a traffic hazard. The lines will make our neighborhood look as dumb and trashy as those other neighborhoods. Caller will paint them over if done in front of caller's home. Anything like this should be published in the *Echo* and put to a vote, instead of being snuck in by 15 people that affects all 1500 of us, like the speed bumps that were crammed down our throats.

**2001-09-23 (Sun) 7:36 pm** Anonymous. In the September *Echo*, caller notes the RCA and RCF donate money to the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. The Boy Scouts of America discriminates against gays, both as leaders and members. How is it justified that we donate money to an organization that discriminates when so much is being done in Maryland and throughout the U.S. to remove discrimination?

**2001-09-24 (Mon) 10:29 am** Troy Road. Where is the RCA on getting our high school district changed into the Walter Johnson district? Is the issue being pursued? *[See call about this above.]*

**2001-09-26 (Wed) 9:09 am** Traffic problems at Macon Road and Galena Road (Randolph Farms) due to the school (Rockinghorse Center). Caller has difficulty even with own driveway. *[Returned call 2001-09-30, no answer. Call police if a violation is seen; restricted parking signs may be necessary.]*

**2001-09-28 (Fri) 11:08 am** Wants to rent space on October 6th Community Yard Sale. *[Returned call 2001-09-30, no answer]*

**2001-10-08 (Mon) 9:58 am** Anonymous. Dead deer near Randolph Hills Park near Ashley and Boiling Brook. Called animal control. They said they could not pick it up and were thinking of burying it there. Could the Association look into this please? *[Park Police were called. They said the animal would not be buried, and would be picked up.]*

**2001-10-09 (Tue) 2:11 am** Anonymous. Caller fell on sidewalk because neighbor left a large (slippery) mess in the middle of the sidewalk. Parked cars blocking sidewalk are hazardous. There are many on Ashley Drive. Can we work together to help each other? The debris on the sidewalk was not due to the recent sidewalk repairs.

## Trash Pickup Dates: What About Holidays?

by Richard Zierdt

Trash, recycling, and yard trimmings are picked up on Mondays everywhere in RCA-land. But what happens on holidays, which are often observed on Mondays?

When it comes to trash pickup, some holidays are honored by the County, but some are not. When they are honored, trash pickup day is on Tuesday that week. The trouble is knowing which holidays change trash pickup dates.

Here's the answer, or at least where the answer can be found, as provided by Susanne Brunhart Wiggins, Public Outreach Specialist with Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services:

"Please direct your newsletter readers to:

**[www.mcrecycles.org/holiday.htm](http://www.mcrecycles.org/holiday.htm)**

The text at the top of this page lists the affected holidays generically, and describes the 'holiday slide' process. A graphic towards the bottom of the page depicts the specific dates for 2001. Towards the end of this calendar year, that information will be updated to reflect the 2002 dates. I [also] invite your readers to sign up for our Holiday Reminder e-mail service, and the registration for this takes place via the URL above. One week prior to a given holiday, this e-mail message announces whether or not that upcoming date is a recycling and trash holiday."

## Receive Montgomery County Legislative Notices Online

The Montgomery County Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly maintains a web site, [www.montgomerycountydelegation.com](http://www.montgomerycountydelegation.com), that keeps information about state legislation directly affecting Montgomery and Prince Georges Counties. This is the legislative season, and many additions and updates will be posted in the coming weeks. This is great, but who wants to check the site daily for updates?

No problem, since the Delegation Administrator, Susan Gottschalk, will e-mail you a short message when something new is posted. Just send her a note that you want to be included in the list of those who receive update notices. Ms. Gottschalk's email is [Moc2@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:Moc2@mlis.state.md.us). The Moc2 stands for "Montgomery County #2."

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Here's how:

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2. The technician determines if the dirt and mold in the duct work is caked on.
3. High pressure compressed air is injected into each vent, this air blast pushes the dirt and dust down into the main duct run.
4. After the vents are blown down we take a small tool call the aire sweep and insert it in the main duct runs. The aire sweep moves down the duct run each time air pressure is applied. This action sweeps grime, dirt and dust back to the vacuum hose hookup and into the portable vacuum system.
5. We then air wash the fan blower compartment, plenum, air handling side of the furnace and the a/c coil with air pressure and vacuum.

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## Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

by Richard Zierdt

Continuing a tradition from the last ECHO, here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, snow shoveling, general yard work, etc. The RCA always receives a few calls every year, sometimes from adult children of elderly residents, asking for yard help. So here are some resources. Negotiate cost and payment with each boy. By the way, we have received no calls from girls offering to perform yard work, but their names will be listed if they offer. Another useful list would be for those willing to babysit. Call the RCA (301-881-2722) if interested.

And a reminder: a new County law passed this year stipulates that snow must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after a snowstorm. There is a \$50 fine for non-compliance.

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

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

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

**Brendon Tolley** 301-947-1486

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

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

## Got A Minute?!

By David C. Murphy

Over the course of the last year there has been a great deal of discussion, between my neighbors and myself, regarding the amount traffic cutting through our neighborhood. This past summer I tried to keep track of the times that I myself cut through other neighborhoods. To be honest I must tell you that I too use several "cut throughs." Traveling south on Viers Mill road I turn at the fire department and come out on Randolph Road. Going up to Viers Mill Elementary school I cut through on Collins Ave. to avoid the bumps on Beach drive. There are also many other times this summer that I cut through some other neighborhoods to avoid traffic that was backed up due to an accident or when I did not want to wait for normal traffic to proceed.

How can I possibly try and stop tax-paying citizens from cutting through our neighborhood when I cut through theirs?

In my opinion, the resolution to this problem is to have a better flow of traffic around our neighborhood. The Montrose Parkway would go a long way toward resolving this problem. As an example, travelling from Randolph to Montrose to 270 during rush hour, 3 miles,

takes over 20 minutes. We need the intersection at Loehmann's and the U-Haul to be changed so that the traffic does not stop at that intersection. An overpass may be the solution but I am not a road engineer; but I do know that something must be done or else we will always have people that will cut through our neighborhood.

Thanks for the minute.

*Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when he sticks his neck out.*

James B. Conant



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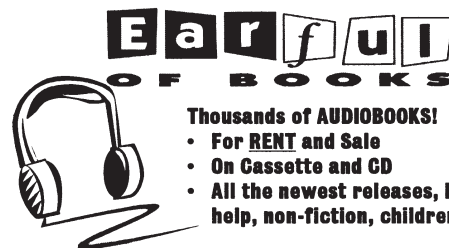
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## News from Pack 1081

by Doneby Smith



After some vigorous recruiting at Viers Mill Elementary's Open House, Back-to-School nights and our special Join Cub Scouting Night, Pack 1081 is excited to welcome 15 new boys, despite the disruption caused by the deadly attack on our nation.

We were lucky to get warm, sunny weather on September 23rd for our annual Physical Fitness Day at Wheaton High School. Competing were new Tigers Patrick Owen, Brendon Polk and Ayinde Warren; Wolves Dwayne Remillard, Andrew Garcia, Joshua Hart, AJ Taylor, Sasha Hevey, Jaccen Schairer, Gregory Gadbois, Jake Blakely and Thomas Shaw; Bears Kyle Blakely and Matt Fieller; Webelos I Joseph Owen and John Hilderbrand; Webelos II Moses Hart, John Pitkin, Galen Miley, Anthony Gadbois, Thomas Rivas-Siles and Miguel Manzano. Events included Long Jump, Softball Throw, Push Ups, Curl Ups, 50 Yard Dash and The President's Challenge Activity Program. Our first place medal winners for most points in their age group were: Ayinde Warren, Joshua Hart, Kyle Blakely, Joseph Owen and Moses Hart. We sure have a



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bunch of winners: all our boys placed in some event. Red, blue, and yellow ribbons were fluttering everywhere in the evening breeze as our day wound to a close with hot pizza and cold lemonade. Our thanks to the many parents and leaders who helped make this event a success.

Our first Pack meeting of the year was on September 26th. Our Webelos and Wolves sang camp songs and a particularly inspiring rendition of "Grand Old Flag." **Gregory Gadbois, Anthony Gadbois, and John Pitkin** received an award for participation in summer Pack activities. **Jake Bennington, Andrew Costas, Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin, Galen Miley, and Moses Hart** braved the cold waters of Memory Lake at Camp Tuckahoe to earn their Polar Bear Swim patch. These 1st Year Webelos earned the following Activity Pins: Aquanaut: **Jake Bennington**; Naturalist, Geologist, Scientist: **Jake Bennington, Andrew Costas**; Swimming Sports Pin: **Jake Bennington**. These 2nd Year Webelos earned: Aquanaut: **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart**; Forester, Geologist: **Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin, Galen Miley, Moses Hart**; Athlete: **Moses Hart**; Swimming Sports Pin: **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart**.

As we go to press, we are looking forward to our all-Pack family camping trip to Harpers Ferry on October 13-14 and a Webelos II camping trip with the Troop 1083 Boy Scouts to Gambrill State Park on October 19-21 for a "Jamboree on the Air." Our "pop"ular Fall fundraiser has started. Look for our Cub Scouts in your neighborhood selling popcorn. Proceeds support our Pack and District activities. On a more somber note, we wish to extend our sympathies especially to all who have been directly affected by the September 11th tragedies and our thanks to all who have helped out in rescue and relief efforts. Visit our website for more Pack 1081 news: <http://hometown.aol.com/jph3190/1081.html>.

## A Brownie Troop for RCA-land

by Pat Hart

There was a question in a past Echo about why there were always articles about Boy Scouts but not Girl Scouts. The answer was that RCA-land had no knowledge of any Girl Scout troops in the area.

*WELL, HERE WE ARE!*

My name is Pat Hart and I'm the leader of Brownie Troop 1487. We meet every other Monday at Viers Mill Elementary School. My assistant leader is Amy Hixenbaugh, also of RCA-land.

Our troop is fairly new. We had our first meeting in January of 2001. We have nine girls at this time and have had a lot of fun getting to know each other.

At our last meeting the girls, **Aimee Hart, Vicki Hildebrand, Jade Hixenbaugh, Jasmine Hixenbaugh, Olivia Kibbe, Leah Gibbons and Bethany Summers**

spent the evening learning about our flag and making flag pins out of safety pins and beads. Brownies

**Jennifer Mazo and Chelsea Robbins** were unable to attend.

We also undertook a service project for our school, and were at the Safeway on Randolph Road asking people to designate Viers Mill Elementary to get credit toward free educational equipment with the use of their Safeway Club Card.

We are looking forward to a great year, and many great experiences.

The girls and I will be looking for your support during Girl Scout Cookie Time in January!

For further info, stop by one of our Monday meetings or call the Central Maryland GSA info center at (800) 492-2521. Info can also be obtained on line at <http://www.girlscouts.org>.

## CHEF THEO'S RESTAURANT

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### Early Bird Dinner Specials

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*Includes Entree & Dessert*  
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## The History of RCA-land

**D**uring the US Civil War, your house was located near the seat of the Federal Government, and just across the Potomac from the Confederacy.

In the June/July/August *Echo* we reported that on **Wednesday, September 10, 1862** the Confederate Army of Virginia invaded Maryland, and Rockville is now the base for the Union Army of the Potomac. The streets are wild with excitement, and teeming with soldiers and mule-drawn wagon trains. Calvary are thundering down the roads in all directions. Today there were reports of skirmishes near Darnestown, around the old George C. Washington farm and also at Seneca. The C&O Canal has been cut. The stagecoach to Frederick has been discontinued.

**Tuesday, September 16, 1862.** In the most momentous week of RCA-land, there has been fierce fighting all week, from Monocacy Chapel, north along the Potomac river, to Harper's Ferry. The Rockville Courthouse has become a temporary hospital for the sick and slightly wounded Union soldiers. Rockville and the surrounding area (that's your neighborhood) is in disarray with fields and gardens trampled, fences gone, and roads impassable from heavy use.

*Source: The Montgomery County Historical Society*

**Support your Community.  
Join the RCA!  
Still only five dollars!**

## Gardening Tips

Plant your spring bulbs now. After Thanksgiving, spring bulbs go on sale but can still be planted before the ground freezes. Fall is the best time to plant most shrubs and trees, even though homeowners enjoy buying and planting in the spring. Before Thanksgiving, stores like Home Depot and Lowes will discount their remaining tree stocks and shrubs at tremendous savings, to make space for the more lucrative Christmas trees. Keep your gutters and downspouts clean of leaves and debris. Shut off all the cutoff valves to outside water spigots, and open the outside spigots so any remaining water in the lines can drain.



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## Good Pet Manners

*by an Anonymous Neighbor*

Please remind all of the Randolph Hills faithful animal walkers to carry a bag and scooper with them to pick up what their animal leaves behind. There are a lot of children who like to run and play and if one falls and lands into an animal's mess this could be a very messy situation. If they cannot pick up after their animals then they don't deserve to have an animal. If I keep finding animal waste in my yard then I will pick it up myself and put it in an animal owner's yard. Don't care if it's the right yard or not. I'm sure I am not the only house-owner out there who feels this way. Thank you.

*I know from personal experience how unpleasant it can be to find a nasty pile in your yard, or on your shoe. Most RCA dog owners are responsible and considerate, but some are not. Please clean up after your pets, control excessive barking, and please please please keep your dog leashed in public. I recently witnessed a scary incident in Randolph Hills Park – an unleashed white German Shepherd went tearing after a little kid on a bike, barking furiously, as the owners called him without effect and the kid peddled for his life. Your dog may be the sweetest creature on earth to you, but you don't have the right to impose him on others. I even heard of one neighbor bragging of his dog's skill at killing beavers in our park! Please, be considerate of your neighbors and the environment, and obey the leash laws. -Ed.*

## RCA Hotline – 24 hours

**Call 301-881-2722**

The RCA invites you to call the RCA Hotline at any time and leave your comments on topics concerning the neighborhood. The Executive Committee is notified of each message left on the answering machine. Be assured your calls are heard and that we appreciate your input.



MARYLAND-NATIONAL CAPITAL  
PARK POLICE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY DIVISION

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DRUG USE ?**

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NON-EMERGENCY: (301) 949-8010

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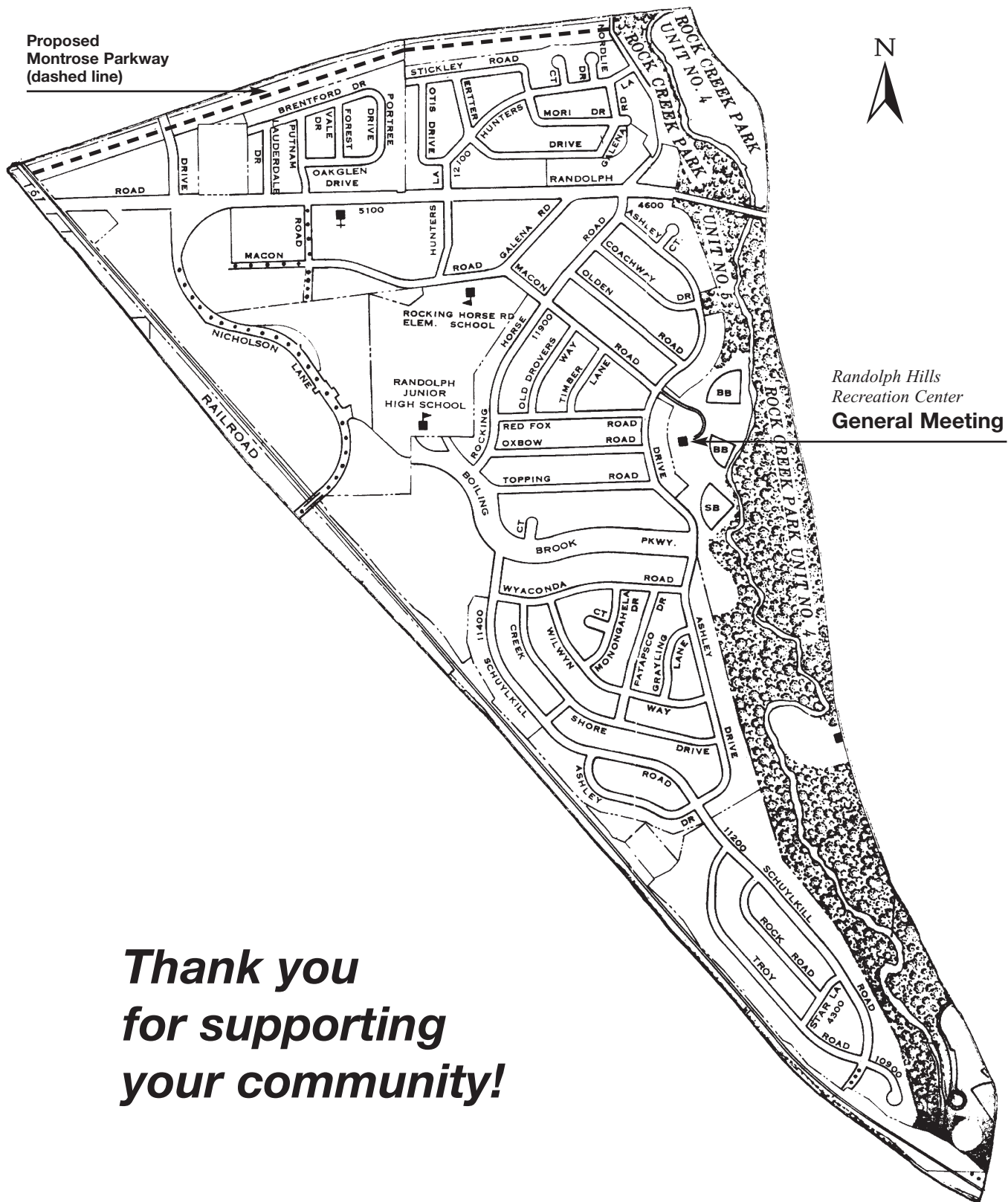
*to the members of  
the Mark Shore Memorial Walk Team.*

The Mark Shore Memorial Walk Team raised close to \$2,000 last April to help in the fight against multiple sclerosis. Over 5,000 walkers participated in the eight mile walk along the C&O canal on a beautiful spring day, raising a total of \$835,000! Thanks to everyone who contributed.

Next year the 2002 MS Walk will be on April 20th. Come join us! For more info, call Frank Shore at 301-468-1225.



*Pictured left to right: Matt Shore, Mary Jo Shapiro, Evelyn McClung, Frank Shore, Katie McClung, Josie Shore, Eileen White*



## CLASSIFIEDS

The Echo publishes classified ads free for community members, to a maximum of one ad per year per household. Additional ads may be purchased for \$5.00. The Echo makes every effort to ensure the quality of goods or services offered.

### LOST DOG.

Have you seen my Pomeranian Skittles? He has red fluffy hair with a little tan and weighs about 10 pounds. He is the kindest dog in the world. Answers to Skittles or Flee. Please call Brian or Michelle, 301-770-2503.



### 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.

## Maryland Thyroid Group

**Education, information and support about Thyroid disease**

Web site:  
[www.geocities.com/marylandthyroid](http://www.geocities.com/marylandthyroid)

**Contact: Leila Thomas  
(301) 515-9613**

**Note to Contributors:**  
The deadline for the  
December issue of *The Echo* is  
November 2.



## Important Phone Numbers



Police: Non-Emergency .....301-279-8000  
(Police Reporting Areas (PRA): Franklin, Montrose Park: #306; Westminster, Randolph Farms: #308; Randolph Hills 1st & 2nd sections #308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)

Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station) ...301-279-1591

Police: Emergency .....911

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

Abandoned Cars (on private property) .....240-777-3600

Animal Control .....301-279-1823

Building Permits .....240-777-6200

Consumer Affairs .....240-777-3636

Crisis Hotline (24 hours) .....301-315-4000

Department of Natural Resources .....800-442-0708  
(wildlife nuisance problems)

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

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

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

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

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

Metrarail and Metrobus schedules & info. ....202-637-7000

Montgomery County Humane Society .....301-279-1823  
Emergencies only .....301-279-1694  
Volunteer Info .....301-279-1026  
Licensing Dept. ....301-279-1249

Motor Vehicle Administration .....301-948-3177

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

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

Parks: Information & Permits .....301-495-2525

PEPCO: Power Out ..... toll free 1-877-737-2662  
Emergency/Life Threatening .....202-872-3432

Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.) .....240-777-3986

RCA Hotline .....301-881-2722

Recycling Info ([www.mcrcycles.org](http://www.mcrcycles.org)) .....240-777-6400

Recreation Information .....240-777-6804

School Information .....301-279-3391

Senior Citizens (Holiday Park) .....301-468-4448

Street Light Out .....240-777-2190

Transportation (Highway Services) .....240-777-7623  
(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)

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

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

Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist) ...240-777-7623

Voter Registration .....240-777-8500

Water and Sewer (WSSC) .....301-206-8000

Weeds/Rubbish Complaints .....240-777-6400



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

### Home Sales Settled Since August 1, 2001

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Subsidy	DOM
12019 Ashley Drive	\$205,000	\$207,500	\$0	1
11310 Ashley Drive	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0	0
4716 Boiling Brook Pkwy.	\$209,900	\$210,000	\$1,885	37
12109 Otis Drive	\$230,000	\$225,000	\$0	11
4713 Oxbow Road	\$221,000	\$226,500	\$0	7
4715 Oxbow Road	\$215,000	\$215,000	\$0	5
11518 Patapsco Drive	\$199,500	\$205,000	\$6,000	25
11701 Rocking Horse Road	\$175,000	\$175,000	\$0	0
11809 Rocking Horse Road	\$189,900	\$192,000	\$4,000	18
11902 Rocking Horse Road	\$209,900	\$209,900	\$1,500	12
11803 Timber Lane	\$209,000	\$209,000	\$0	0

### Homes Under Contract...

Address	List Price
11208 Ashley Drive	\$229,000
11322 Schuylkill Road	\$228,500

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home... Buyers are Still Looking,  
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and Interest Rates are Down.*

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