

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 47, Issue 2 November 2003

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Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, November 6, 2002 8:00 p.m.

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2002 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.

Pepco 2003: Where's the Outrage?

by Richard Zierdt

Where's the outrage about the outages that occurred not once, but twice in relatively quick succession this summer? Parts of RCA had no power for over a week. The lack of timely repairs by Pepco (our local electric utility provider) is now seemingly legendary, yet residents seem willing to accept it, RCA hotline calls on the subject notwithstanding.

At the general RCA membership meeting in October, the topic brought almost no reaction. "Trim the trees" was the sole recommendation. OK, fine. But who's taking responsibility for this? Is Pepco trying to save money by cutting back on its repair operations? Is electric deregulation a good idea? (Deregulation in Maryland is supposed to be complete by 2006; I can hardly wait for a California-like disaster).

If anything good is going to come from this, it is better if groups, such as the RCA, confront officials and Pepco with one, strong voice. I am going to write as an individual, but it only carries the weight of one "Harry Homeowner," not 1330 homeowners that comprise the RCA. Are RCAers content with week-long blackouts?

I do not accept the excuse that the storms we experienced this summer were so bad that Pepco should be given a bye on its poor performance. There certainly was fair notice: Hurricane Isabel went exactly as predicted. Note to Pepco: it rains and it storms in Washington. Pepco's counterpart in Virginia, Dominion Power, seemed able to line up repair crews *in advance* of the storm. Why couldn't Pepco? As the Washington Post editorialized: perhaps Dominion Power has a "better rolodex" than Pepco.

After all is said and (not) done about this, the bottom line is: the results speak for themselves.

The Washington Post on October 17, 2003 featured a front-page article on alleged cost-cutting in tree maintenance by area utility companies, including PEPCO. This action shows why this public utility should not be deregulated. California, here we come.

What can you do? Call or write our local County Council member, Howard Denis 240-777-7964 (email on page 2). Also, call Council member Nancy Floreen, who is supportive of our neighborhood. Call her at 240-777-7907.

Call the Maryland Public Service Commission at 410-767-8000 or MD Toll Free 800-492-0474. Call the Governor's Office at 410-974-3591 (sorry, no local number is available). And attend the RCA general membership meeting on December 4 and help pass a resolution expressing the concerns of the RCA.

RCA Executive Committee for 2003-2004

OFFICERS

President

Matthew Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Vice President

Mike Saunders 12107 Hunters Lane 301-468-9268

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

George Gadbois 4718 Topping Road 301-770-5386

Frank Shore 11230 Troy Road 301-468-1225

Frank Rossomondo 11611 Ashley Drive 301-770-7450

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White 11225 Ashley Drive 301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo 11508 Monongahela Court 301-770-7590

Membership

Patricia Longenecker 4703 Wyaconda Road 301-770-1927

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Environment Jack Stillwell

5106 Macon Road 301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker 12111 Galena Road 301-468-6335

Yard Sale Signs

Shelby Hurt 11133 Schuylkill Road 301-770-1783

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

Dave Talbott 4808 Oxbow Road 301-881-6567

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, Mike Saunders, Matthew Shore, 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' 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 Legislative District 18

(representing all of RCA):

 Senator:
 Sharon M. Grosfeld
 301-858-3137

 Delegates:
 Ana Sol Gutierrez
 301-858-3028

 John Hurson
 301-858-3770

 Richard Madaleno Jr.
 301-858-3028

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

U.S. Congressional District 8:

Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341 email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate:

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654 Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precinct:

04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

Montgomery Co. Board of Elections: 240-777-8500

www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections

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 *eewhite@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



Detective Mary McDonnell addresses the RCA general meeting.

President's Message

by Matt Shore

Due to the numerous problems at the Randolph Hills Park on Ashley Drive, the RCA contacted Park Police Detective Mary McDonnell. She conducted an informative question and answer session at our October general meeting. Luckily, Detective McDonnell lives in Garrett Park and can respond quickly if future problems occur. If residents witness future violations, they should contact Detective McDonnell at 301-962-1697 or via e-mail at mary.mcdonnell@mncppc-mc.org. The emergency number for the Park Police is 301-949-3010. Don't be afraid to use these numbers.

Unfortunately, problems at the park have escalated over time. The large pickup soccer games are often accompanied by public nudity, urination on lawns near the field, drinking, fighting, illegal parking, and selling food without required permits. The RCA first had police intervene to deal with these problems more than two years ago; however, this past September more than 300 people were involved in a soccer game that degenerated into a dangerous situation, with some individuals being arrested and other being transported to the hospital.

At the December general meeting we will discuss numerous proposals aimed at resolving these problems. The main proposal will be to post "youth and permit only" signs at the park entrances at Boiling Brook Parkway and Ashley Drive. These signs will put the community on notice that a permit is required to utilize the field for adult soccer games and will enhance residents' ability to police the park.

Please attend the general meeting on December 4 to express your views on this issue. I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting.

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood? Call 301-881-2722

RCA Hotline – 24 hours

RCA Meetings

RCA meetings are held the *first Thursday* of every month (except January, July and August) at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center at 8:00 p.m. Usually we alternate between General and Executive meetings. If you are unsure about meeting times and dates, please call the RCA Hotline (301-881-2722) or check the RCA website at *randolphcivic.org* for verification. All are welcome at every meeting.



Loehmann's Plaza 5200- 5290 Randolph Road, Rockville, Maryland 20852

Blockbuster Video	(301) 468-1096
Boat U.S.	(301) 230-0945
Boston Market	(301) 984-0990
Care Cleaners	(301) 816-2092
Chuck E. Cheese	(301) 468-2491
El Torito	(301) 770-0777
GNC	(301) 984-3363
Good Feet	(301) 816-4663
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Kumon U.S.A.	(301) 231-6977
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
Parcel Plus	(301) 468-2177
Safeway	(301) 770-3665
SunTrust Bank	(301) 998-8580
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Subway	(301) 881-2477
Urban Accents	(301) 881-4451
An An	



7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1111, Bethesda, MD 20814 Telephone: 301-657-0700; Facsimile: 301-657-9850 www.jbgr.com

Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of October 9, 2003, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$17,840.14. This is higher than usual because our SAMs accounts have not been paid yet, which will total about \$4,000. Also, seven issues of the ECHO will be paid out of these monies.

Date	Num	Payee	Memo		Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 08/17/2003				8,503.05
08/18	E-xfr	Verizon	Jul 22 phone		-23.19	8,506.86
08/22		RCAssociation	ad income		692.00	9,198.86
08/28		RCAssociation	ad income		476.00	9,674.86
08/29		RCAssociation	ad income		816.00	10,490.86
09/06	709	Postmaster	1350 stamps membership		-499.50	9,991.36
09/06	710	Staples	paper clips, bands		-21.48	9,969.88
09/08	708	Quick Printing			-1,144.50	8,825.38
		ECHO:printing	Sept 20 pgs; 1500	-1,024.50		
		envelopes	1500 envelopes	-120.00		
09/16	E-xfr	Verizon	Aug 22 phone		-23.10	8,802.28
09/16		RCAssociation	ad income		1,210.00	10,012.28
		Denise Szczur		1,200.00		
		classified (Seigel)		10.00		
09/24		Kim Williams	picnic concessions		-275.46	9,736.82
09/30		RCAssociation	—SPLIT—		626.00	10,362.82
		Shipley Plumbing	476.00			
		Parcel Plus	150.00			
09/30		RCAssociation	membership/Sams		1,148.00	11,510.82
09/30		RCAssociation	membership/Sams		1,522.00	13,032.82
09/30		RCAssociation	membership/Sams		1,851.00	14,883.82
09/30		RCAssociation	membership/Sams		830.00	15,713.82
09/30		RCAssociation	membership/Sams		621.00	16,334.82
10/04		RCAssociation	ad income		646.00	16,980.82
		Steve Kelley		408.00		
		Pizza Calzons		238.00		

RCF Checking Register 8/18/2003 through 10/09/2003					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 08/17/200	3		1,009.10
08/29		interest	.10%	0.08	1,059.2
09/15		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	1,109.2
09/30		interest	.10%	0.08	1,109.3
09/30	1062	Erie Insurance	yard sale, Oct 4	250.00	859.3
		BALANCE 10/09/200 RCF bank balance, Se	3 ept, 30, 2003: 1,009.32		859.32

Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

August 12, 2003 to October 12, 2003



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.

2003-08-15 (Fri) 8:27 am Question regarding a neighbor who sprayed caller's grass on caller's side of the fence, and is there something the caller can do about this so that it doesn't happen again; perhaps a light reprimand.

2003-08-23 (Sat) 1:58 pm Montrose Park. Caller has seen several panhandlers in the neighborhood lately; even some ringing the door asking for help in many different ways. Some people are staying in the tree area between

Parklawn and Randolph. This detracts from the neighborhood, and is there anything that can be done about it. [Call the police (301-279-8000) about any signs of people sleeping in the tree area at that intersection. There were some people basically living there a couple of years ago, and police did respond in that case and cleared the area. Panhandling is another problem, but its illegality is not clear. Door-to-door salesmen must have a license, but if someone knocks on a door asking for work, money, etc, this is probably not illegal. Of course, no one can be threatening or abusive. If they are, call the police.]

2003-08-28 (Thu) 12:19 pm Anonymous. Caller has not had power since August 26. The downed electric wire on a pole in caller's vicinity which caller believes connects power to caller's area in Randolph Hills has been visited by Pepco three times, once on Wednesday, and twice on Thursday. The linemen in the Pepco trucks have said they are the "secondary truck," and the linemen who fix the wire are the "primary truck." Does the RCA have any influence in this matter of restoring our electricity when the citizens of our neighborhood see exactly where the trouble lies, could call Pepco and direct their trucks if they cannot direct themselves.

2003-08-29 (Fri) 7:54 am Montrose Park. Today, we're on the fourth day of no electricity. This is all the result of not having trees pruned, severely pruned. Could the RCA



pressure Montgomery County to better prune trees? It's the trees that fall on the lines that cut the electricity.

2003-08-29 (Fri) 10:03 am Montrose Park. The Brentford Drive owner of the property whose County tree has fallen on electric lines called the County and offered to pay for its removal himself, but the County refused. Franklin Park has electricity and Village Square Apartments has electricity. What's wrong with Montrose Park? Are we so antiquated? In the "Ice Age" storm two or three years ago, we waited six days (for electricity); caller supposes that we now have to wait for snow to fall to take down more tree limbs. This is the second lot of refrigeration caller has lost, and it's still the trees that bring down the lines, and it's about time they put the lines underground.

2003-08-31 (Sun) 4:41 pm Anonymous. The train tracks on Randolph Road: if you cross them slowly, the car rocks; if one travels quickly over the tracks, it can damage one's car. This crossing needs repair now. [The RCA was influential in getting the tracks repaired last time, a few years ago. The present rough condition of the track crossing was discussed at the October RCA meeting. We will bring this to CSX Railroad's attention again.]

2003-09-03 (Wed) 7:40 pm Anonymous. Ashley Drive. A boy rides a moped late at night, disturbing the whole street. Please stop. Parents: control your children!

2003-09-05 (Fri) 1:13 pm Anonymous. Does the RCA have a list of girls who are willing to be mother's helpers or baby sitters? Caller notices the *Echo* publishes a list of boys willing to do yard work and snow shoveling. Is there a similar list for girls? [The RCA currently has no such list, but is quite willing to start one if anyone is interested. There are privacy concerns about such a list, but the RCA might act as a "go-between" if a resident is interested in a baby sitter (by passing on the requestor's name/contact information to the parents of a prospective girl interested in sitting, and having the prospective sitter call the requestor. Sitters: call the RCA if you are interested in offering your services to the community. Your name/contact info will not be printed in the ECHO unless you approve.]

2003-09-06 (Sat) 9:16 pm Anonymous. Montrose Park. Caller has a very good Pele folding door that separates the kitchen from the hallway. Caller is happy to give it to anyone that wants it. Also, the RCA meeting sign has not been removed. Finally, the people on the corner of Montrose(?) and Brentford have an ad for their dentistry

(continued on page 8)

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Meredith W. "Zeke" Hall

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RCA Hotline

(continued from page 7)

service using paper cups stuck into their fence. Caller would like to see that removed.

2003-09-08 (Mon) 3:45 pm Boiling Brook Parkway. No more speed bumps. No more speed bumps. Caller wants no more speed bumps, especially like the ones installed in the middle of the night when they were snuck through with no warning in the *Echo*. Thank you.

2003-09-12 (Fri) 6:50 pm Anonymous. 47xx and 48xx Creek Shore Drive did not receive their *Echos*.

2003-09-14 (Sun) 9:43 pm Anonymous. Caller walks the neighborhood and notices a lot of dog feces. This is illegal, and might subject the owner to a ticket. Also, some parked cars are blocking sidewalks which caller believes is also illegal. [It is.]

2003-09-16 (Tue) 7:33 am Anonymous. Caller is responding to the comment left on 2003-07-19 (Sept *Echo*) about the undesirability of homeless men in the wooded area at Parklawn and Randolph Road. Caller



believes these are homeless men and women living at the shelter off of Parklawn Drive. Caller wanted to ask the caller of 07-19 what neighborhood would they like them to stay in? They have to live too, and we are fortunate that we have homes to live in; they don't. We should be grateful we are not in their shoes.

2003-09-17 (Wed) 8:50 am Franklin Park. Caller's son would like to be listed as one of the boys willing to do yard work and grass moving.

2003-09-20 (Sat) 2:41 pm 11424 Schuylkill Road. Caller reports a theft, last night (Friday), of a police scanner and a digital camera from caller's car, which was parked in front of caller's home. Caller filed a Police report. Caller wanted to let the RCA know what happened so that all the other residents can make sure their vehicles are secured.

2003-09-21 (Sun) 6:57 pm Anonymous. We need to get a no-parking sign on one side or the other of Hunters Lane (close to Randolph Road). We had an elderly lady pedestrian hit by a Mercedes last night just after sunset. An elderly, oriental, lady trying to cross the road. Caller saw the lady writhing in pain in the gutter. No person should ever have to lie in the gutter in pain. This is a dangerous situation. You can not get in and out of Hunters Lane when both sides have parked cars.

2003-09-23 (**Tue**) **2:16 pm** Anonymous. Ashley Drive. Still no electricity in this section. This is ridiculous. The whole neighborhood has electricity except for caller's section. Caller is seriously considering moving out of this area. You can get some renters in here. Bye.

2003-09-25 (Thu) 9:52 am Anonymous. Calling about 112xx Rock Road. The house has a playground in the front yard, and it's unsightly. The house has too many toys in the front yard, and it's very distracting. Is there any way these can be moved to the back yard? Thank you.

2003-09-25 (Thu) 3:03 pm Anonymous. Caller calling about 120xx block of Rock Road. Almost looks like a day care center. Could the RCA look itself? It brings the neighborhood down.

2003-09-29 (Mon) 10:32 am Montrose Park. Calling about a home across the road from Safeway on Lauderdale Drive that has an email address stuck through owner's fence with paper cups. Is there anything we can do to take if off? Owner removed it once, but now it's back up. [Yes, call housing code enforcement at 240-777-3600. This is likely an illegal sign.]

2003-09-30 (Tue) 6:01 pm Anonymous. Thank you to an Ashley Drive resident at 119xx for all of the hard work he has done about park property. And cleaning up the park after Hurricane Isabel. And thinning out some of the trees so that passersby will have more light and better protection from loiterers.

2003-10-07 (Tue) 5:32 pm Franklin Park. Caller has gone to Wendy's on Nicholson Lane. On caller's way back home, caller's soda went all over the car when caller crossed the railroad tracks on Randolph Road. Is there anything the RCA can do to get the track crossing repaired? The RCA's call would probably carry more weight than a single resident. [The RCA is working on this.]

2003-10-10 (Fri) 5:54 pm Anonymous. Is there going to be a yard sale Oct 11? [There was a nice one on Oct. 4th, as it turned out.]

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.

RCA Yard Sale a Big Success!

RCA's Community Yard Sale on October 4th was a success, and lots of fun too. Despite a rainy start, plenty of shoppers showed up.



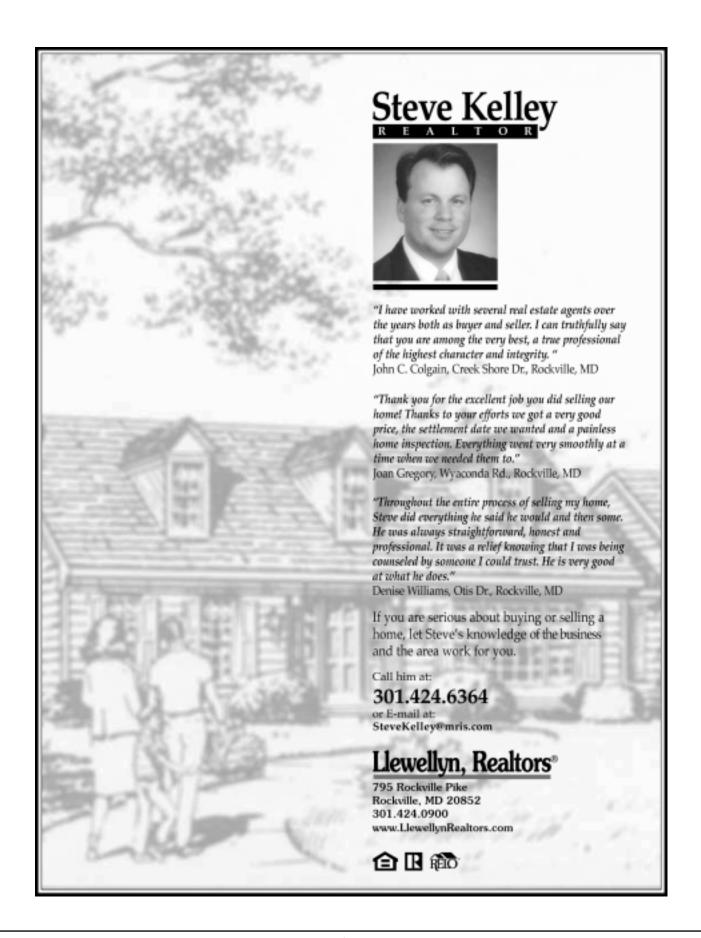
A sampling of the fine goods offered for sale.





A balloon artist, above, entertains the kids, while Mike Saunders, below, cooks up burgers and hot dogs.





Preventing Problems after Power Outages

by Margaret Dikel

Snow – ice – thunderstorms – hurricanes. Is it me or are we just having a bad weather year where our power is concerned? After my section of Ashley Drive went 6 days and 23 hours without power, we were all thrilled to get our power back…or were we.

Several houses in the region experienced fires as power was restored following the storm, including 6 homes in Montgomery County. In some cases, stoves were left on when power was lost, heating up and catching fire when power was then restored. In other cases, electric surges were the problem.

In light of this situation, the following recommendations were offered by various fire and rescue organizations as well as the power companies to help you better protect yourself and your home when power goes out.

When the power goes out, make sure all appliances and lights are turned off. Unplug as many of them as you can, but leave one lamp plugged in and turned on to alert you when power is restored.

Leave your front porch light turned on so workers can easily verify that power has been restored to your house when your neighborhood is restored.

Have at least one non-cordless phone in your house for times like these. This is important not just for you to make calls but also so others can check on you. Unplug cordless phones from the phone jack. A Verizon technician told me that many cordless phones still try to "answer" incoming calls, disconnecting them in the process and causing problems.

Flashlights are safer than candles, but if you must use candles, make sure they are in holders large enough to catch drips and stable enough to keep the candles from tipping over. Keep them away from curtains, papers, and other flammables, and keep them out of reach of children and pets.

If your smoke detectors are hard-wired into your electrical system, buy one or two battery-operated smoke detectors as back-ups. Change those batteries every 6 months when you change the clocks. If you don't have any smoke detectors, get some. If you can't afford them, contact Montgomery County Fire and Rescue for assistance.

Many residents in our neighborhood used gasolineoperated portable generators during the outage. While they should never be operated indoors or in attached garages, they also must be set far enough from your house to insure proper ventilation and to prevent fumes from being drawn into the house. (One resident noticed fumes entering his basement after setting up his generator just outside the door, prompting him to relocate it immediately.) Use heavy-duty extension cords rated for outdoor use to bring power into the house, and consider shutting down your generator overnight to let it cool down and to give your neighbors a break from the noise. Your refrigerator will be fine for 7 hours if you don't open the door.

The next time a power outage occurs in our neighborhood, everyone affected should call Pepco at 1-877-PEPCO-62 (1-877-737-2662). Don't figure someone else will report it! The more houses reporting an outage in one area, the more important the outage becomes. If you see a downed wire, call Pepco's emergency line at 202-872-3432. If there is a fire, or if someone's life is in danger, call 911.

And if you have power but the house behind you or next to you doesn't, consider offering your neighbor a heavy-duty outdoor-rated extension cord so he or she can keep the refrigerator going. I'm eternally grateful to my backyard neighbor for helping me out in this way in August and again in September, making the outages much more bearable, but I'm surprised I didn't see more of this happening. We are a community and should support one another. Besides, next time it may be you who goes an extra 4 days in the dark.



Parks To Remove All Trash Cans

On December 1, 2003, all trash cans will be removed from Rock Creek Park. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission's (M-NCPPC) press release states "By bringing bags or other containers to carry their trash out of the park after visiting, park users will become partners with park management in sharing responsibility for managing solid waste and improving the park environment. By reducing the amount of trash collected and hauled to a landfill site, the department is reducing its dumping costs, redirecting limited personnel into other work, and removing a source of litter by birds and other animals. The result will be a safer, healthier, more pleasurable experience for all park visitors." The RCA execs think this policy, and this justification, is unrealistic. Call Carolyn Wainwright at 301-495-2572 and complain!

High Volume Recycling Bins Available

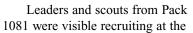
Montgomery County is offering a limited number of bins made specifically for recycling paper and cardboard. As you can see in the photo, these bins are quite large and are intended for people who dispose of large amounts. Although the bins are not scheduled to be distributed in our area in the near future, RCA resident and County employee Patty Palomino has gotten permission to offer them to our neighborhood. If you feel you can use one, please call Patty by November 21 at 301/770-0743 and put your name on her list.

Montgomery County's standard blue recycling bin is on the left; the larger bin is on the right.



News from Pack 1081

by George Gadbois





Open House and two Back-to-School nights at Viers Mill encouraging interested families to attend our special Join Cub Scouting Night on September 18. Although hurricane Isabel unfortunately cancelled this important event, we're still excited to welcome six new Scouts so far, and hope by word of mouth that more will trickle in. Pack 1081 is happy to have the new boys and their families on board for the adventure and fun! If you are interested in learning more about the Cub Scout program for your 1st to 5th grade son, please stop by Viers Mill ES any Monday evening at 6:30. It's never too late to join!

The Pack had a beautiful afternoon on September 28th for our annual Physical Fitness Day at Wheaton High School. Competing was new Tiger Preston Polk; Wolves Tyler Bochniak, Alex Sanchez, Brad Gessford; Bears Matthew Best, Joshua Murtagh, Brenton Polk, Patrick Owen, Steve Hernandez, Matthew Luong; Webelos I Jason Beam, Kevin Benitez, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois, Joshua Hart, Dwayne Remillard; Webelos II Kyle Blakely, Tony Caffi, Matthew Fieller. As in previous years, the events included Long Jump, Softball Throw, Push Ups, Curl Ups, 50 Yard Dash and The President's Challenge Activity. Our first place medal winners for most points in their age group were: **Preston** Polk, Alex Sanchez, Steve Hernandez, Joshua Hart and Tony Caffi. All the boys received one or more ribbons for the various events. Many red, blue, and yellow ribbons for first, second, third & "Do Your Best" were distributed as darkness quickly came upon us. All the families enjoyed hot pizza and cold lemonade as awards were handed out. Our thanks to the many parents and leaders who helped make this event special. Special thanks to Den Chiefs Scott Talbott, Bubba Hart, Ed Huggins, John Pitkin and Anthony Gadbois from Troop 1083 for assisting.

We had our first Pack meeting of the year on Thursday, September 25th. Our Webelos shared their Camp Tuckahoe experience with other scouts while all worked on a gathering activity before the meeting. Webelos Scouts Kyle Blakely, Tony Caffi, Jason Beam, Kevin Benitez, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Alex Taylor and Diego Vallejos received their participation patches for attending Camp Tuckahoe 2003. Special thanks to leaders Mr. Bill Blakely, Mr. Fred Beam, Ms. Sharon Barbee, Mr. Matt Taylor, Mr. Moses Hart and Mr. George Gadbois for giving a week of their time to spend with our Scouts at Camp Tuckahoe. The 1st Year

Webelos earned the following Activity Pins over the summer: Aquanaut: Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Dwayne Remillard, Alex Taylor Diego Vallejos; Outdoorsman: Jason Beam, Kevin Benitez, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Alex Taylor and **Diego Vallejos**; Sports & Academic Pins: Sports: Swimming Pin: Jason Beam, Kevin Benitez, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Alex Taylor and Diego Vallejos; BB Shooting Pin: Jason Beam, Kevin Benitez, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Josh Hart, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Alex Taylor and **Diego Vallejos**; 2nd Year Webelos earned: Sports & Academic Pins: Sports: BB Shooting Pin: Kyle Blakely, Tony Caffi. Webelos I & II boys earning the Polar Bear Swim patch at Tuckahoe were Kyle Blakely, Tony Caffi, Kevin Benitez, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Dwayne Remillard and Alex Taylor.

The Pack enjoyed a fun and educational fall family campout at the Rorhbach Campground at Antietam Battlefield on October 10-12. We had representation from all five dens, with pup-tents to personal house-tents scattered about our group area. Boy Scouts from Troop 1083 shared the group site next door and took in a little history as well. Our three-boy Webelos II contingent, had the opportunity to see what's ahead for them in Boy Scouting by observing a few activities, learning about Patrol teamwork, cooking and cleanup. The campground was a short



Some campers enjoying the last of the breakfast campfire before packing to leave Antietam.



A few Cubs and siblings pose at Antietam while dinner is cooking.

distance down the road from the main historic area and visitor's center, where many took a short hike to Burnside Bridge to see where the Union Army crossed Antietam Creek. Scouts learned that although the Confederacy pushed them back to the other side, the Union eventually stopped the South's invasion onto Northern soil on one of the bloodiest days in American history and possibly the turning point of the Civil War. After dinner on Saturday, many of the boys played "capture the flag" and then enjoyed toasted marshmallows and other treats around the campfire. Cub Scouts attending the Antietam trip includ-

ed DJ Terry, Tyler Bochniak, Joshua Murtagh, Steve Hernandez, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois, AJ Taylor, Joshua Hart, Matt Fieller, Kyle Blakely and Tony Caffi.

Our Popcorn fall fundraiser is in full swing. Look for our Cub Scouts in your neighborhood selling popcorn. Proceeds support our Pack and District activities. Also note that Scouting for Food bags are delivered with this Echo edition and food pickup will be done by Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts on Saturday morning, November 15. Please be generous. Your food donations go to help Manna of Montgomery County. Visit our new website location for more Pack 1081 news: http://hometown.aol. com/pack1081



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Troop 1083 News

by Brian McGahey

This summer Boy Scout Troop 1083 went to summer camp two times and earned a LOT of merit badges. The Merit Badges and other awards were presented at our Fall Court of Honor and Barbecue feast. It was held at Little Bennett Regional Park, at the primitive camping area. The Scouts were camping there and their families and adult leaders from Troop 495, which camped with Troop 1083 at Heritage Reservation, joined them. After a great meal put on by Moses Hart Sr., food coordinators Janete Soares, Lydia Taghavi, Anne Stidham and the families of the troop, we presented awards.

COPE is an outdoor adventure involving group building, self-confidence and towers ropes and helmets. Earning the Heritage COPE award were **Jacob Bolt** and **Hafez Taghavi**. Earning the Goshen COPE award were **Jacob Bolt**, **Matt Binsted**, **Alex Cassel**, **Chris Soares**, **Timothy Tao** and **Scott Talbott**.

Many different Merit Badges were earned at the two camps. This is the most Merit Badges Troop 1083 has presented in a long time! Archery - John Pitkin, Scott Talbott. Basketry - Edwin Fuentes, Bubba Hart, Johnny Hilderbrand, Joseph Owen, Hafez Taghavi. Canoeing - Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin. Camping -Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Anthony Gadbois, Bubba Hart, Edward Huggins, Galen Miley, Chris Soares, Andy Wood. Electricity - Anthony Gadbois, Steven Santos. Electronics - Steven Santos. Engineering -Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel, Edward Huggins, John Pitkin, Steven Santos, Andy Wood. Environmental Science - Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Anthony Gadbois, Scott Talbott, Andy Wood. Fingerprinting - Edwin Fuentes. Fishing - Jacob Bolt, John Pitkin. Leatherwork - Steven Santos, Chris Soares. Lifesaving - Mark Bushong, Anthony Gadbois, Edward Huggins, Andy Wood. Mammal Study - Jacob Bolt, Edwin Fuentes, Johnny Hilderbrand, Joseph Owen. Motorboating - Jacob Bolt, Scott Talbott. Nature - Anthony Gadbois. Orienteering - John Pitkin. Pioneering - Mark Bushong, Edward Huggins, Andy Wood. Public Speaking - Edwin Fuentes. Reptile and Amphibian Study - John Pitkin. Rifle Shooting - Matt Binsted, Bubba Hart, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott. Rowing - Edward Huggins, John Pitkin, Chris Soares, AJ Tao, Andy Wood. Small Boat Sailing - AJ Tao. Sports - Steven Santos. Swimming - Anthony Gadbois, Joseph Owen. Whitewater - Scott Talbott. Wilderness Survival - Mark Bushong, Edward Huggins, Andy Wood. Wood Carving - Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin, Chris Soares. And last but not least Jacob Bolt finished the paper work and got Snow Sports Merit Badge.

Four Scouts advanced to Life rank, the last big step before Eagle. They were: **Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Edward Huggins, Andy Wood**. It is a long trip from Life to Eagle, and these Scouts have a great start.

Andrew Tao got his last Scout recognition, the Silver Palm. This is given to mark earning 15 merit badges past the 21 required for Eagle. AJ is currently away at college.

The Walker Award for outstanding advancement went to the Bat Patrol.

On October 18, 2003 we will recognize **Nachi Roper's** Eagle Award, at an Eagle Court of Honor. Details in the next *Echo*.

Upcoming events include hiking, camping, the Klondike Derby and skiing. 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 Elem. School. Or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-881-6567. Check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org.

Come see us in December for your Christmas Tree at Knowles and Beach Drive at the Masonic Lodge, weekends only in December.

To find more RCA information go to http://www.randolphcivic.org designed by





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RCA-Land History

For most of its history, the land your house sits on was merely a passageway between Georgetown and Rockville, and points West. The Rockville-Georgetown Pike was at one time an Indian Trail, and in the 1750's was used by General Braddock's army on its way to attack the French and Indians in Pittsburgh. By 1800, "the Pike" carried a stage line twice a week between Frederick and Georgetown. During the War of 1812, the Pike was used by government officials fleeing the British invasion of Washington City.

In 1806, the Rockville Turnpike began. In 1829, toll booths were erected along its length, and a booth was built at the present-day Strathmore Avenue. In the early 1800's tobacco was a staple crop grown in RCA-land. A former slave inspired Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel, Uncle Tom's Cabin. That former slave, Josiah Henson, lived in a cabin at 11420 Old Georgetown Road, which is attached to an 18th century house (a private residence).

In the 1860's, the small town of Montrose was located near Rockville Pike and Old Georgetown Rd. All that remains is the two-room school house located at 5721 Randolph Road.

In 1873, the Metropolitan Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio (B&O) Railroad was completed through North Bethesda, with train stations at Twinbrook (Halpine Road) and Randolph Road (at the present-day intersection of the RR tracks and Randolph Rd).

In 1919, Georgetown Prep moved from its original site in Old Georgetown Heights, where it was established in 1789, to its present location at Rockville Pike and Strathmore Ave. In 1920, Strathmore Hall was built, as the estate of Charles Corby, who was prominent in the baking industry.

During the 1950's RCA-land was developed from farmland. Our area developed slowly in the 1960's, and then increased rapidly in the 1970's.

Did You Get Your Echo?

In the event you do not receive your copy of The Echo, please call the RCA hotline (301-881-2722)

and one will be delivered to you.

The next *Echo* will be the December 2003 issue. Look for it in early December.

Current and back issues of the *Echo* are also available at the RCA Web site, www.randolphcivic.org.



Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

Here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, grass mowing, 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.

Andrew Souder 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive
Matt Bebawy 301-881-4698 Red Fox
Brett Valenta 301-816-0293 Ashley Drive
Alex Cassel 301-770-8757 Macon Road
Mike Couture 301-984-8647 Creekshore Drive
Steven Santos 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way
Chris Geerman 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive



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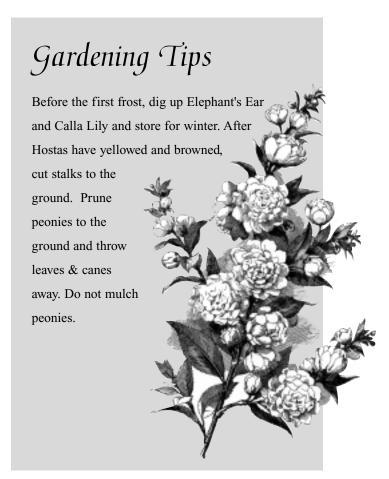
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FALL WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, 22 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

Have you seen 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.

Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the December issue of
The Echo is November 8th.

Important Phone Numbers (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: Emergency911 (for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks) Abandoned Cars (on private property)240-777-3600 Department of Natural Resources800-442-0708 (wildlife nuisance problems) Housing Code Violations240-777-3600 (for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.) Large Item Pick-up240-777-6410 Montgomery County Humane Society240-773-5960 Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance . .240-777-7700 (noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil) Parks: Information & Permits301-495-2525 PEPCO: Power Out toll free 1-877-737-2662 Emergency/Life Threatening202-872-3432 Transportation (Highway Services)240-777-7623



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4607 Creek Shore Drive	\$299,000	\$289,000	\$285,000	\$0	49
11908 Hunters Lane	\$298,000	\$298,000	\$311,000	10	4
11206 Ashley Drive	\$299,900	\$299,900	\$289,000	30	78
12103 Portree Drive	\$319,500	\$319,500	\$332,000	\$0	6
11205 Schuylkill Road	\$325,000	\$325,000	\$318,000	\$1,000	18
5003 Macon Road	\$325,000	\$331,500	\$331,500	\$0	7
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