

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 51, Issue 2

November 2007

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President's Message

by Mike Saunders

By the time you receive your copy of the *Echo* this month, we will either be nearing or just past Halloween. I hope all of the young people in the neighborhood had a great celebration and did everything chocolate in moderation. Please remember to take extra care while driving, as you leave for work in the morning and when you return in the afternoon, young people are going to school, coming home from school, playing in the neighborhood and enjoying the outdoors in this most colorful of seasons.

We are watching our public servants and working diligently in our quest to turn around the plan being presented by the staff of Park and Planning to demolish our recreation center at Randolph Hills Local Park. At the time I am writing this message, no inspection has been completed on the building to determine the extent of damage done by the elements and lack of maintenance by the Parks Department. I've had interviews with the Montgomery Sentinel, The Gazette, and the Washington Post on our reaction to the Park and Planning Department Plan for our Rec Center. I've said my piece and didn't pull any punches. Several other members of your RCA board have also been interviewed. So far, the news media has accurately reported our views and thoughts on the matter. I'm really glad I'm not the public official who presented this truly misguided idea in the first place.

As a citizen, I am dumbfounded that our elected officials would consider trusting the same Montgomery County Park and Planning

(continued on page 3)

Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting

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

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, December 6, 2007, 8:00 p.m.

*Special Guest Speaker
Councilman Roger Berliner*



New Meeting Location!

*RCA Meetings will be held at the
Veirs Mill Rec Center (4425 Garrett Park Rd)
until further notice.*

Meetings are held on the **first Thursday of every month at 8 p.m.**, except January, July, and August. Usually, we alternate between General and Executive meetings.

All are welcome at every meeting.

Mark your calendars!

**Meet "our own" councilmember for District 1
Roger Berliner and get up to date on how the Parks
Department wants to demolish our recreation center
building and what we can do to stop it.**

You are invited to the RCA General Meeting on **Thursday, December 6th** to meet with Councilman Roger Berliner on items of great interest to RCA-Land. One of the topics for this general meeting is a presentation by Montgomery County Park and Planning on the future of our Recreation Center and their decision to demolish it without a replacement structure. If you have an opinion on this or other topics, please join us. The meeting will be held starting at 8:00 PM at the Veirs Mill Recreation Center, 4425 Garrett Park Road, near Beach Drive.

RCA Executive Committee for 2007-2008

OFFICERS

President

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Vice President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

2nd Vice President

Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-938-7494

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Treasurer

Dell Pillers/Cline
11403 Ashley Drive
301-984-7783

Directors

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White
11225 Ashley Drive
301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo
11508 Monongahela Court
301-770-7590

Membership

John Kehoe
4814 Red Fox Road
301-231-4933

Environment

Matt Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Education

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Yard Sale Signs

Lorena Segura
4802 Macon Road
301-984-8727

Special Projects

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

Randolph Civic Webmaster

Karen Helfert
11429 Ashley Drive
301-468-0236

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

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

Cub Master, Pack 1081

Sandra Kimball
13504 Coachlamp Lane
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-603-9078

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo
15133 Vantage Hill Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-598-5772

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Brownie Leader, Troop 1028

Leora Hernandez
11814 Dewey Road
Silver Spring, MD 20906
301-933-0460

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 2138

Deanne Marino
11129 Schuylkill Road
301-560-4840

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

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

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):

Councilman: Roger Berliner 240-777-7828
email: Councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov
Mr. Berliner's aides: Thanh Tran, Cindy Gibson, Karen Williams, Rebecca Lord

Councilmember: Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959
email: Councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov
Ms. Floreen's aides: Merle Steiner, Joyce McCaffrey, Jocelyn Rawat

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive: Ike Leggett 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3

(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland Legislative District 18 (representing all of RCA):

Senator: Richard Madaleno 301-858-3137

Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181

Jane Lawton 301-858-3638

Jeffrey Waldstreicher 301-858-3130

Maryland General Assembly Website: <http://mlis.state.md.us>

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8:

Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341

email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate:

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Benjamin Cardin 202-224-4524

Election Precinct:

04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

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

751 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland 20851

www.777vote.org

Maryland State Board of Elections: www.elections.state.md.us

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Office of the Governor

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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 \$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. Copy should be sent to the Editor, Eileen White, 11225 Ashley Drive, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852, 301-984-2579, email ewwhite@comcast.net.

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

Department, who is incapable of maintaining their current recreation centers as "Stewards of the Public's Trust", with Montgomery County's share of the \$80 million dollars to build and then maintain a new headquarters building in Silver Spring called Silver Place. Building a new headquarters for the Park and Planning Department will not serve the citizens of Montgomery County in any way that I can see. The money would be better spent supporting the citizens in their parks with new recreation centers instead.

Another aspect of the Park and Planning staff's argument is that these facilities do not pay for themselves. I counter that if they were originally intended to be self supporting, they should be made part of the Montgomery County Revenue Authority's complement of facilities which are self supporting and frankly, in many cases, much better maintained. Recreation Centers are not now nor were they ever intended to be self supporting. Nor are Public Libraries, Nature Centers, Police Stations or Fire Departments intended to be self supporting.

I would encourage our elected officials, those members of the County Council and the County Executive that I mentioned in my message last month, to take the Park and Planning leadership out to the wood-shed and have a frank discussion about the importance of their purpose to serve the public and not engage in building edifices. If they want to build something, how about building a new Recreation Center in Randolph Hills Local Park. With the \$80 million saved by not building a monument to themselves, they could build a lot of citizen use facilities. Take a moment and let your county legislators know your feelings on this matter. They really do respond to our thoughts and ideas on this matter. Councilmember Roger Berliner is scheduled to attend the December 6th RCA General Meeting at Veirs Mill Rec Center starting at 8:00PM. Please come by and let Roger know your thoughts in person. Also at that meeting, Mark Wallis of the Park and Planning Department is scheduled to present the Park and Planning proposal to the affected citizens. They are taking notes so be sure to be heard. I will schedule as much time as necessary to give as many RCAers as desire to speak or get questions answered. The meeting may take longer than usual but we will be heard. Please come and provide your input.

Until then, these are the names and addresses you need to write, call or email. Roger Berliner is our councilman, and at large council members representing us are Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal and Duchy Trachtenberg. Ike Leggett and the other council members are getting input and comments from their districts too. Lets keep the pressure up!

(continued on page 4)

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President's Message

(continued from page 3)

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councilmember.leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov
Marilyn J. Praisner, Pres.....240-777-7968
councilmember.praisner@montgomerycountymd.gov
Duchy Trachtenberg240-777-7964
councilmember.trachtenberg@montgomerycountymd.gov

Snail mail address for all Councilmembers is:
100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850

John Hench,
Acting Division Chief, Park Planning and Stewardship
301-650-4364
john.hench@mncppc-mc.org

I'm happy to say that the sign design has been approved and we have 98% of the money needed to purchase and install a sign we can be proud of for our Franklin Park neighborhood. Shaul Kopyto of 4819 Ertter Drive collected the final donations for the sign and now will contract for the sign to be made. For those neighbors who have already donated to the sign project, I say MANY MANY THANKS! If you still want to donate any amount for the Franklin Park entrance sign, contact Shaul at 301-881-0388 or any of the RCA officers. We will soon break ground and have a Thanksgiving-time ribbon cutting ceremony with photos in the *Echo*, of course. Watch the RCA Web Site at www.randolphcivic.org for dates and times as well as lots of other news of interest to RCA residents. Also, I would like to thank the most recent donations from our neighbors who I will name below.

Remember, I still visit all sections of RCA-Land at least every other week on my motorcycle. If you see me on either a blue motor scooter or green Harley ElectraGlide, please wave and say Hi! It is still my favorite season – Fall... ■

Many thanks!

to our neighbors who most recently donated to the Franklin Park sign project.

(If I misspelled any names, I am truly sorry and again thanks for your contribution - Mike Saunders).

Larry Linthicum
Shaul Kopyto
Kennon Cogdell
Rodolfo Ghirlando
Roz and Gary Houseknecht
Robert Rowe
Joe Balinas
Anita and John Hilderbrand
Mary Romany-Blackman
Mark Hevey
Fidencia Portocarrero
Carlos Moreno
Vinh and Lourdes Luong
Philip and Celia Turner
Antonio Rodrigues
C Sonetiro
James McCotter
Ivailo Karadimov

Roger Berliner to Host Meeting

Our local Councilmember Roger Berliner is holding a "Conversations" meeting on Monday, November 19, 2007, 7 pm-9 pm, at the Potomac Elementary School All-Purpose Room, 10311 River Road, Potomac, 20854. This is an open forum to discuss any issue you'd like with the Councilmember.

To get there, take Randolph Road west (turns into Montrose Road at Rockville Pike), cross over I-270, then turn left on Falls Road. Continue to River Road and turn right. Go .2 miles to Potomac Elementary.

Correction

The membership form for 2007-2008 stated that donations to the RCFoundation are tax deductible. The Foundation is in the process of applying for 501(c)(3) status, and while fully expecting such approval, the wording on the form should be "Donations to the RCFoundation are tax deductible pending approval by the IRS."

Minutes of the RCA Executive Meeting

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

September 6, 2007

This was RCA's first meeting in the Veirs Mill Recreation Center. Our Randolph Hills Local Park Recreation Center is closed – Park and Planning wants to demolish it!

Our RCA Recreation Center was the focus of this Exec meeting. The Execs were disappointed that a newspaper reporter from the Montgomery Sentinel was a no-show, but later the Montgomery Sentinel and the Montgomery Gazette interviewed RCA President Mike Saunders. The reporters were interested in RCA's fight for our Recreation Center. Look for future newspaper stories on this subject. Look for the details of our fight to save the RCA Recreation Center from being demolished, in this month's and last month's *Echo*.

The Execs are fighting to save our Rec Center with all their might: meeting with County Councilmember Roger Berliner, speaking with Councilmember Marilyn Praisner, letters mailed to County Council officials, contacting other civic groups, and anyone else who will join us to save our Rec Center.

The Execs believe Park and Planning have already decided to demolish our Rec Center and are now instigating a PR campaign to smooth over civic opposition. After much discussion, the Execs decided to honor Park and Planning's request, and allow them to address an RCA Exec meeting. Whether Parks is allowed to address a RCA General meeting remained undecided.

RCA President Mike Saunders, following the meeting agenda, turned to the *Echo* newsletter, how we publish Hotline calls and crime reports. Previously, the Execs had much email traffic on whether the RCA should print neighborhood crime, reported on our Hotline. This discussion came about because of a break-in reported on the Hotline. The Execs decided that a suspect's race/ethnicity would not be reported. Like any newspaper, the *Echo* is sometimes edited for content (e.g., use of inflammatory language).

Normally, the RCA does not print neighborhood crime. The RCA previously reported: car break-ins for spare change; cars side-swiped; and once when shots were fired in our neighborhood. The Execs will monitor RCA-land crime to determine how much there is, and whether it is worth reporting.

2nd Vice-President Dan Hoffman suggested the RCA consider hiring an off-duty Montgomery County police officer to patrol RCA-land. A subsequent review revealed that the Police Union, Fraternal Order of Police, handles these service requests. The rate is \$35 per hour, with cash or check going directly to the police officer. The RCA does not have

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Minutes of the RCA Executive Meeting

(continued from page 5)

the extra funds, but would love to hire an officer for the RCA Community Yard Sale, or to patrol the neighborhood at night, or to write tickets. The Town of Chevy Chase, which is smaller than the RCA but is a municipality, has a full-time officer.

RCA-land dead trees are being cut down from county right-of-ways, before they fall down. This county maintenance is good, but the Execs want to ensure new trees are planted as replacements.

Mike quickly covered the next agenda items. Our update on the Franklin Park sign would have to wait. RCAer Saul Kopyto is the project manager for the new sign, but sent his regrets he could not attend the meeting. The Execs decided our RCA picnic will be held at our Randolph Hills Rec Center, even if it is closed. Mike reported that RCA now supports Brownies as well as the Girl Scout Troop. The RCA continues to sponsor our Boy Scout Troop and support its feeder Cub Scout Pack. The RCA has some SAMs Club memberships that were never picked up nor paid for by RCAers. These will be returned to SAMs for refunds.

RCAer Karen Helfert volunteered to review RCA's Constitution and By-laws. Her review is complete, and she asked the Execs to consider revisions. Any changes must and will be approved by the RCA general membership. ■



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Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

October 4, 2007

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

President Mike Saunders opened the first General Meeting to be held in the Veirs Mill Recreation Center (at the Northern end of Beach Drive in Rock Creek Park). Our Randolph Hills Local Park Recreation Center remains closed because Park and Planning wants to demolish it!

The first order of business was our closed Recreation Center. Both a Park and Planning representative (Mark Wallis) and our County Councilman Roger Berliner were expected to guest speak, but their attendance was postponed until the next General Meeting, Thursday, December 6, 2007. Meanwhile, the RCA will rally everyone to fight to save our RCA Recreation Center. Councilman Berliner will hold a public forum at the BCC Regional Services Center in Bethesda, and Mike urged RCAers to attend.

Next, President Mike Saunders introduced RCAer Ed Shaw, a representative of 5LINX, an on-line marketing company offering digital home phone service, video phones, wireless phones, high speed internet, and satellite TV. The RCA discussed how we could benefit from "click-throughs" – on-line users who would use an RCA website link to buy goods and services, thus generating an RCA commission payment. The RCA will explore web-site revenue-generating plans further, and any expenditures would be pre-approved by the RCA general membership (approximately \$95 annually).

RCAer Shaul Kopyto is leading the effort to get Franklin Park a new sign. The present small sign, at Randolph Road and Hunter's Lane, is over 40 years old and termite-ridden. Shaul worked hard, collecting Franklin Park donations door-to-door, getting sign estimates and plans, and is now ready to start construction! Saul was given a round of applause for his efforts. The RCA hopes to have a ribbon-cutting ceremony later this year, and Franklin Park contributors will be honorably mentioned in the *Echo*.

Passed by unanimous voice-vote: that the Execs would draft a Conflict of Interest Statement for RCA Officers. Also Treasurer Dell Pillers/Cline will present a treasurer's report at the next meeting.

Second Vice-President Dan Hoffman reported on his efforts to revive RCA's Neighborhood Watch. Dan acquired crime data from the last year that identified car and house break-ins, pin-pointing local problem areas. Dan is hosting a Neighborhood Watch meeting at his house next week with a Montgomery County Service Officer as guest speaker. The purpose of the meeting will be to review crime reports, identify trouble spots, develop evaluation lists, and organize Watch Patrols. The RCA could hire off-duty County police officers to patrol RCA-land, much like nearby municipalities do. Dan asked volunteers to leave their contact information with him. If you are interested in the Neighborhood Watch,

contact Dan Hoffman at 301-938-7494 or email tardevils@aol.com.

The RCA meeting ended, immediately followed by a Randolph Civic Foundation meeting. See page 11 for those meeting minutes. ■

Return of the Neighborhood Watch

by Dan Hoffman

After an increase in the number of burglaries and vehicle break-ins over the last six months, a handful of residents have decided it is time to revitalize the Neighborhood Watch (NW) in the area covered by the RCA. An initial meeting was held in October. The purpose of the newly reformed group will be to:

- Track incidents with an eye towards identifying "hot spots" within RCA
- Coordinate and fund additional police patrols in the neighborhood
- Reduce chronic neighborhood infractions (e.g. speeding on our main roads, cars blocking sidewalks, and illegally parked commercial vehicles)
- Develop a network of neighborhood captains and a chain of communication to alert our neighbors in cases of emergency
- Increase the general awareness of our neighbors to the activities going on in their own neighborhood

Depending on the level of involvement/interest we receive from residents, the scope of the NW could expand to include activities such as an escort/assistance program for our neighbors who are elderly, disabled, or may just feel vulnerable traveling at certain times. The NW may also develop a network of "safe houses" for children who are traveling through the neighborhood and feel as though they are in danger or are being pursued. If anyone is interesting in playing an important role in the safety of their neighborhood, please contact Dan Hoffman at (301) 938-7494. Any amount of time you can spare in helping this effort would be greatly appreciated. ■

Keep in touch with your neighbors!

Join the

RCA Yahoo Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/>

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RCA Treasurer's Report *by Dell Pillers/Cline*

As of October 4, 2007, the balance in the RCA checking account was \$2,862.89. Advertising revenues have given the account balance a much needed boost. A substantial number of dues checks have also been received and are being processed for deposit. For the period August 26 through October 4, expenses of \$2,287.52 were recorded while advertising income and refund deposits amounted to \$3,294.00 for a net income of \$1,006.48. ■

RCA Checking Register					
08/26/2007 through 10/04/2007					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 08/26/07			\$1,856.41
08/28/07	DEP	Advertising income		476.00	2,332.41
08/28/07	DEP	Advertising income		476.00	2,808.41
08/28/07	DEP	Advertising income		140.00	2,948.41
08/28/07	DEP	Advertising income		140.00	3,088.41
08/30/07	DEP	Advertising income		1,200.00	4,288.41
08/30/07	DEP	Advertising income		272.00	4,560.41
09/05/07	1023	MNCPPC	Rec Center fee/deposit	-223.00	4,337.41
09/07/07	1024	Quick Print	Sept Echo printing	-1,672.65	2,664.76
09/08/07	DEP	MNCPPC	Rec Ctr deposit refund	175.00	2,839.76
09/17/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.53	2,814.23
09/18/07	EFT	SunTrust Bank	maint chg refund	16.00	2,830.23
09/19/07	DEP	Advertising income		140.00	2,970.23
09/19/07	DEP	Advertising income		140.00	3,110.23
10/03/07	DEP	Advertising income		119.00	3,229.23
10/04/07	1025	Kim Williams: picnic food		-366.34	2,862.89
		BALANCE 10/04/07			\$2,862.89

Want to Get Involved? Join a Committee!

If you want to be actively involved in issues that affect our community, join a committee! The RCA is seeking volunteers to help with the following projects. Please contact the appropriate committee chair for more information.

Neighborhood Watch

Chair: Dan Hoffman, 301-938-7494

The Neighborhood Watch is looking for volunteers to help revitalize this organized effort to monitor our neighborhood for suspicious activity. The way our volunteers can help include: serving as a block captain, distributing flyers, checking on vulnerable residents, and reporting infractions within the neighborhood. For more information, see the article on page 7.

Welcoming Committee

Chair: Kim Williams, 301-881-4554

The Welcoming Committee greets new residents to the neighborhood. The idea is to introduce the RCA to newcomers and have them feel "at home" in RCA-land. By working with existing neighbors and real estate agents, newcomers are identified, and the Committee explains the RCA and how

it benefits both the new and long-term resident. The Committee doesn't raise barns anymore, but it might bring by a small housewarming gift.

Echo Advertising Editor

Chair: Mauro Biondo, 301-770-7590

The primary role of the Echo Advertising Editor is to secure ads from local businesses and services that our community might need, such as plumbing, real estate, restaurants, yard care services, roofing, auto repairs, etc. The advertising editor must secure sufficient income to publish the *Echo* eight times a year. He/she collects the advertising money and delivers or mails each issue to the advertisers. Ideally, our new editor will have some new ideas for increasing advertising revenue and we encourage our residents for their thoughts on this matter. The Advertising Editor also assists in proofreading the *Echo* before it goes to press. ■

The New Randolph Civic Foundation

by Richard Zierdt

Foundation May Replace Many Functions of the Association

Most Dues May Become Tax-Deductible

Starting this civic season (2007-08), the role the Randolph Civic Foundation plays in our community will increase and assume some of the responsibilities of the Randolph Civic Association. The intent is to allow the Foundation to perform the educational and charitable functions that the Association used to do. These functions include, for example, presenting guests at general membership meetings and supporting our Boy and Girl Scout troops. The goal is to enable most of the membership dues asked for each year to be completely tax-deductible, not just the amount donated over and above the amount given to the RCA. Also, the cost of producing and distributing the *Echo* might be borne by the Foundation, and ultimately become exempt from Maryland sales taxes.

To assist in this endeavor, I've retained the services of attorney Steven M. Katz of Rockville to help us make this transition (no RCA or RCF money is involved). It is important to keep the operations of the Foundation and Association separate, so this issue of the *Echo* will include a separate listing for the officers of the Foundation, and separate meeting minutes (RCA and RCF). Treasurer reports for the Foundation will resume in the next issue of this newsletter (there has been no activity to report by press time for this issue).

A website for the Foundation has been started, www.RandolphCivicFoundation.org. The website of the Randolph Civic Association remains the same, and will be kept.

So why two organizations, and what's their difference? The Association will continue to represent the interests of the Randolph Community before the County Council and state

delegations. As an example, the hottest topic currently in play is the fate of our recreation center building. The Association is working hard to keep our "Town Hall" alive and prevent its demolition by Park and Planning. The role of the Foundation is to educate the community and support our children and adolescents. The Foundation will sponsor programs at its meetings to help us understand, as examples, crime prevention, consumer protection, and transportation – topics that are important to those living in a suburban environment.

The cost of running the Foundation will increase, and the cost of running the Association will decrease. But at least the dues collected for the Foundation will be tax-deductible. ■

President's Pen

by George Gadbois

Greetings RCF-land! As the recently elected President of our newly re-formed Randolph Civic Foundation, I would like to share with you some changes to expect to see over time. As the charitable and educational arm of our community civic group and sister organization to the RCA, the RCF will focus its involvement primarily on the areas of our targeted charities as well as a means with which to educate our community. The RCF will accept tax-deductible donations from individuals, corporations, and from the RCA to be used to benefit our various youth Scout groups, fund costs that may be associated with having a guest speaker on an educational topic, such as gardening or local history, and promoting environmental stewardship.

The RCA will remain our business and lobbying arm of the organization, while the RCF, in more distinction than in the past, will oversee the aforementioned philanthropic and educational piece. Expect to see a brief section in the *Echo* (which is educational in its own right) about the ongoing activities, meeting minutes, and financial reports of the RCF. The distinction being made at this time will better qualify the RCF as the tax-deductible entity it is, and enable the federal 501(c)3 application process to proceed smoothly for our

RCF Executive Committee for 2007-2008

OFFICERS

President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Vice President

Chad Salganik
4818 Mori Drive
202-359-6158

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Treasurer

Richard Zierdt
4707 Coachway Drive
301-881-0283

Directors

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Karen Helfert
11429 Ashley Drive
301-468-0236

Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-938-7494

Matt Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

The Randolph Civic Foundation originated in 1996. It was formed to provide educational and charitable services to the Randolph Community.

RCF Web site:
www.RandolphCivicFoundation.org
Phone: 301-881-2722

“newly” incorporated foundation. Please take a moment to review the minutes of our October meeting to see the brief business conducted. In addition to a separate *Echo* section, there will be meetings separate from the RCA and a separate web page. Upcoming business includes defining membership and constructing bylaws. Feel free to drop into a meeting and learn more. ■

Minutes of the RCF Executive Meeting

by Kevin Kline, Secretary

October 4, 2007

On October 4, 2007 the RCF held a General Meeting immediately following the RCA meeting. The RCF has been part of RCA-land for 10 years, but is now being re-constituted and re-organized. Richard Zierdt is leading this reorganization effort with lawyer assistance, to be in full compliance with the provision of the IRS code that exempts non-profit organizations like the RCF from Federal and state income taxes (many state tax codes mimic Federal code). The RCF's purpose is educational, keeping you informed on matters affecting our neighborhood.

First order of business was the nomination of a slate of candidates, followed by a vote for each candidate. Passed by unanimous voice-vote of those present: the slate of candidates as proposed. Also passed by unanimous voice-vote of those present: the following elected officials – congratulations!

President	George Gadbois
Vice-President	Chad Salganik
Treasurer	Richard Zierdt
Secretary	Kevin Kline
Board of Directors	Mike Saunders
	Karen Helfert
	Dan Hoffman
	Matt Shore

Newly elected President George Gadbois asked, who is an RCF member? For now, that would remain those present at this first meeting.

The RCF already has Articles of Incorporation, but needs Bylaws [organizational rules]. Passed by unanimous voice-vote of those present: that the newly elected Execs would draft RCF Bylaws, and a Conflict of Interest Statement for the RCF Officers.

Passed by unanimous voice-votes: (1) to print an RCF educational brochure; and (2) to appoint Karen Helfert web-master, and request she create a new RCF website.

Treasurer Zierdt reported that although the RCF is already incorporated, official recognition by the IRS of the RCF's status as a 501c takes 6 months on average. ■

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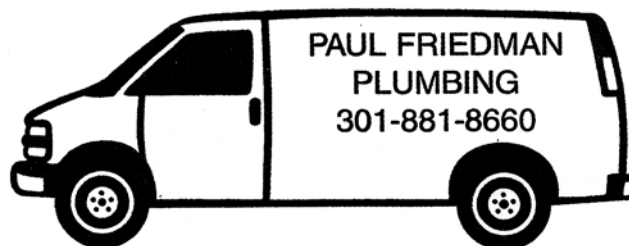
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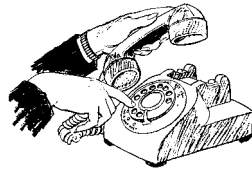
More information, call:

301-770-4480

The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received August 25 to October 4, 2007



General Note: The RCA gets a lot of calls about code violations (untagged cars, tall grass, etc). Please note that phone numbers for agencies that handle such matters are published in the ECHO almost every month. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA is here to help everyone keep our neighborhood as orderly as possible, so please use these numbers. Please call the RCA as well. We appreciate knowing and learning about our community.

If anyone notices that the hotline is not working, please call Richard Zierdt at 301-881-0283, and/or e-mail the RCA at info@randolphcivic.org. Thanks!

2007-08-31 (Fri) 12:35 pm Not anonymous. Caller reports receiving the Gazette's Community Guide 2007, but the Randolph Civic Association was not listed anywhere in it. We need to let the Gazette know that we exist by sending an e-mail to the Editor of the Gazette at editor@gazette.net. Send a copy of the *Echo* to Community Guide, 1200 Quince Orchard Blvd, Gaithersburg, 20878. Perhaps the next issue of the Community Guide will list us. We've been around for over 50 years.

2007-09-17 (Mon) 10:29 am The replacement tree listed in the September *Echo* for 4813 Ertter Drive is not needed. It already has a tree. Thank you.

2007-09-17 (Mon) 10:35 am Not Anonymous. Richard Zierdt's article about replacement trees in the September *Echo* should say that leaves should be raked to the curb for County pick-up – not the street. Raking leaves to the street will clog up the gutters. Also, foxes have been sighted in the 11400 block of Schuylkill Road. Thank you.

2007-09-17 (Mon) 4:15 pm Anonymous. Calling about vehicles parked on the wrong side of the street. The county police coming in here observe this but do nothing about it. After all, the driver has to drive on the wrong side of the street to park this way, or on the wrong side of the street to get out. Caller thinks something should be done about it. There have been many near accidents when the cars pull out because they think they have the right-of-way. Also, something should be done about the cars and trucks parked at the top of the hill off of Wilwyn Way. Let's get the County people to come in here and do something instead of just standing around the accident scene doing nothing.

2007-09-xx (Tue) 1:03 pm Caller stated they called the County to request they do not want a replacement tree.

2007-09-19 (Wed) 4:03 pm Anonymous. Need to do something about 111xx Troy Road. Occupant's boat is sticking out in the road; an emergency vehicle couldn't get by if we had a fire. It hasn't been moved all summer. Caller has called the police about it, but nothing has been done. Boat has no tags. Thank you.

2007-09-20 (Thu) 11:31 am Anonymous. Three issues. (1) Why are we allowing homeless people to be living in the woods down in the park? They walk our streets frightening people trying to communicate, etc, and it's a deterrent to people who want to walk and get their exercise. (2) There seems to be a great influx of idle teenagers roaming around the streets, particularly on Boiling Brook Parkway up around the shopping center. It's frightening for people to even patronize our own neighborhood. (3) On Saturday, September 15, there was a house burglary in the 11000 block of Schuylkill Road which ties in right behind the one ten days prior on Wyaconda Road. We need more vigilance in locking our doors, locking our windows, always looking around to see what's going on. Try to improve our community or have more police protection.

2007-09-20 (Thu) 6:35 pm Anonymous. About the burglaries and robberies that have been happening around the neighborhood: We have here a resource that we haven't used. There is a group of people standing around the corner of Randolph and Parklawn Roads, begging. They seem to be people falling on hard times. Maybe they could be recruited to keep an eye on things and look who's coming and going. A little money might be paid to them for helping us and helping themselves. Just an idea.

2007-09-27 (Thu) 4:38 pm Crystal Myers calling from the Montgomery County Planning Department. There will be a civic focus group meeting on Tuesday, October 23 from 6 pm-8 pm, about the master plan process.

2007-09-28 (Fri) 7:23 pm Not Anonymous. Caller reports three young kids, younger than 13 years, probably in the height range of three to three and a half feet, stole a six pack of Dr. Pepper and a Mountain Dew out of the back of caller's car while caller was taking groceries into caller's home. One of the neighbors saw them walk up to the car and then take off running afterwards. Caller hopes their parents read about this in the *Echo* and make restitution. (Hotline) Feel free to act as an intermediary. Caller hopes their parents teach their youngsters not to steal. Beware: Do not leave your door open even for a second if you think kids are around. The neighbors said these were not the same kids described in last month's *Echo*.

2007-09-30 (Sun) 8:12 pm Not Anonymous. The street light at the entrance to the Randolph Hills park at Ashley Drive has been out for several nights. Is this part of the County's plan to demolish the park building? The area at the entrance is very dark.

2007-10-04 (Thu) 10:20 am Not Anonymous. Caller has never done a yard sale at Loehmann's Plaza. How do you unload, etc. Caller is looking for information but can't find caller's *Echo*. Please call. *[If you have a computer, you have the ECHO because all ECHOs for the last seven years are available there. Visit www.randolphcivic.org. Yard sale information is also available there without downloading an ECHO: Click on "RCA Yard Sale" on the left side.]* ■

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(a national support group for mothers who primarily stay home with their children) invites moms and their children to attend a monthly meeting on the last Monday of the month at Chevy Chase Library. The group's activities include trips to parks, coffee get-togethers, book club, playgroups and more. For more information visit our website at chevychasekensingtonmomsclub.com

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News from Pack 1081

by Mike Mulcahy



After some productive recruiting at Back-to-School Night on September 6th and Join Scouting Night on September 19th, both at Viers Mill Elementary School, we're excited to welcome twelve new Scouts. Welcome aboard to Tigers **Damien Raber, Thomas Alder, Daniel Poliquin, Nathaniel Harley, Daniel Hernandez, Adrian Streed, JoJo Polk and Galen Gibbons**; Bears **Devon Parker and Sebastian Jardine**; and Webelos I's **Mathew Lopez and Benjamin Barnhard**. 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 – 5th grade son, please stop by Viers Mill Elementary School any Monday evening at 6:30. It's never too late to join! We had our first Pack meeting of the year on Thursday, September 20th at which the Scouts were recognized for their Summer achievements. Webelos Scouts **Mateo Streed, Matthew Kimball, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Preston Polk and Noah Reidinger** received their participation patches for attending Camp Tuckahoe 2007. The following Scouts attended Day Camp at Camp Snyder: **Galen Gibbons, Adrian Streed, Mark Kimball and Matthew Kimball**. Special thanks to Leaders and Parents who helped the boys at Day Camp and at Camp Tuckahoe: **Sandra Kimball, Helene Cropper,**

Karen Tincknell, Erik Streed, Don Gibbons, Jack Levengard and Kim Polk.

Many awards were presented at the September Pack Meeting. Tigers **Galen Gibbons and Adrian Streed** earned Sports and Academic Beltloops for Archery and BB Shooting. Wolf **Mark Kimball** was awarded Sports and Academic Beltloops in Ice Skating, Roller Skating, Tennis, Table Tennis and Collecting. Webelos I Scouts were presented awards as follows: Sports and Academic Beltloops for BB Shooting and Archery to **Mateo Streed**; Sports and Academic Beltloops for Chess, Roller Skating, Tennis and Table Tennis to **Matthew Kimball**, and Sports and Academic Pins for Aquanaut and Outdoorsman to both **Mateo Streed and Matthew Kimball**. Webelos II Scouts earned awards as follows: Sports and Academic Beltloops and Pins for BB Shooting and Archery to **Adam Levengard, Preston Polk and Noah Reidinger**; Sports and Academic Beltloops and Pins for Baseball to **Aidan Gibbons**; Activity Badges for Aquanaut and Outdoorsman were earned by **Adam Levengard, Preston Polk and Noah Reidinger**; for Readyman presented to **Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Preston Polk and Noah Reidinger**; for Naturalist earned by **Adam Levengard and Noah Reidinger**; for Sportsman awarded to **Adam Levengard**; and the Compass Points Emblem was presented to **Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard and Preston Polk**. Congratulations to all on a job well done!

The meeting finished with a few more awards before adjourning. The Summertime Award was presented to **Galen**

Gibbons, Adrian Streed, Mark Kimball, Mateo Streed, Matthew Kimball, Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard and Noah Reidinger. In addition, the following were recognized for participating at the July Car Wash Fundraiser Outing: Scouts **Preston Polk, Adam Levengard, Noah Reidinger, Mateo Streed, Jassir Begazo, Matthew Kimball, Mark Kimball, JoJo Polk, Adrian Streed**, and adults **Kim Polk, Sandra and John Kimball, Helene Cropper, Erik Streed and Laura Levengard**. A big round of applause to all!

On Sunday, September 23rd, the following Scouts visited the B & O Train Museum in Baltimore: **Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levengard, Preston Polk, DJ Terry, Brandon Wagner, Jassir Begazo,**

Cub Scouts pose for the camera outside the B & O Train Museum in Baltimore, MD.



Matthew Kimball, Mateo Streed, Sebastian Jardin, Galen Gibbons, Adrian Streed, Nathaniel Harley and Daniel Poliquin. The Pack enjoyed a fun Fall family campout with gorgeous weather at Little Bennett Regional Park on September 28th through September 30th. With pup tents to multi-room tents scattered about our group area, Scouts and Scout families slept peacefully in the great outdoors. The boys enjoyed morning hikes and at the evening campfire, they created their own entertainment with songs and skits, enjoyed smores and toasted marshmallows and other treats. After dinner on Saturday, the Scouts participated in a flag retirement ceremony. In addition, on Saturday, the Pack attended a special event at the Old One-Room Kingsley School House near the campsite where they bobbed for apples, practiced driving nails, played dodgeball and took a step back in time to participate in a typical 1920's day at school. Cub Scouts attending the Family Camping weekend included: **Aidan Gibbons, Adam Levensgard, Colin McLean, Preston Polk, Matthew Kimball, Mateo Streed, Sebastian Jardine, Mark Kimball, Galen Gibbons, JoJo Polk, Adrian Streed, Daniel Poliquin, Thomas Alder and Damien Raber.**

Upcoming Scout Outings include Physical Fitness Day at Wheaton High School Football Field on Sunday, October 14th and a Fall Scout Outing to a Country Farm on Saturday, October 27th. Our Popcorn fall fundraiser is in full swing, so 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 November 10, 2007, Saturday morning. Please be generous. Your food donations go to help Manna of Montgomery County. Visit our website location for more Pack 1081 news and pictures: <http://www.pack1081.org>. ■

Girl Scout Troop 1028 News

by Leora Hernandez

We are excited that our troop has grown since we held our open house. We now have seven girls at the Brownie level, which is currently 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders. And, we have three girls at the Junior level which includes 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders.

We meet every other Thursday at the Veirs Mill Recreation Center on Garrett Park Road from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. The next meetings are as follows: October 18th, November 1st, 15th and 29th.

The troop is currently learning about how to fold and care for the American flag. We will be learning how to do a flag ceremony at our next meeting. The girls voted and they will start working on a manners badge at our next meeting.

Contact Leora Hernandez at 301-933-0460 (evenings) or Rosi Muehlstedt (hablo Español) 240-603-1847 for more information. ■

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Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Only about 4% of all Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts. So achieving the rank of Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting but when entering higher education, business or industry, and community service. The Eagle Scout rank is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. We would like to recognize **Anthony Gadbois** for completing the 5th of 7 requirements, the service project, on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout. For this requirement, Anthony completed a landscaping project in the courtyard of Loiderman Middle School. Congratulations Anthony!

In September, scouts from troop 1083 camped for the weekend at Antietam battlefield. During the cam-

pout, scouts worked on rank advancements in preparation for the upcoming Court of Honor. Attendance for this event will be provided in next month's *Echo*.

The Troop 1083 Philmont 2008 crew manned the concession stand for the RCA fall yard sale. By all accounts, the event was a success. A special thank you to Geoff and Jane Owen for coordinating the crew, gathering the food, drinks and ice and ensuring that the Yard Sale Concession stand was a success. Attendance for this event will be provided in next month's *Echo*.

There are some corrections to make to certain details in last month's *Echo* article, concerning activities of the 2008 Philmont High Adventure crew this past spring and summer. Back in May, the crew hiked to Weverton Cliff, which provided a spectacular view of the Potomac, the C&O Canal and the CSX Railroad, about two miles

downstream of Harpers Ferry. In July, the crew's Lenhok'sin High Adventure experience included rock climbing, exploring an extensive underground cave, and learning first-hand what a lumberjack's life was like a century ago – such as climbing a tree with gaffs and a belt, competing in two-man cross-cut sawing, and throwing a double-bitted axe or two. They also found the time to climb not one but two of the mountain overlooks on the State-owned lands adjoining the Goshen Scout reservation.

Upcoming events include a weekend campout at the Washington Monument, Scouting for Food event, a weekend cabin camping trip, and our annual holiday tree sale. If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade you can join us. We meet Monday night at 7:30 at Viers Mill ES, or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. Check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org. ■

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TROOP 1083
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CONSUMERS' CHECKBOOK

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Saturday November 10, 2007

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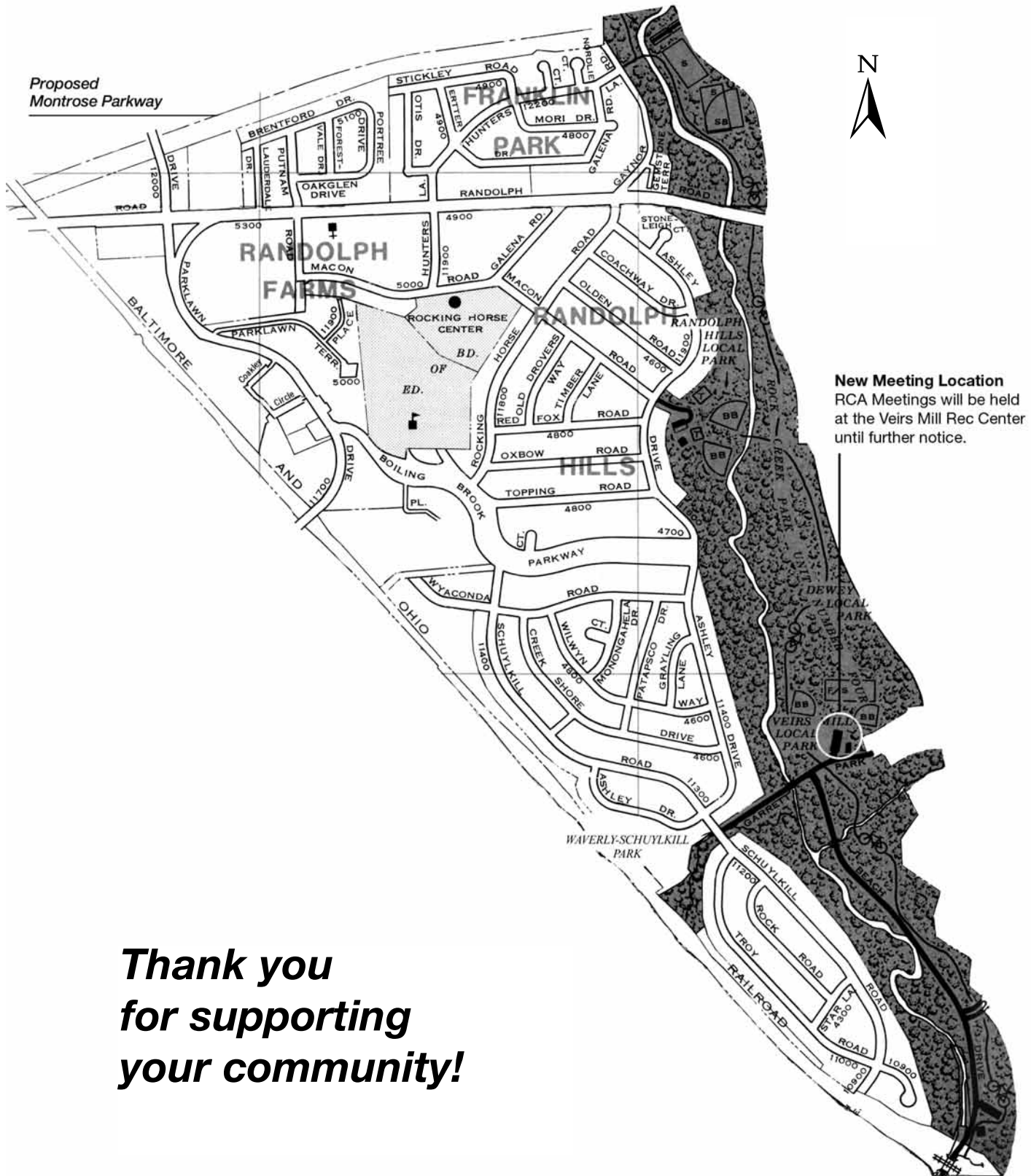
A bag for food accompanies this ECHO



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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.

FOR SALE. Bathroom vanity with 17 x 21 inch white sink. Vanity is 31 inches tall. \$30. Call 301-770-3359.

BRIDGE PLAYERS NEEDED! Been a long time since you played bridge? Want to learn to play bridge? I would like form a RCA bridge group – on the social/learning levels – let the cut-throat folks play elsewhere. Contact: khelfert1@comcast.net

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

Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the December issue of the Echo is Saturday, November 3rd.

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

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



Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

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

Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Jennifer Moy 240-672-4921

Anthony Gadbois 301-770-5386

Gregory Gadbois 301-770-5386



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Emergency ONLY	911
Police: Non-Emergency (County-wide)	301-279-8000
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	240-773-6070
Park Police	301-949-3010
(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	240-777-3785
Abandoned Cars (on the street)	301-840-2454
Animal Control	240-773-5960
Building Permits	240-777-6200
Consumer Affairs	240-777-3636
Crisis Hotline (24 hours)	301-315-4000
Department of Natural Resources	800-442-0708
(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
Metrorail and Metrobus schedules & info.	202-637-7000
Montgomery County Humane Society	240-773-5960
Emergencies only	240-773-5900
Licensing Dept.	240-773-5946
Motor Vehicle Administration	1-800-950-1682
Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance	240-777-7700
(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)	
Parking Tickets	240-453-0113
Parks: Information & Permits	301-495-2525
PEPCO: Power Out	toll free 1-877-737-2662
Emergency/Life Threatening	202-872-3432
Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville	301-231-5973
Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.)	240-777-3986
RCA Hotline	301-881-2722
Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org)	240-777-6400
Recreation Information	240-777-6804
School Information	301-279-3391
Senior Citizens (Holiday Park)	240-777-4999
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)	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, Randolph Farms, Franklin Park and Montrose Park Market Update...

Neighborhood Home Sales Settled Since August 1, 2007

<i>Address</i>	<i>List Price</i>	<i>Sold Price</i>	<i>DOM</i>	<i>Subsidy</i>	<i>Date Settled</i>
11203 Ashley Drive	\$419,500	\$400,000	59	\$0	08-Aug-07
5007 Randolph Road	\$439,000	\$447,000	219	\$15,000	08-Aug-07
11207 Ashley Drive	\$449,900	\$445,000	4	\$0	13-Aug-07
5105 Oakglen Drive	\$499,900	\$479,000	31	\$0	15-Aug-07
5209 Brentford Drive	\$460,000	\$430,000	245	\$0	24-Sep-07
Average		\$440,200			
Low		\$400,000			
High		\$479,000			

Currently, there are 16 listings on the market in Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms,
Franklin Park and Montrose Park... the average list price is \$434,365
and the average number of days on the market is 122.

Denise
Szczur

301-452-5544



"Professional Service with a Personal Touch!"

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