

The ECHO

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association

Volume 55, Issue 1

September 2011

Time to Renew Your Membership!

A Special Message From the Randolph Civic Association

It's that time of year again and your RCA membership is more important than ever before. As we work to continually improve our neighborhood, your \$10 membership and continued participation are critical to the success of programs like the Neighborhood Watch and publications like the Echo. As we enter the 2011-2012 membership year, I think that it's important to look back on our accomplishments over the past 12 months. We have new picnic facilities in Randolph Hills Local Park. After years of inactivity, our Neighborhood Watch is patrolling again. Our new neighborhood signs have been paid for, approved by the county and are about to be installed. And we continue to hold informative meetings and fun community events.

This is also a membership drive 'outreach year', which means we will undertake the additional effort of knocking on a few doors and making some phone calls to increase membership. Two years ago we knocked on almost every door in the neighborhood. This outreach year we will be a bit more targeted and reach out to neighbors only after they have had some time to renew already. You can save RCA volunteers valuable time by renewing promptly and saving us from having to call or knock on your door. Remember, keeping this neighborhood beautiful, safe and vibrant is everyone's responsibility, and even \$10 makes a huge difference. So please take a moment and fill out the form we've included with this Echo. Put it in the self-addressed envelope and drop it in the mail. Also take a few moments and donate a little extra to the Randolph Civic Foundation (RCF). Please note that while donations to the RCA are not

tax-deductible, they keep The Echo in print, and our other activities funded. Donations to the RCF are tax-deductible. The RCF supports and sponsors activities such as community beautification and local youth groups.

Please fill out the membership form completely. Because of turnover, the RCA does not have every (new) homeowner's name, so please supply your name if the previous occupant has moved. The only thing that never changes is the address! If you did not get a membership form, envelope, or lost yours, please email info@randolphcivic.org to have one dropped off at your house. Alternately, if you would like to have your membership form and dues picked up by an RCA volunteer rather than mailing them, you can reach us at info@randolphcivic.org and we'll make the arrangements.



Time to put out your RCA yard signs!

Upcoming Events

RCA Community Day and Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

October 1st, 2011 Noon-2:00pm, Randolph Hills Local Park

Join your neighbors as we cut the ribbon on our new picnic facility! Enjoy food, music, and a chili cook-off! It's free!

RCA General Membership Meeting

Special Presentation: Montgomery County Department of Transportation and Pedestrian Safety on Boiling Brook Parkway

October 6th, 2011 8:00pm-10:00pm, Veirs Mill Recreation Center

RCA Community Bazaar (formerly the Fall Yard Sale)

October 15th, 2011 8:00am-1:00pm, Loehmann's Plaza

Show up early and claim a good spot! RCA members get a free space; Non-members pay \$10 per space.

RCA Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for 2011-2012

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President's Message

by Dan Hoffman, RCA President

I hope everyone has fared well during an interesting summer featuring not only a hurricane but an earthquake as well. During those events, were you connected to what was happening in the neighborhood by being part of the RCA Yahoo Group? If not, I highly recommend that you join by going to <http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/randolphca> and providing us with your name and street address. You'll get almost instant updates regarding events occurring in real-time, in our neighborhood. Benefits like the Yahoo group are made possible by your renewed RCA membership. It's September, which means time to renew. We can't continually improve our neighborhood without your help. Do you have new neighbors that have moved in during the past year? Use this Echo as an opportunity to introduce yourself and mention the RCA.

In our community we do not have a homeowners association or condo fees, but rather a very affordable \$10 membership and a network of volunteers. This all-volunteer organization does everything it can to advocate for adequate County resources, keep our neighborhood safe, and protect our quality of life. That quality of life is something no one in this neighborhood should take for granted. We get hotline calls and emails all the time from neighbors in need, and we do our best to address their concerns and advocate on their behalf if necessary. It is frustrating, though, when those requests come from folks who, in some cases, aren't members. Your \$10 is essential to keeping the Echo alive, the website up and running, holding events, and running the Neighborhood Watch. So do your part and please renew your membership (kick in a little extra too if you can!).

Aside from your membership, a little bit of your time is also essential. We have meetings on the first Thursday of most months. The next general membership meeting is October 6th (see front cover). Coming to meetings is a vital part of keeping our community conversation healthy. At meetings we decide *(continued on page 6)*

RCA Telephone Number: (240)668-4722.

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

Membership in the RCA is \$10.00 per year.

The *Echo* is the official publication of the Randolph Civic Association, Inc., P.O. Box 2202, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852. The *Echo* is published 8 times a year and distributed free to all residents of Franklin Park, Hilltop Square, Montrose Park, Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, and Westminster. Deadline for submission of articles varies; the next deadline is noted in each issue. If you would like to send an article in for consideration, please email the article to info@randolphcivic.org.

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

Neighborhood News in Brief

- **RCA Community Day Picnic, Chili Cook-off and Picnic Shelter Grand Opening!** Come on out to Randolph Hills Park on Saturday, October 1st from 12-2pm to celebrate our new Picnic Shelter! We'll have plenty of food, live music, and our first RCA Chili Cook-off. Winner gets community acclaim and their recipe published in the Echo. Local Pops and Parks officials will be on hand for a ribbon-cutting for the new shelter, and we'll have horses and other entertainment for the kids. Hope to see you there!
- Much to his surprise, and as a testament to his sterling efforts, **Matt Tifford was awarded the first annual RCA Volunteer of the Year** while performing at the RCA MusicFest event this past June 12th. From coordinating community yard-sales to planting flowers on common-use thoroughfares to researching, visualizing, and flat-out doing the leg-work to get RCA-land our new and appealing community entrance signs, Matt's efforts have demonstrated the positive effect one motivated and compassionate individual can have on a community. The Volunteer of the Year award will be given out each year in May or June before we break for the summer.
- **This summer the County passed the final resolution needed to move new development forward in White Flint.** Several plans have already been submitted to the County and once approved they will be able to break ground. RCA was proud to be in attendance at the ribbon cutting ceremony and our community was recognized by speakers at the event as being instrumental in creating this new economic engine for the County. Property owners will present their detailed plans to RCA members at an upcoming meeting this fall.
- **Sometimes a simple request gets results.** A resident on Lauderdale Drive asked the RCA to try to have Montgomery County install a trash receptacle at the bus stop shelter near Lauderdale and Randolph, out in front of the Safeway. RCA Director Matt Tifford made a few calls, and a couple weeks later, the trash can appeared!
- **The RCF would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Disaster Relief Fund for the victims of the Ashley Drive House Explosion.** We collected \$1477 which we paid out to the couple in early August. We have been asked to not publish their names. But we can report that they are putting their lives back together and are extremely touched and grateful to the community for our support.

Do you have a quick bite of news you'd like to share with the neighborhood? Please feel free to submit a few sentences to info@randolphcivic.org by the deadlines posted on page 15 of this issue. Thank you!



Karen Wood
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Community Fixtures: Club Joola Table Tennis

by Christiana Drapkin

The Randolph Hills Shopping Center has a whole stretch of back roads with businesses, services, and suppliers. Drive down Boiling Brook Parkway, hang a right on Schuylkill, and an immediate right again, and you find yourself on the industrial-zoned segment of Wyaconda Road. Past the car repair shop and the dealership, you might smell the coffee from the Quartermaine Coffee Roasters (voted "Best of Bethesda" in Bethesda Magazine). Stop in at the revitalized Wood Workers' Club, after you drop the kids off at yet another birthday party bash at the thriving Dynamite Gymnastics Center – a neighborhood favorite.

There is another bustling sports venue that is well worth a visit: Club Joola has been under new management for about a year now, and some of our RCA board members went to pay a visit last month. Amy Feng, who played for Team USA in the 1996 Olympics, is the new owner. She runs the club with her co-manager Gang.

This is not your cousin's beer-stained, warped ping-pong table in the basement. Enter the gleaming pro show, plunk down \$10 for an all-day open play pass, and you'll find a large, well-lit space with ten top-of-the-line tables. You barely hear a squeak from the shoes on the professional flooring, as the players dance around, slamming the little balls across the net. Amy, who last year won the Chesapeake Open Women's Singles Championship, welcomes you with a warm smile. She is especially proud of Club Joola's youth programs. This past summer, they ran a successful youth summer camp and training clinics for all ages. During the year, they hold beginners classes, junior programs, competitive leagues, and individual coaching sessions. On the playful side, they also host ping-pong birthday parties, with a bit of teaching of the basics and an organized game, providing the rackets and balls for the children.

I was impressed by the reasonable monthly rates, which also include discounts for siblings, or month-to-month packages at great savings for the entire family. Amy challenged us to a game, and we were glad that all the tables were taken at that moment. The challenge could've turned out unpleasantly (for us amateurs).

Check out their website at www.ClubJoola.com or better yet, pay a visit, pick up a brochure, and take a tour with the welcoming staff. This is the perfect time to sign up for some regular after-school sports training, which teaches new skills, looks like a lot of fun, lets you make new friends, and gets you active and going.

Club Joola is located at 4931 Wyaconda Road, Rockville, MD 20852. (301) 881-3401. www.ClubJoola.com

Signs of Progress

by Matthew Tifford

Over the summer, the Randolph Civic Association has been busy getting ready for the replacement of our old neighborhood entrance signs. After the last two years of fundraising, capped off by the amazingly successful MusicFest fundraiser, we raised over \$6000, easily covering the cost of purchasing and installing the signs and some nice plantings as well. Big thanks go to Don Linthicum, Denise Szczur, Federal Realty, Lerner Enterprises, Barwood Taxi, Roger Berliner and Allen Kronstadt for their very large and generous contributions! All told, we purchased five signs: 3 Randolph Hills, 1 Randolph Farms, and 1 Montrose Park. Three of the signs will replace the existing signs on Schuylkill Road, Boiling Brook Parkway, and Hunters Lane south of Randolph. The other two signs will be new installations on Rocking Horse Road and Lauderdale Drive.

The permitting process proved to be quite difficult and time-consuming, as the process is geared toward commercial applicants. They expect sign companies to be the ones jumping through all the permitting hoops - not volunteers from Community groups. In the end, I, along with Dan Hoffman and Chad Salganik, ended up putting in over 20 hours between the three of us just dealing with bureaucratic red tape. However, we were able to just barely get everything submitted in time to be included in the July 14th hearing of the Sign Review Board. We were pressed to make the deadline since the next hearing wasn't until the middle of September. In the end, we were able to obtain permits for all but one sign (the new installation at Rocking Horse Road). We were left confident that finding a site acceptable to both the county and our community is achievable. But it will require a good bit of discussion that just wasn't possible with the time constraints we were under. So, we elected to put off the Rocking Horse sign permit until the Fall. Stay tuned for more info on the Rocking Horse Road sign in a coming Echo.

With permits in hand, we were able to finalize the contract for the signs. They are being manufactured at a plant in Georgia, and were delivered on September 7th. Installation will begin imminently. Under supervision of the RCA Board, one of our local Boy Scouts, Matthew Best, will be undertaking the project as part of his Eagle requirement. Once installed, we will also be upgrading the plantings around each sign.

We are always looking for volunteers to help, so please let us know if you are interested in helping with any part of the project.

Pedestrian Safety Improvements on Boiling Brook Parkway

by Dan Hoffman

This summer the RCA found out that the County was planning on making changes to the configuration of Boiling Brook Parkway that same way many of you did: we saw spray paint marking on the road. We contacted the Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and inquired about their plans. When the extent of the changes became apparent we requested that they stop and meet with us on the best path forward. Although the RCA has taken no position on something as broad as pedestrian safety, I think it goes without saying that it is critical to have safe, walkable streets in our neighborhood. We are also very cognizant of the fact that Boiling Brook Parkway remains a problem for multiple reasons. It has cut-through traffic and a confusing intersection at Rocking Horse Road. Parental drop-off and pick-up of students at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (CESJDS) can also snarl things. Our goal is to find a way for people to walk safely and cars to move efficiently.

With this in mind the RCA met with MCDOT and CESJDS to discuss options. We agreed that some steps need to be taken to make the intersections there more pedestrian friendly, as there had been two pedestrians struck and two near misses in the last year. Drivers frequently speed down the Parkway and fail to observe stop signs. The other request we made was for CESJDS take more action to inform parents about proper drop off procedures and enforce those procedures. We asked that no permanent construction be done in the short-term, but rather that striping and flexi-post be used to allow us the opportunity to monitor and test the new configuration.

MCDOT did not respect our request at one intersection and built a concrete bump-out despite our concerns. The RCA has responded by escalating our protest to the County Council and County Executive. That protest is currently under consideration by County

leadership. MCDOT did comply with our other requests. Police were out monitoring in the first week, and only striping and flexi-post were used at other intersections. Based on informal observations during the first week, it appears CESJDS has yet to properly educate parents on proper drop-off/pick-up procedures.

By the time you get this Echo, RCA volunteers will have already begun gathering data (traffic counts, cycle times, etc.) and video-recording congestion on Boiling Brook during peak use. We plan to use this information to make a credible, informed decision about our next request to the County. We will be much better positioned to make a coherent, thoughtful argument to the County if we make a case based on data rather than vague emotionally-charged claims. MCDOT and CESJDS have also been invited to speak at our October RCA meeting. This will be an important meeting, and I encourage you to make plans now to attend. It will begin at 8pm sharp on Thursday October 6th at the Viers Mill Recreation Center (corner of Beach Drive and Garrett Park Road).

Also, if you weren't on the RCA Yahoo group this summer you missed out on a lot of up-to-the-minute information regarding the new pedestrian crossings on Boiling Brook Parkway. I encourage you to sign up for that group if you haven't already.

This topic will be the focus of our October RCA meeting and your primary opportunity to provide feedback. We encourage you to attend. The meeting starts at 8pm at the Viers Mill Recreation Center on October 6th.



New pedestrian crossing in front of CESJDS

President's Message

(continued from page 2)

policy, set our agenda and priorities, hear from interesting speakers, and get to know our neighbors. So make a commitment to yourself now to attend at least a few RCA meetings this year. We do our best to keep them running on time and lively. I think you'll find them interesting and useful. At our October meeting we will hear from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation regarding the new pedestrian improvements on Boiling Brook Parkway as well as plans for the continuation of the Montrose Parkway. We hope to see you there!

Neighborhood Watch Back on the Beat

By Mara Greengrass

Over the summer, the Neighborhood Watch finally finished our training and began patrols. You may have seen us walking or driving slowly around, peering into backyards and cars. So far nothing exciting has happened ... which is exactly the way we like it.

The police assure us that simply having a neighborhood watch in place can dramatically bring down crime rates in an area. It doesn't take much for criminals to decide to hit easier targets.

But for the watch to work, we need more than signs at the entrances to the neighborhood...we need people patrolling! And that means we need you.

We don't ask for a big commitment, just a few hours every 6-8 weeks. If you'd like to join the Neighborhood Watch, please contact Mara Greengrass (mara.greengrass@verizon.net) for more information. We need your help to make RCA-land safer.

And remember, if you see a crime in progress, call 911. If you see something suspicious, but aren't sure it's a crime, you can call the police non-emergency number, 301-279-8000.

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News from Girl Scout Troop 1028

By Tania Bingcang

It's the start of another Girl Scout year and Troop 1028 welcomes it with excitement! The new line-up of parent troop officers are as follows: Julianne Martinelli - troop leader; Helen Bladen & Rosi Muehlstead - troop assistants; Jack Goldsby - our cookie dad; Jennifer Tifford - troop treasurer and registrar

Our first meeting will be on Monday September 19, from 6:30pm until 8pm and every other Monday from then-on. We have a lot of events and activities lined up, including a horse farm trip and an outdoor day filled with fun activities for our scouts this coming October. More details on other activities will be posted in upcoming Echo issues. So, welcome troops, and let the fun begin!



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RCA MusicFest!

Thank you to everyone who attended MusicFest in June! It was a great event and looks to become an annual tradition! We had a great turnout and great sponsors.



We had a great turnout at the wonderful Mem Sahib restaurant for MusicFest. Thank you to MemSahib for the great food and excellent service!



RCA is fortunate to have so many musicians in the community and this was a great opportunity to highlight them! From left: Julianne Martinelli, Matthew Tifford, and Margaret Wright.

The caliber of music was what you would expect from experienced, professional musicians. Excellent! From left: Jerry Lynn, Mike Pryor, and Christiana Drapkin. Jerry Lynn is owner of our new neighborhood music store, Jerry's Music.



One of the more special moments of the event happened when past RCA president Matt Tifford was surprised with the first annual RCA Volunteer of the Year Award. In this photo, current RCA president Dan Hoffman (left) gives the award to Matt (right). Matt received a plaque and a gift certificate from the RCA Board members. Each year the RCA will give the award to a hard working volunteer who has not been a member of the Board for more than six months of the previous year and who did not win in the prior year. Volunteers are the life blood of an organization like ours and we depend on them to be successful. Please consider volunteering for the RCA this year!

Thank You for Making MusicFest a Huge Success!

The Randolph Civic Association would like to thank the following sponsors:

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Flowers for our Signs

By Karen Helfert

For the first time, RCF attempted to plant summer annuals: salvia and dusty miller at all the RCF area signs. We used annuals in anticipation of the installation of the new signs – perennials might have been damaged during installation. We learned some lessons which would help in coming years: 1) buy annuals early in season when we have a wider choice; 2) use shade or part sun tolerant annuals – this year the dusty miller did OK, but salvia struggled (as did mine at home); and 3) order up better weather -- more rain and fewer ultra-hot days.

We would like to add perennials for a year round floral presence. However, since most perennials only bloom once during a season, the addition of some annuals would bring season-long color. One plant we are looking into is the hellebores (Lenten Rose); they are evergreen, they have a long bloom period, and they are deer resistant.

Next time you pass by one of our RCA signs, be sure to take a look, or stop, park the car or bike, walk over and smell the roses (and the salvia and the dusty miller)!

Randolph Hills Shopping Center proudly supports the Randolph Civic Association!

The Randolph Hills Shopping Center and all of the Randolph Hills Industrial Park look forward to a continued partnership with the community.

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Congratulations to the RCA on a successful MusicFest. The Randolph Hills Shopping Center was a proud sponsor of the event and looks forward to new neighborhood signs that beautify our community.

The Randolph Hills Shopping Center is located at the intersection of Boiling Brook Parkway and Rocking Horse Road. We have been a part of this community from the beginning and look forward to many more great years.

Troop 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin, Assistant Scoutmaster

OK, buckle up. We have a lot of ground to cover. Where do we begin? Let's start in Assateague, where Troop 1083 celebrated the end of the 2010/2011 school year with its annual beach/boardwalk/go-carts campout and all-around good-time celebration. It all happened June 17–19. The weather was fine, the go-carts were fast, swimming in the ocean and playing in the sand was fun, the food was great, and the Ocean City boardwalk was hopping. Wild horses (or ponies!) couldn't keep us away -- that must be why we go every year.

Next stop: the Eagle's nest. On successive weekends -- May 29th and June 5th -- Eagle Courts of Honor were held to recognize **David Santos** and **Scott Levengard**, respectively, for completing the climb to scouting's pinnacle. The significance of reaching the Eagle rank cannot be overstated. It is an honor rarely bestowed, but David and Scott are examples of the extraordinary young men who make Troop 1083 one of the rare units that produces several hard-working and dedicated Eagle scouts each year. In fact, the following weekend, June 11th, another Troop 1083 Scout, **Mathew Luong**, led a group of volunteers in completing his Eagle Scout service project, which consisted of affixing four-foot stakes topped with reflectors to the fire hydrants throughout RCA-land to make them more readily visible to first responders during blizzards and other emergencies. Finally, on August 19, **Tyler Stancill** passed his Eagle Board of Review -- the final formal step in the long and arduous climb to the Eagle rank. Congratulations to all four of these young men and their families!

Next on the Troop 1083 summer itinerary: High Adventure! On Sunday July 10th, five Scouts and three adult advisors began a two-week adventure at the world-famous Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. The trip culminated three years of intensive preparation and team building, and featured "leave-no-trace" wilderness camping at elevations above 10,000 feet. The trip started with two days of sight-seeing in Colorado (including Pike's Peak, the Garden of the Gods, and whitewater rafting) to acclimate to the high western altitude. Once in Philmont, the crew hiked over 70 miles in ten days and climbed five peaks including Mt. Phillips and the Tooth of Time. The intrepid crew included **Jason Beam**, **Matthew Best**, **Esteban Hernandez**, **Patrick Owen**, and crew chief **Greg Gadbois**. No less intrepid were the advisors, **Fred Beam**, **George Gadbois**, and **Leora Hernandez**. Without them -- and the countless hours they devoted over the course of the last three years -- this trip of a lifetime would not have been

possible. This was the third crew Troop 1083 sent to Philmont in five years; and at the same time this group was in New Mexico, the next crew (Philmont 2013) was already cutting its teeth with a week at the Lenhok'sin high adventure base on the Goshen Scout reservation in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia!

Hold tight -- just two last stops before we come in for a landing. Troop 1083 Scouts had two summer camp options this year: Camp Olmsted at Goshen, July 17–23; and Camp Rodney, on the upper Chesapeake, July 31–August 6. At Olmsted, six Scouts earned 20 merit badges, one special award, and one rank advancement. At Rodney, 30 Scouts earned 77 merit badges and 25 special awards. And here's a special shout-out to **Matthew Best**, who spent the summer working as a staff member at Lenhok'sin High Adventure before and after taking the time off to go to Philmont!

2011/2012 is going to be another great year in Troop 1083. We have outings throughout the year, where we learn and have a lot of fun. Why not join us? 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 Elementary School. You can call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048, or check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org.

News from Cub Scout Pack 1081

By Leora Hernandez

Over the summer months Cub Scout Pack 1081 was busy having fun! June 12th was the annual end of the year potluck picnic. This year it was held at Cabin John Park and included fun activities like a water balloon toss. The pack provided grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Thank you to our wonderful grill masters! And thank you to the families who brought all kinds of yummy food to share. On a sunny day in July, the boys and their families raised over \$110 by washing cars at the BP Station on Rockville Pike.

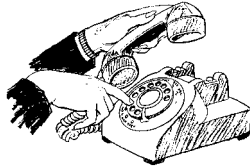
From August 1st to the 5th the Webelos I and II boys enjoyed a Western themed camp at Tuckahoe in Dillsburg, PA. There the boys had fun in the water swimming, fishing, and boating. Their time at camp is well spent as the boys work towards fulfilling requirements towards their Webelo rank. This year many parents helped out, including: Frank Hackenberg, Don Gibbons, Erik Streed, Jose Hernandez, Jennifer Charron, Maria Ayala, and Sheila Crawford. Thank you for helping!

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

The RCA Hotline

240-668-4722 (4RCA)

Calls Received June 1st, 2011
through August 17th, 2011



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

06-01-11 (Wed) at 7:14am. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. Not Anonymous. I wonder if you could contact the non-anonymous person on 114xx Schuylkill Rd whose message in the Hotline column of the last Echo reporting possibly having "found" a golden cat. He/she wonders if the cat has an owner and if not would like to find a home for the cat. He/she could buy a collar for the cat and affix a tag with his/her phone number asking to be called. He/she could also call the Montgomery County Humane Society to see if they have a "lost" listing for such a cat in this area.

06-02-11 (Thurs) at 12:38am. Not Anonymous. Caller lives in Franklin Park, on Hunters Court and has a neighbor on Norbley Drive. They are tenants who are letting their grass grow up to the moon. Is there anything the RCA can do to force a tenant to take care of the grass or find out who the homeowner is? Caller has seen snakes in the grass and has asked them to cut their grass but has been laughed off. Caller wants to know what the options are in this situation. (RCA Note: RCA is not a government organization and has no authority to force residents to take any actions, but we can help you in navigating County processes. We suggest you first start by calling 311 and registering a complaint.)

06-05-11 (Sun) at 5:44pm. Not Anonymous. Caller is a community member and has complaint with backyard neighbor on Monongahela Court. There's poison ivy and lots of trash in the yard. (RCA Note: We suggest you first start by calling 311 and registering a complaint.)

06-09-11 (Thurs) at 11:11pm. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. Hello, I was wondering if the Randolph Hills Civic Association had a list of rental properties. I originally grew up in Randolph Hills and am planning to move back into the neighborhood. Thanks! (RCA Note: We don't, but you could

start by contacting one of the realtors that advertise in the Echo.)

07-04-11 (Mon) at 2:33pm. Anonymous. Caller is a resident of Randolph Hills and is calling about the condition of Randolph Hills Local Park. Caller's family tried to go to the park to play at the playground and the park was trashed. It looked like there had been a party and no one had cleaned up. They had just left everything they had all over the playground and park. The whole family was appalled at the condition of it. Caller called Park Police who are going to take a look at it. It's a reminder to all residents that, if you have an event, clean up after yourselves. Or, if you see some people not cleaning up after them, call Park Police. It's not acceptable to leave your trash out for other people to clean up or for kids to have to play around on the playground. (RCA Note: This call may be about an incident that occurred over the summer. The RCA worked with the Parks department to have the permit holder who caused the mess banned from field rental for one year.)

07-13-11 (Wed) at 4:22pm. Not Anonymous. Caller is looking for the date of the next flea market at Loehmann's Plaza. (RCA Note: Our next Community Bazaar is October 15th.)

08-14-11 (Sun) at 7:09pm. Anonymous. Caller notes that the Hotline's outgoing message highlights the spring yard sale back in May. Caller is concerned about cars being parked on front lawns of homes. Caller has seen two or three cars parked ten feet from persons' homes and it looks really bad and is probably a fire hazard. Can something be done to have the cars moved off the property and onto the driveway? (RCA Note: Regarding the hotline message, thank you and we will update it. Regarding cars parked on lawns, this may be a code violation and you should file a complaint by calling 311.)

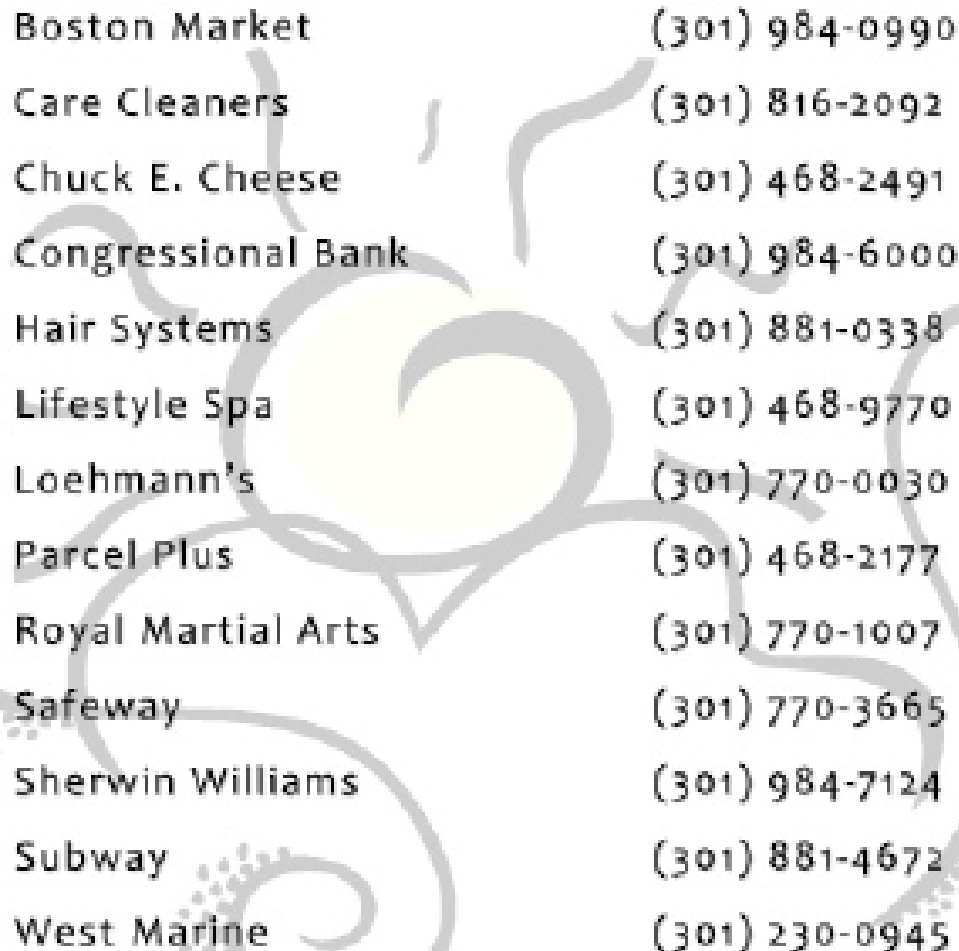
08-15-11 (Mon) at 2:37pm. Not Anonymous. Caller lives at 48xx Creek Shore Drive and is missing a cat who answers to "Fatty." Fatty is a fairly large all-grey cat. The underside of his belly is a little bald and he's kind of nervous. Caller last saw him last night at about 9pm and is concerned that the lightning and storms last night freaked him out. Caller can't find him anywhere in the neighborhood.

08-15-11 (Mon) at 4:25pm. Anonymous. Today, at about 1:20pm, caller saw a man mowing the lawn 47xx Boiling Brook Parkway. He dumped his grass clippings into the ravine that we just had cleaned up and redone. It is against the law to dump anything on public property. Can something be done about this? (RCA Note: We suggest you first start by calling 311 and registering a complaint.)

(continued on page 15)

Loehmann's Plaza

5200 – 5290 Randolph Road, Rockville MD

A decorative graphic consisting of a large, light-colored swirl with a yellow center, surrounded by smaller, darker swirls and dots, positioned behind the table.

Boston Market	(301) 984-0990
Care Cleaners	(301) 816-2092
Chuck E. Cheese	(301) 468-2491
Congressional Bank	(301) 984-6000
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Lifestyle Spa	(301) 468-9770
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
Parcel Plus	(301) 468-2177
Royal Martial Arts	(301) 770-1007
Safeway	(301) 770-3665
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Subway	(301) 881-4672
West Marine	(301) 230-0945

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President's Message

by Matt Tifford

After reflecting on my past year as President of the Randolph Civic Foundation, I find myself time and again marveling at how fortunate our community is to have this largely unnoticed gem of an organization. We have a tax-deductible 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated entirely to our community. That is truly remarkable! I know of no other neighborhood who can say the same. Many municipalities are served by a non-profit, like the neighboring towns of Garrett Park and Kensington. But an un-incorporated middle class neighborhood? It just doesn't happen. I am proud of our community, that we are able to support this organization, and proud to be able to lead it for the few years of my tenure here.

This past year, we brought an enormous amount of benefit to the community. We sponsored five different youth groups, who in turn cleaned up our streambeds, Park-land, and the grounds of our elementary school. They've collected food for the poor in the "Scouting for Food" food drive, installed reflective tape on fire hydrants, installed benches in our parks, and painted, mulched and planted flowers at our entrance signs.

We organized multiple volunteer efforts for periodic flower plantings at our entrance signs, sponsored extra-curricular events at our community schools, and raised over \$1400 for victims of the horrific house explosion on Ashley Drive. Most impressive, over the last two years we accomplished the largest fundraising effort in the history of our community, raising over \$6000 to replace our aging entrance signs.

With this years membership drive, I hope that you will find yourself moved to contribute to the Foundation's efforts. There's much still to be done, and we need your help to do it!

RCF Executive Committee for 2011-2012

OFFICERS

President

Matt Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

Vice President

Lindsay Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-775-9807

Secretary

Bob Walker
11813 Ashley Drive
amorworks1@aol.com

Treasurer

Mark Nensel
11830 Rocking Horse Rd 301-
351-1957

Directors

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Karen Helfert
11429 Ashley Drive
301-468-0236

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

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

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

Venture Crew 1083 Update

By Ben Pitkin, Corresponding Secretary

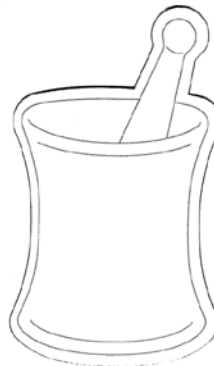
On June 6, Venture Crew 1083 celebrated the end of a fun and successful year with a pizza-making party and planning session for the upcoming year at the home of advisors Lauren and Carl Barrows. As you might have guessed, they spent the evening making pizza and plans. They wound up eating the pizza, but the plans are still around. Those plans include tennis, bowling, and fencing outings in the coming months, as well as a day trip to Hershey Park. Another tentative plan involves arranging with the Humane Society to establish a recurring service project; the details are yet to be worked out. The Crew also appointed interim officers for the summer and the transition to a new Venturing year: Jake Blakely is president and Brady Grundy is vice-president.

The first weekend after the 2010/2011 school year ended, the Venturers joined the Boy Scouts at the annual beach campout at Assateague State Park. Nothing like kicking off summer vacation with a little sun and fun at the beach!

From June 26th to July 2nd, three Venturers -- Emily and Brady Grundy, and Adair Irish -- attended a sailing high adventure program on the Chesapeake. They spent a week on the boat, learning how to sail and enjoying the seafaring life, with a different port-of-call each day; Baltimore and Annapolis were among the destinations. By all accounts, it was an outstanding experience. No pirate encounters were reported. Arrrrr!

Early August brought a canoe trip in the remote highlands of north central Pennsylvania. The trip reprised a similar journey last summer, with hiking, swimming, fishing, campfires, starry nights, and of course, fireworks; and it all took place among good friends in crisp clear mountain air.

Venturing is open to coed youth aged 14 through 21. The Crew will meet every Monday night during the school year, from 6:30-7:30 pm at Viers Mill ES. Join us! Bring a like-minded friend so you'll already know someone else at the meeting! For more information, contact crew advisor Greg Skolnik at 301-942-3755.



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CLASSIFIEDS

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

WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, 27 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

Hotline Calls

(continued from page 12)

08-17-11 (Wed) at 4:40pm. Anonymous. Caller is wondering what inspired all the change on Boiling Brook Parkway. Caller has talked to several neighbors and they have no clue, either. What's the purpose of this and who is it benefiting? Someone must have paid big money for this but caller doesn't know what purpose it's serving. Just curious. *(RCA Note: This is something the RCA is working on and will discuss at our meeting on October 6th at 8pm at the Viers Mill Recreation Center. Also see the article in this issue of the Echo for more information.)*

08-17-11 (Wed) at 4:59pm. Anonymous. Caller is calling as concerned resident from Old Drovers Way. Caller doesn't have a college degree but thinks the traffic engineers all have college degrees. They didn't use them very well when they designed this new Boiling Brook Parkway traffic setup. Caller understands we are here for pedestrian safety. Pedestrians need to watch where they're going; so do drivers. There have been about four accidents within that area in four days because of this new screwed-up design they have made. Caller thinks RCA ought to get with the school because caller thinks the school has a lot to play in it and see what they can work out – something more substantial than they have done - before someone gets killed there. Also, Caller believes that, if they post a stop sign at every intersection on Rocking Horse Road, it would alleviate the cut through traffic in the mornings and evenings. *(RCA Note: See previous call.)*

08-17-11 (Wed) at 5:28pm. Same Caller. Caller is wondering why, this being a residential area, we have a house on Randolph Road, in the Randolph Hills subdivision offering psychic readings out of their residence. Are we now a commercial area or is this for residential homes only? *(RCA Note: In-home businesses are allowed but RCA is working with the County to ensure the signage is appropriate.)*

News from Girl Scout Troop 1079

by Leora Hernandez

This troop is for girls in grades 6th-8th. At the Cadette troop level the girls have opportunities to grow leadership skills, earn SSL hours, and have fun! Our troop meets Monday evenings at Viers Mill Elementary School from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. If you are interested in joining us please contact me.

Among our recent accomplishments, Jacklyn and Amanda met with the Viers Mill Elementary School PTA to discuss their no-idling campaign and hope to continue to work with the PTA in the fall to promote a reduction in idling especially around the schools. The girls learned some interesting facts about idling, for example: if you idle more than ten seconds you are burning more fuel than if you had turn the engine off. Also, cars do not need to be warmed up for long periods of time prior to driving them in the wintertime. Even though newer engines' emissions are cleaner it still causes problem for our environment. There are many websites that provide information about idling. The girls searched using the phrase 'idling facts' to find lots of useful information.

In August, the troop went on a two-hour sailing trip from Annapolis, MD out towards the Bay Bridge and back on a 74-foot schooner. The girls learned from each crew member different things about sailing, including the parts of a boat, maps, safety, and each girl had a turn at the helm. They found sailing to be very relaxing and we were surprised at how far the boat tilts -- or as they learned, it's not tilting but keeling.

The troop is primarily girl-run so they will be planning their upcoming outings or service projects once we begin meeting again. We hope to have more girls join our troop so that we can accomplish even more.

If you are a girl in the 6th-8th grade, and you are interested in joining us, contact Leora Hernandez at 240-418-2984 for more information.

Note to Contributors:

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

October 2011	September 26th
November/December 2011...	November 4th
January/February 2012.....	January 20th
March 2012.....	February 17th
April 2012.....	March 2th
May 2012	April 13th
June/July/Aug 2012	May 11th



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

<u>Address...</u>	<u>List Price</u>	<u>Sold Price</u>	<u>DOM</u>	<u>Subsidy</u>	<u>Date Settled</u>
4618 Creek Shore Drive	\$449,900	\$440,000	182	\$10,000	30-Mar-11
12205 Nordlie Drive	\$349,900	\$349,900	20	\$10,374	15-Apr-11
12124 Gaynor Road	\$302,000	\$290,000	10	\$0	29-Apr-11
11807 Timber Lane	\$299,999	\$299,999	13	\$4,000	10-May-11
11207 Rock Road	\$349,900	\$341,000	57	\$0	23-May-11
11523 Patapsco Drive	\$250,000	\$250,000	2	\$0	01-Jun-11
11805 Rocking Horse Road	\$306,900	\$285,000	49	\$8,941	07-Jun-11
4805 Oxbow Road	\$295,000	\$310,000	6	\$8,744	21-Jun-11
11327 Schuylkill Road	\$279,900	\$275,000	45	\$5,500	23-Jun-11
11828 Rocking Horse Road	\$345,000	\$332,500	11	\$0	24-Jun-11
4801 Red Fox Road	\$365,000	\$355,000	17	\$0	29-Jun-11
4913 Stickley Road	\$319,900	\$301,000	72	\$6,000	30-Jun-11
4802 Wilwyn Way	\$349,900	\$330,000	153	\$0	30-Jun-11
4723 Boiling Brook Pkwy	\$250,000	\$251,000	21	\$0	28-Jul-11
4821 Randolph Road	\$299,900	\$290,000	133	\$0	31-Jul-11
10901 Troy Road	\$399,999	\$380,000	20	\$0	09-Aug-11
11913 Ashley Drive	\$349,900	\$335,000	41	\$1,000	17-Aug-11
11214 Troy Road	\$365,000	\$356,000	56	\$0	22-Aug-11

Denise
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