

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 48, Issue 1

September/October 2004

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President's Message

by Matt Shore

I am writing with an update on new streetlights. I turned all petitions in to the Department of Transportation on July 1. The installation of the lights will be complete in 2006. This includes more than twenty lights that were turned in, as well as the lights that have been on hold for a few years. We have to wait a year or so but at least we are on the work schedule to get this done. In less than a decade we will have more than a hundred new lights installed in the RCA. Good job!

On another note, new and replacement RCA signs should be in soon (ordered in August by Kim Williams, THANK YOU). These signs will replace the broken ones at Boiling Brook Parkway and at the intersection of Schuylkill and Garrett Park Roads. The new ones will be in Randolph Farms and Montrose Park. If anyone would like to help out in the installation of said signs please call the RCA hotline at 301-881-2722.

All volunteers are welcome to create and participate in various RCA projects. Everyone in the RCA is a volunteer who wants this community to look its best. If you would like to help out sometime please call the hotline or come to a meeting.

See you at the October meeting!



Don't miss these great RCA Events!

RCA Community Picnic

Saturday, September 25, 2004 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

RCA Community Yard Sale

Saturday, October 2, 2004 • 7:30 am - 1 pm

See page 4 for details!

Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting

Thursday, September 2, 2004, 8:00 p.m.

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, October 2, 2004, 8:00 p.m.

(see agenda at right)

AGENDA

RCA General Membership Meeting

Thursday, October 2, 2004, 8 PM

Randolph Hills Recreation Center

- Street Lights
- Ballot Questions
- Annual budget

RCA Executive Committee for 2004-2005

OFFICERS

President

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Vice President

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

2nd Vice President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Treasurer

Richard Zierdt
4707 Coachway Drive
301-881-0283

Directors

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Frank Rossomondo
11611 Ashley Drive
301-770-7450

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White
11225 Ashley Drive
301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo
11508 Monongahela Court
301-770-7590

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Membership

Carol Brown
4615 Olden Road
301-770-7440

Environment

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker
12111 Galena Road
301-468-6335

Yard Sale Signs

Shelby Hurt
11133 Schuylkill Road
301-770-1783

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

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

Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo
11611 Ashley Drive
301-770-7450

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487

Pat Hart
4905 Randolph Road
301-230-2740

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

Kevin Kline, 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: Howard Denis 240-777-7964
email: Councilmember.Denis@montgomerycountymd.gov
Mr. Denis' aide: Ken Hartman

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive (all of RCA):

Douglas Duncan 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3
(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland Legislative District 18

(representing all of RCA):

Senator: Sharon M. Grosfeld 301-858-3137

Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181

John Hurson 301-858-3770

Richard Madaleno Jr. 301-858-3130

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8:

Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341

email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate:

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precinct:

04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

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

751 Twinbrook Parkway

Rockville, Maryland 20851

www.777vote.org

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich

Office of the Governor

100 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-974-3591

governor@gov.state.md.us

www.gov.state.md.us



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

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

Membership in the RCA is \$5.00 per year.

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

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

Big Questions on the November Ballot

by Richard Zierdt

Three Questions will appear on the November 2, 2004 ballot, and I urge residents to vote "yea" on all three. Here's the exact wording of each, then I'll discuss my take on them:

Question A Property Tax Limits

Eliminate the authority of the County Council, by an affirmative vote of 7 out of 9 Councilmembers, to levy a tax on real property that will produce revenue that exceeds the revenue limit set in Section 305 by amending Section 305 of the County Charter.

Question B Term Limits—County Council and County Executive

Amend sections 105 and 202 of the County Charter to:

- limit the County Executive and members of the County Council to 3 consecutive terms in office, and
- provide that a County Executive and any member of the County Council who will have served 3 or more consecutive terms on December 4, 2006, cannot serve another successive term in the same office.

Question C County Council—Election by District

Amend sections 102, 103, and 104 of the County Charter to:

- divide the County into 9, rather than the current 5, Council districts;
- elect all Councilmembers by district, rather than the current 5 by district and 4 at large; and
- reduce from 5 to 1 the number of Councilmembers each voter can vote for.

Here's my take:

Question A basically prohibits the County Council from increasing revenues more than inflation would justify. Given that my property taxes, and I imagine yours, went up 13% last year and 9% more this year, it's a no-brainer. The Council either (1) cannot live within its means, or (2) doesn't know how to manage money, or (3) all of the above. Vote "Yes". BTW, "Section 305" refers to "Montgomery County Code, Part I - The Charter, Article 3 - Finance, Sec. 305 - Approval of the Budget - Tax Levies"

Question B. The main word here is "successive." Anyone can be a professional county politician, as long as s/he sits out one term every four. Sounds reasonable to me. This will increase voter choice, not limit it, since the professionals will have to give it up occasionally for new blood. Vote "Yes".

Question C. This was championed by the Montgomery County Civic Federation, of which the RCA is a long-time member.

The purpose of this Question is to reduce the big political money (read: Doug Duncan) that now dominates County politics. We currently have nine County Council members: five locally-elected, and four at-large. Basically, the four at-large Council seats are bought by big money. The amount of money to run a county-wide campaign is too much for even well-known local personalities because the population of the County is now almost 900,000, larger than six states. By changing all nine County Council members to local districts, any person running for Council would have to campaign in only a population of about 100,000. Still a large number, but a lot more doable than 900,000. By the way, the last line of this Question – "reduce from 5 to 1 the number of Councilmembers each voter can vote for" – was inserted by the County Council, who have the final say on how all questions are worded. While technically correct, it is not part of the original question. It was inserted by the Council to preserve their jobs. Rather than argue the merits of the Question in newspapers, radio shows, etc., it inserted this line on the ballot to "assure that voters knew what they were voting for." The Council could have also inserted "reduce the influence of political machines in elections," or

(continued on page 4)

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Rockville, Maryland 20852
(301) 881-3200

Ballot Questions

(continued from page 3)

“prevent all four at-large councilmembers from living next-door to each other,” but it didn’t. I wonder why.

However, yes, by having all local districts, each voter votes for only their Council member. Yes, the elimination of at-large Council members means that there will be no county-wide Council members that purport to represent the “entire” County. Consider this, though: There is nothing to prevent all four at-large members from living across the street from each other. How “county-wide” is that? Also, let’s say you like candidates A, B, and C for at-large Council seats, and you really like candidate D. So you vote for all four. Guess what? You just voted against your favorite candidate D three times! Also, the County Executive represents the entire County “county-wide,” and that will not change.

There is an analogy between local county council members and the county executive to state representatives and our nation’s president. County “local districts” are the “states” and the County as a whole is the nation. We vote for representation in our local district by our local county council member, and we vote for county-wide representation through our county executive. Works for me.

The Prince George’s County Council currently has nine locally-elected members, and no at-large members. There is a ballot question on their ballots this November that will add two at-large members. And who is behind this? You guessed it – big developer money. As reported in the Washington Post on August 17, page B2, “the petition drive (to add at-large members) is largely being funded by developers with significant influence in Prince George’s politics.”

I like the fact that Question C was completely envisioned and empowered by citizen action. Big political money and developers are firmly against it. That says it all: Vote “Yes” on Question C. ■

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

June 3, 2004

Vice-President Mike Saunders opened the meeting by approving the Treasurer’s Report and Meeting Minutes as published in the *Echo*. Secretary Kevin Kline took exception with increasingly harsh tone of messages left on the RCA Hotline, particularly the ones threatening to sue the RCA. Maryland specifically protects civic organizations from such “slap” suits (nuisance suits designed to “slap” down and shut up complaints).

Related (but later) there was a general discussion over nasty grams left on the hotline, coming from people who may or may not be RCA members, voicing complaints never heard at monthly RCA meetings. Kevin suggested editing out these mean messages, and that no publication – of any political persuasion – publishes every letter/phone call left on their answering machine.

In response to an RCA Hotline question, Kevin contacted the Nuclear

Regulatory Commission (NRC), and determined that the NRC warehouse in the Randolph Hills Shopping Center is not using its dumpsters to dispose of dangerous waste materials.

Kevin briefly discussed zoning near RCA-land. The Montrose Parkway funding is approved, a new Target is being built behind the Flagship Center Giant, and residential/retail complexes will be built at the Flagship Center, Twinbrook Metro, and another new complex at Marinelli Road.

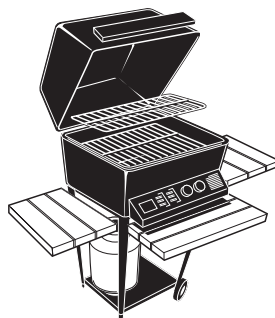
Park Police Officer Ernie Newman briefed us on their response to car windows being shot out with a BB gun on Ashley & Schuylkill. The Park Police patrolled RCA-land, Garrett Park and other affected neighborhoods. RCA’ers coming home late noticed the Police on patrol in your neighborhood. The Police stopped suspects, including one likely perpetrator that was told not to come back. The

Community Events

RCA Community Picnic

Saturday, September 25
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Randolph Hills
Recreation Center
It’s free, all you can eat!
Bring the family!
No rain date.



RCA Community Yard Sale

Saturday, October 2
7:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Loehmann’s Plaza

Cost is \$5.00 for RCA members,
\$10.00 for non-members.
No registration required, just show
up. No rain date. Bring your own
table(s) if necessary. Great
opportunity to get rid of that trash in
the basement and attic.

Balloon artist and face painter
for the kids!

broken windows have stopped, which is the second best thing to actually apprehending the criminal. Ernie reminded RCA'ers that running a stop sign is a \$75 fine and 2 points.

Vice-president Mike Saunders turned to the election of RCA Officers. The Slate of Candidates was presented, and people were reminded that the RCA can always use volunteers – who are never criticized for how little time or effort they can contribute.

Traditionally, RCA officers serve for 2 years, and the current officers are in their 2nd year. Approved by voice vote: President Matthew Shore; Vice-President Mike Saunders; 2nd Vice President George Gadbois; Secretary Kevin Kline; Treasurer Richard Zierdt; and Directors Jack Stillwell, Frank Shore, and Frank Rossomondo. Also approved by voice vote: the committee chairs as listed in the *Echo* (technically, committee chairs are appointed and not elected). Director Jack Stillwell raised a parliamentary question regarding quorum calls. Kevin Kline is to review the RCA bylaws.

Director Frank Rossomondo discussed a house on Ashley Drive. Frank presented pictures of this house with overgrown grass, trees, bushes, and rats. The *Echo* list of important phone numbers was reviewed and discussed, including which County office might best help in Frank's efforts to clean up this house.

Mike Saunders was interested in determining whether houses in RCA had covenants attached to their titles, and whether the RCA could enforce them. Some RCA'ers were going to review their deeds for covenants. During a general discussion, an RCA'er suggested we revive the "Best Looking House" awards as a positive, pro-active move.

Park Police have no way of enforcing the restrictions on the soccer field in Randolph Hills Local Park, because it does not have a sign. Park and Planning should post a sign stating permits required and youth only.

George Gadbois gave a brief update on the school system, and offered to write an article (to appear in this *Echo*). Nearby Garrett Park is upgrading their Town Center at the train station. The Garrett Park Café should be even better than before. ■

RCA Membership Drive for 2004-2005 Begins

by Carol Brown, RCA Membership Chair

It's that time again! Use the convenient, pre-stamped envelope provided with this *Echo* to send in your \$5 annual support! RCA dues are the lowest civic association dues in the County. Hopefully, your correct name, address, phone number, and email address are printed on the membership form.

(continued on page 7)

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Boston Market	(301) 984-0990
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Chuck E. Cheese	(301) 468-2491
Foot EFX	(301) 816-4663
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Kumon U.S.A.	(301) 231-6977
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
Parcel Plus	(301) 468-2177
Safeway	(301) 770-3665
SunTrust Bank	(301) 998-8580
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Subway	(301) 881-2477



7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1111, Bethesda, MD 20814

Telephone: 301-657-0700; Facsimile: 301-657-9850

www.jbgr.com

Membership Drive

(continued from page 5)

Please update as necessary. Because of some 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! Your dues help cover the cost of all the things the RCA does (community yard sales, picnics, support for our children [Cub, Boy, and Girl Scouts]) and keeping you informed of community issues. Advertising makes up the rest.

One way to further help financially is to contribute any amount over \$5. These extra amounts go automatically to the Randolph Civic Foundation, our non-profit, charitable counterpart. All donations *over* \$5 are tax deductible. Become a member of the "star" club; see the giving ranges on your membership form. SAM's Club numbers (if applicable) are printed on the membership form as well as e-mail addresses. No one makes a dime doing any of the work for the RCA/RCF; we're all volunteers. We spend around \$500 in postage and envelopes for membership out of an approximate \$10,000 annual budget. That's a 95% effectiveness rate on your donations. We don't believe you'll find any other organization so efficient with your donation. Please join us to keep your community a good community. ■

SAM's Club Membership News

by Richard Zierdt

(The following SAMs information is also always available on www.randolphcivic.org. Click on "RCA/SAMs Club Membership.")

Again this year, SAMs Club cards are available through the RCA for \$30 per year per household (maximum 2 cards per membership) for RCA members only. These are business memberships, which means you can shop at SAMs during the "business hours" of 7 to 10 AM. "Regular" memberships cannot shop then.

Existing SAMs users: check your expiration date on your RCA membership card. Most expire on or close to November 1, 2004. However, some expire in 2005 because of a snafu with new memberships last year. For these users, do not include the \$30: your SAMs card is good through the date indicated. Otherwise, simply add \$30 to your RCA dues, and continue to use your existing SAMs card. A new card will not be issued.

For residents who want to join SAMs now (new memberships), simply add \$30 to your RCA dues, and include your phone number. I will not purchase SAMs Cards without your phone number! I will purchase new SAMs memberships in late October and give you the account number. Take the

membership number to the membership desk of any SAMs Club store the first time you shop, and SAMs will issue you a permanent, plastic card which you will use from then on. Your SAMs membership will run from November 1 through October 30, 2005. ■

MCPS Update:

Colonel Joseph Belt Middle School and Connecticut Park Elementary School are both scheduled to reopen

The opening of Belt will directly affect RCA children. Currently both schools are slated to open for the 2005-2006 school year, though there has been some mention that there may be delays. As a community, we need to fight to prevent any delay. MCPS has been awarded a grant to incorporate magnet/academy programs, allowing school selection, to Belt, Parkland and Argyle Middle Schools as a consortium-like group. More details on the grant and this program will appear in upcoming *Echos*. This is a move in the positive direction for our neighborhood schools. Also, Parkland is scheduled to start renovation after the end of the 2004-2005 school year. ■

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Treasurer's Report *by Richard Zierdt*

As of October 21, 2004, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$12,438.14.

I wrote this report without the May 2004 Suntrust Bank statement for the RCA in front of me (RCF is OK). I ordered a replacement copy, but I won't have it in time for this report. At least the bank says we have more money than I do! Some checks have not cleared (732), and I've probably missed a deposit.

We have Boy Scout liabilities unpaid from last June of \$960 from the RCA for ECHO deliveries, and \$400 from the RCF, our traditional contribution. We also spend \$3000 in initial SAM's Club renewals, before the membership money comes in to replace it.

We also will be spending around \$1500 for new signs soon, as approved last year.

RCA Checking Register					
05/18/2004 through 08/21/2004					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 05/17/2004			11,367.30
05/19		RCAAssociation	Miata Day Care	100.00	11,467.30
05/22	E-xfr	Verizon	Apr 22 telephone	-24.44	11,442.86
05/25		RCA	ad	5.00	11,447.86
06/10	729	Mauro Biondo	—SPLIT—	-1,063.50	10,384.36
		ECHO:printing June ECHO 20 pgs		-997.50	
		postage ECHOs, advertisers		-66.00	
06/15	730	Tammy Long	unused ad	-100.00	10,284.36
06/16	E-Xfr	Verizon	May 22 telephone	-24.44	10,259.92
06/21		RCA	Pizza Calzon ad	119.00	10,378.92
06/22		Suntrust Bank statement:	10,379.26		10,378.92
07/13	731	MC Civic Federation	dues 2004-05	-85.00	10,293.92
07/19	E-xfr	Verizon	Jun 22 telephone	-26.10	10,267.82
07/23		Suntrust Bank statement:	10,268.16		10,267.82
08/03		RCA	—SPLIT—	150.00	10,417.82
		inc:advertising Harry Sewell, attorney		140.00	
		inc:membership MacWilliams		5.00	
		inc:membership Walker		5.00	
08/09		RCA	Vital Skin Care	140.00	10,557.82
08/12	732	Electric Web Avenue	RCA web site	-192.00	10,365.82
08/16	E-xfr	Verizon	Jul 22 telephone	-24.16	10,341.66
08/19		RCA	—SPLIT—	756.00	11,097.66
		inc:advertising Armands		476.00	
		inc:advertising Paul Friedman, plumb		140.00	
		inc:advertising Rockville Truck/Auto		140.00	
08/21		Suntrust Bank statement:	11,290.00		11,097.66
		BALANCE 08/21/2004			11,097.66

RCF Checking Register
05/18/2004 through 08/21/2004

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 05/17/2004			1,347.17
05/28		interest received .10%		0.11	1,340.28
06/28		interest received .10%		0.10	1,340.38
07/30		interest received .10%		0.10	1,340.48
07/31		<i>Suntrust bank statement: \$1340.48</i>			1,340.48
		BALANCE 08/21/2004			1,340.48
Total RCA+RCF cash assets					12,438.14

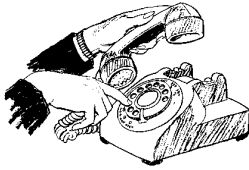
Randolph Road Railroad Tracks Repaired (FINALLY!)

Kudos to Frank Shore, who since LAST YEAR has been working to get the railroad crossing at Randolph Road repaired. At the December 5, 2003 RCA meeting, Frank reported that CSX was to do a temporary repair, with a permanent repair in the summer of 2004. You will recall that AFTER the temporary repairs, cars still had to cross the tracks at 5 MPH to avoid ruining their suspension! In July 2004, Randolph Road was shut down for one whole week while the tracks were permanently repaired. Wonder of wonders, crossing the railroad tracks is now a non-event. Thanks Frank!



The RCA Hotline

301-881-
2722 (2RCA)



Calls Received
May 19, 2004 to
June 11, 2004

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.

2004-05-19 (Tue) 6:22 pm

Anonymous. We really need a "No Parking" sign on one side or the other of Hunters Lane at Randolph Road. With the excessive speeds on Randolph, this is even more important. Also, if drivers are uncomfortable

making a turn at this intersection, please use the traffic signal at Gaynor Road and Randolph.

2004-05-19 (Thu) 5:58 pm

solicitation.

2004-05-22 (Sat) 2:23 pm

Anonymous (from Franklin Park). Caller describes current cicada activity; wonders if there's anything that can be done to eradicate them now or attract them all to one spot for dealing with them, perhaps shipping them to countries that like to eat them... Sell them at yard sales... Other than listening to the constant drone... Caller "thanks for the space and your time." *[Folks, we get long ones from time to time. This message went on for several minutes.]*

2004-05-24 (Mon) 10:11 pm Caller left a name. Caller comments on a hotline call from the last *Echo* about "loud Mexican music." Caller believes they need a neighborhood to live in too. You can't spoof them just because they do certain things, and such a phrase is racist.

2004-05-26 (Wed) 3:50 pm Theresia Ingberg of Ashley Drive. Her mother Elaine recently passed away (April 30), who was a resident since 1959, and was a former officer of the RCA. Elaine had copies of the ECHOs from the '70s and perhaps the '60s. If anyone wants them, let caller know. *[Theresia donated them to the RCA at the June meeting. Our condolences to the Ingberg family, and a Thank You for the ECHOs! BTW, back issues of the ECHO are gratefully accepted at any RCA meeting. Elaine's collection will fill in a lot of holes in the RCA's "official" archives.]*

2004-05-27 (Thu) 2:26 pm

Anonymous, Franklin Park, Montrose Park. Caller thanks the local U.S. Mail carrier for the neighborhood. Carrier recently completed jury duty.

2004-05-27 (Thu) 3:33 pm Prominent Ashley Drive resident. Caller sympathizes with the Galena Road resident about commercial trucks parked in the neighborhood. Police should be notified; commercial trucks are not permitted in residential areas. However, to say in the *Echo* that no more calls will be published about this issue is censorship, and caller really resents that. It's not becoming of Randolph Hills to put something like that in the paper. *[Richard Zierdt here. No more calls would be published unless the RCA membership approves more at the next RCA meeting (October 7, 2004). This was an executive decision that can be overridden by the membership at any RCA meeting.]*

Consider: The hotline was receiving numerous calls, all anonymous, all about the same thing. Callers wanted to know what to do. We told them what to do, as has this caller; but the calls continued. Enough is (was) enough.]

2004-05-27 (Thu) 6:02 pm Cristin Smith. Wants name removed from baby sitting services. Appreciates the support in the past.

2004-05-31 (Mon) 11:29 am

Anonymous. Franklin Park. What was the process to contribute \$400 to the Girl Scouts? How will the GS spend the money? Caller is not objecting to the cause, but questions the process. *[Good questions. Just to be accurate, it was the Randolph Civic Foundation that contributed the money (the "good works" sister organization of the RCA) from moneys donated by residents and friends mostly at the annual membership drive. The process is that a motion is made at an RCA/RCF meeting, and the request is approved or rejected. The amount may also be adjusted up or down. The supporters of the motion explain why the Troop needs the money it is requesting. Does it really need it? Perhaps not. But if not, then some programs of the Troop would not happen. One source of Troop activities can be found in the*



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articles that Troop leaders submit for the ECHO. These articles describe what each group is doing. In most cases, we (RCF) appropriate expenditures in the annual budget, which should be published in the first issue of the ECHO of the fiscal year. That would be this issue. (If the treasurer has time, it will be published).]

2004-06-04 (Fri) 3:49 pm

Anonymous. Franklin Park. Caller receives two issues of the Echo each month, with the second coming a couple of weeks after the first. The distribution process should be checked. [It would help if the subject address were known – or at least the hundred block. There are at least four ECHO routes in Franklin Park. Would the caller please provide this information?]

2004-06-05 (Sat) 10:07 am

Anonymous. Question of the day: If you microwave cook with plastic uten-

sils and the utensils melt in the microwave, is the food safe to eat? [We'll leave off the stuff about inquiring minds...]

2004-06-10 (Thu) 6:07 pm

Anonymous. Tired of power outages? www.freeelectricity.com. Free electricity... Even sell it back to Pepco... [Why do we deal with these calls? For another website, and view, go to http://www.nuscam.com/dennis_lee.htm]

2004-06-11 Out of tape! (until August 15). ■

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

Call 301-881-2722

RCA Hotline – 24 hours

RCA Picnic on Yom Kippur?

by Richard Zierdt

Yom Kippur is probably the most important event of the Jewish faith, so why is the RCA holding its Community Picnic on that day (September 25)? (YK starts at sundown the previous day).

The short answer is: no one could volunteer for September 17. September 25 was the best we could do and still have the picnic with a reasonable chance of warm weather. Plus, the Yard Sale is the following Saturday, October 2.

The RCA Executive Committee always takes major religious holidays into account when it plans the calendar. This year, the picnic was September 25 or not at all. Oh, well...

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How I Got Action on a Tree Problem or, RCA's Friend on the County Council

by Bette Walling

In the 11400 block of Ashley Drive, there was a large very dead tree in the county strip of land. Residents have been calling the county for several years to have it removed. All that ever happened was "it is in our computer" and a second "red dot" painted on the tree (the first dot was so old it became invisible). During a thunder storm a large limb broke and lodged against the 8,000 volt electric wire. I called PEPCO and they removed the limb 24 hours later. However, they left the limb lying on the county strip where a 78 year old RCA resident lives. PEPCO said the rest of the tree is the county's responsibility and suggested we should take pictures and mail one each week to the county until they take some action.

Since my dander was up, I sent an e-mail addressed to Doug Duncan, Howard Dennis, and Nancy Floreen about the potentially hazardous remaining tree. Nancy replied on July 4 (via e-mail) and stated the problem would be taken care of on the next workday. On July 6 a county truck removed the limb on the ground which had been left by PEPCO. On July 7 county crews removed and chipped the top limbs. On July 8 the trunk was sawed down and hauled off.

Doug Duncan's e-mail refused to accept new messages! Howard Dennis never replied at all! (He is our area's representative on the council and has spoken at an RCA meeting). Nancy Floreen (at-large council member) took action immediately and even asked why I had waited so long to contact her. Now we know who deserves our votes in the next election! ■

Don't Forget!
When visiting or calling
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please mention the ECHO.
Thank you for supporting
your community!

New Life for your Old Eyeglasses and Hearing Aids

by Brian McGahey

The Randolph Lions Club is part of Lions International, the world's largest service organization with clubs in 173 countries.

What we are asking the community for is not money, but used eyeglasses and hearing aids.

Collecting eyeglasses and hearing aids is a major project for Lions. Our club collects thousands of pairs of glasses a year. After we collect them they are sent to a Lions facility in Virginia where they are bagged and labeled with the prescription they fill. They are sent to Lions clubs all over the world, except the U.S. where reusing them is illegal. This is done with no cost to the recipient. Hearing aids are rehabbed by a company and stored until they can be used by a Lions club anywhere.

On Sunday, October 3, 2004 we will pick up any glasses you might have. Call Lion Brian McGahey at 301-770-7882 if you expect to have some to pick up. If you aren't going to be home, leave them in a bag on your front porch and I can pick them up.

With Your Help, We Serve. ■

**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.



Remembering Susan S. Walker

Susan Walker, 89, of Randolph Hills, MD, formerly of Baltimore, MD, Lancaster, PA, and born in Trenton, NJ, died July 24, 2004.

Susan's life was dedicated to her family, friends, strengthening civic life, and liberal thinking. She had been a Den Mother, Boy Scout mom, past Randolph Civic Association Membership Chairman and helped with the Randolph Hills Civic Association's Santa Clause visits for many years. She was called "mom," and is remembered very fondly by two generations of young people in her neighborhood of fifty years because of her open door, unconditional love, and open-minded engagement with them.

Beyond her neighborhood, Susan served the larger community through her 20 years as a Volunteer Senior Information Specialist and Coordinator for the Reception & Referral Desk at the Holiday Park Senior Center. In her earlier years, she taught the Church Across the Street curriculum for the Unitarian Universalist young people of Baltimore and Rockville.

Her service also included many years with the Randolph Lions Club's women's auxiliary Randy Lions and was one of the first women to be a "duly elected" member of the Randolph Lions as soon as the rules changed admitting women to membership. With the Lions Club, she served in the capacity of secretary, meeting

coordinator/telephone caller, membership recruitment, club visitations, and into her middle eighties cold winter days did not deter her from the Lions' well respected White Cane collections for the hearing and visually impaired.

She received recognition for her exceptional leadership and devoted service. Among her awards was the Melvin Jones Fellow induction for "dedicated humanitarian service" presented by the Lions Clubs International Foundation, numerous Lion of the Year along with local club president's special appreciation and recognition awards. On numerous occasions, she received the County Executive of Montgomery County Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation and a 20 years of "outstanding volunteer service" with the Holiday Park Senior Center.

Some of her greatest pleasures were reading poetry and about social justice concerns, leading to vigorous discussions and participation in various classes and seminars. She enjoyed going to the Rockville Little Theatre and other stage performances, working with youth, and was never late for a party, often providing her well-known meat loaf and rum cake. If someone wanted company for a trip, she was the first to volunteer.

Her final gesture to help others was expressed by her wishes to donate her physical remains for the advancement of medical education and research study in Maryland through the State Anatomy Board.

Susan was married to Robert A. Walker, Jr. and mother of Henry (Red) G. Walker, both deceased. She is greatly missed by her son Richard and his spouse Jean, by son Robert and his former spouse Ellen, and Susan's two grandchildren Gretchen and Britton.

A memorial celebration in her honor will be held at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center on Sunday, September 19, 2004 from 2:00 until 4:00 PM. The Center is located in the Randolph Hills Park with the entrance at Ashley Drive and Macon Road, Randolph Hills. ■

Neighborhood Notes

Proposed Changes to the Accessory Apartment (MPDU) Laws

Your Randolph Civic Association (RCA) belongs to the Montgomery County Civic (MCCF) Federation, an umbrella civic group. The MCCF has warned us that Montgomery County is attempting to weaken zoning by allowing public housing accessory units (e.g., basement apartments, public housing apartments and townhouses) to be built in single-family neighborhoods like ours. These zoning changes would have a major impact on RCA-land. Surprisingly, our very own County Councilmember Nancy Floreen is a leader in this effort. The RCA leadership is opposed to these changes, and asks for your opinion.

Rat Baby Boomers

The County's Health Officer Ulder Tillman warns that Montgomery County is suffering from a rat "baby boom." The County has received 60 rat complaints in June and 290 in July! Tillman projects that he will receive 1,300 rat complaints in all of 2004, compared to the past 3-year average of 800.

Tillman said the cause was the "perfect storm." The rat explosion, he said, is caused by a mild winter and the outdoor buffet of 17-year cicadas.

This author adds that usually, you will never see rats. If you do spot rats during daylight hours, you probably have an infestation problem. Rats have bad eyesight and a great sense of smell. Rats do not like to relocate, and will try to stay in the area they are familiar with. Initially, do not dig up their holes, just drop in rat poison. Rat poison works because rats cannot regurgitate (vomit). While dying, rats will head for their burrow, or to drink water. Try to keep the poison covered so birds and other animals won't eat it. Squirrels avoid rats and rat holes. ■

Boy Scouts Ask for Equal Access

by Kevin Kline

In July, the 4th Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, Va., ruled that our Montgomery County school system had unfairly discriminated against a Christian organization by refusing to distribute its flyers. "Backpack flyers" are informational flyers sent home with students to parents. Previously, several groups – the Boy Scouts, PTA, child care, and sport leagues – were permitted to send backpack flyers home to parents.

As a result of the court ruling, the School Board decided to limit backpack flyers, and excluded the Boy Scouts, among several other groups. However, sport leagues were allowed to continue. Board members said that they would have liked to continue under the old rules, but that the court decision "forced their hand," because the School Board would not distribute Christian material.

Your Randolph Civic Association is the proud sponsor of Boy Scout Troop 1083, and supports Cub Scout Pack 1081, and Girl Scout Troop 1487. The RCA will vote on a future course of action, and ask that you become involved in this community discussion.

In August, the school board received almost 500 complaints – what board members called an unprecedented response – after it tentatively approved the policy. Several RCA'ers complained that the new policy allows sports leagues, because exercise promotes a healthy lifestyle. The Boy Scouts should be included, the RCA'ers said, because Scouts also promote a healthy lifestyle, by taking hikes, camping, and canoeing.

The Boy Scouts of America sent a letter asking School Superintendent Jerry D. Weast to rescind the new policy, because it violates the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act. This federal law states that no public school, local or state educational agency that receives federal aid may discriminate against the Boy Scouts. ■

Annual Weed-Whacking and Clean-up at Waverly-Schuylkill Park

**Saturday, October 23, 2004
9 am until ????**



Come when you can for as long as you can. Any help is welcome.

The Kudzu has had a good summer, along with the Devil's Tearthumb, and we'd like to cut and pull as much as we can, especially the "curtains" you can see in the trees of the upper clearing. We also need people to help with weeding the garden beds.

Bring your clippers, loppers, hand saws, bug repellent, and gloves. (We'll have extras.) Long sleeves / long pants recommended.

Lunch provided.

Student Learning Service Credits available

**For more information, call Margaret Dikel at 301-881-0122
or Frank Shore at 301-468-1225**

A Letter from a Neighbor

Hello neighbors.

I just finished reading the latest copy of the *Echo*. It seems we have some unhappy neighbors. I did not realize we had so many people with the name Anonymous living here in RCA-land. I think instead of complaining, Anonymous should come to RCA meetings and join in to help improve our neighborhood. Anonymous used such phrases as impoverished-looking, slums, and neighborhoods turning to trash. I think that most of our neighbors keep their property looking very nice. There are always exceptions in life; we must accept them. Many neighbors, as they take their daily walk, pick up trash from the streets and yards they pass. Many young neighbors help their older neighbors with yard work, snow shoveling, etc. Why don't neighbors speak to their neighbors about loud music and other problems? If it is a rental property, call the county and complain about the condition of the home.

RCA does a lot for this community, such as new pavements, lighting, and parks. We have the "weed warriors" to help keep parks clean. We have "block captains" to keep watch and report problems, such as burnt-out lights, bad roads, potholes, and strangers in the area. These things don't happen by the goodness of the county government, but rather by the work of the RCA. This is a very nice neighborhood, with great people, beautiful homes, and a good location. If anyone is unhappy and feels we are the slums of Montgomery County, then they should put their house up for sale. Then, it will be sold in a very short period of time. That's because a lot of people wish to live in this area. We are close to schools, shopping, transportation, and parks. And, we have a very good neighborhood park association, as well as wonderful neighbors.

We need more people to get interested in the RCA to keep our neighborhood the wonderful place that it is.

P. Holahan



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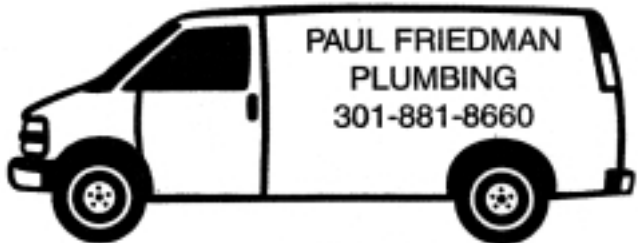
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DVDs for our Troops

Dear Neighbors,

My husband, Mike, and I have been looking for ways to support our troops in Iraq. We have a few ways of doing this. We send care packages to soldiers in Iraq. We are e-mail pen pals and we are helping the Chaplain's staff at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany. Wounded soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan are taken to Landstuhl. The Chaplain's staff has a wish list that includes portable DVD players and DVD movies. While they are healing from their injuries, the soldiers love to watch movies. This past spring, we held a fundraiser and we raised enough money to purchase 3 portable DVD players and some DVD movies. We received the most beautiful letter of thanks and gratitude. The Chaplain's staff and the soldiers were so happy that people here at home were thinking of them. The Chaplain's staff would like to create a DVD movie library. They would like to have 200 movies by the end of the year. Mike and I have decided to help them achieve this goal. We are asking our neighbors, friends, co-workers and anyone else to help. We are collecting DVD movies, new or used, or a monetary contribution and we will purchase the DVD's. You can drop off DVD movies at our house or mail it to Stacy Rabinovitz, 4815 Ertter Drive, Rockville, Maryland 20852, phone number 301-881-9049. We would like to mail this out by December 1st, so they receive the DVD's for the holidays. These men and women are sacrificing a lot and one movie from each household in RCA-land would be a great way to reach our goal. Thank you for your generosity. Your contribution will make a lot of people happy.

Sincerely,
Stacy

NRC Responds to Residents' Concerns

by Eileen White

In May, the RCA received a call on the Hotline reporting that the caller had observed a sign at the Randolph Hills Shopping Center that reads "U.S. Nuclear Regulation (sic) Committee Warehouse." The caller wondered what is in those buildings, and if the neighborhood is being exposed to dangerous substances. This call was printed in the June/July/August 2004 *Echo*.

Kevin Kline, RCA's secretary, contacted the NRC to check up on this and was assured that no dangerous waste materials were being dumped at the shopping center. In addition, I received the following letter on June 10th.

* * * * *

Dear Ms. White:

Recently we discovered an item in your June/July/August issue of the *Echo* regarding a call from a concerned citizen wondering about a "U.S. Nuclear Regulation Committee Warehouse" sign he/she saw posted in the Randolph Hills Shopping Center.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission does indeed have a warehouse in the Randolph Hills Shopping Center, which is maintained as a conventional office storage facility. The NRC uses the warehouse to store surplus furniture (i.e., desks, chairs, etc.) and computers, as well as a minimum amount of office supplies.

Residents should not fear any exposure to "dangerous substances" from the warehouse.

The NRC is the federal agency responsible for regulating commercial uses of nuclear energy (such as nuclear power plants). We establish standards and regulations for nuclear energy, issue licenses for nuclear facilities, and make sure those facilities comply with our requirements. Although we do have the word "nuclear" in our name, we have no authority over the use of nuclear weapons.

DAVID S. SCHLUTZ, D.M.D.



4618 Randolph Road
Rockville, MD 20852
(301) 770-7369
Fax: (301) 770-7631

DENTIST

To find out more information on who we are and what we do, feel free to visit the NRC's web page at www.nrc.gov. We place a high priority on keeping the public informed of the work of our agency.

Sincerely,
Mindy S. Landau
Assistant for Communications
Office of the Executive Director for Operations

* * * * *

In addition to the letter, someone from the NRC tried to call me (I wasn't home; they left a message). I have to say I'm impressed by their efforts to alleviate our concerns! ■

Penn Place in Garrett Park to Reopen

An opening celebration is planned for the newly renovated Penn Place in neighboring Garrett Park on Saturday, September 18, 2004 from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Penn Place will feature a new restaurant, Black Market, which will serve breakfast, lunch and dinner. Cross the tracks and eat at Blacks!



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News from Pack 1081

by George
Gadbois



Pack 1081 Cub Scouts are back for yet another year of fun and excitement, but first we'll update this past spring and summer's activities. At our May Pack Meeting, Tiger Cub **Chris Mulcahy** received Sports & Academics Belt Loops for Music, Soccer, Computers & Skating. Wow, great job Chris! The Wolf Rank Badge was awarded to **Brandon Johnson** along with a Gold Arrow Point. **Sawyer Kibbe** was presented his Sports & Academics Program Sports Pin for Skiing. The Bear awards were as follows: Sports & Academics Program Academic Pins for Map & Compass to **Joshua Murtagh**, **Patrick Owen**, **Steve Hernandez**, **Brenton Polk** and **Matthew Luong**; and for Wildlife Conservation to **Joshua Murtagh**, **Patrick Owen**, **Steve Hernandez**, **Brenton Polk**, **Matthew Luong** and **Matthew Best**. Our Webelos I scouts stayed busy working on the Citizen Activity Pin



Cubs working hard & having fun washing cars.

along with getting ready for summer camp. The Billy Goat Trail Patch was earned this year by **Chris Mulcahy**.

Winding up our May meeting was our "bridging" ceremony graduation of our remaining boys to the next level of Cub Scouting: Moving up to Webelos II - **Alan Costas**, **AJ Taylor**, **Gregory Gadbois**, **Jake Blakely**, **Joshua Hart**, **Dwayne Remillard**, **Alexander Hevey**, **Jason Beam**, **Timothy Lim** and **Kevin Benitez**; advancing to Webelos I from Bear -

Patrick Owen, **Brenton Polk**, **Matthew Best**, **Joshua Murtagh**, **Steve Hernandez** and **Matthew Luong**; going from Wolf to Bear - **Tyler Bochniak**, **Brad Gessford**, **Sawyer Kibbe**, **Alex Sanchez** and **Brandon Johnson**; and finally, jumping to Wolf from Tigers - **Aidan Gibbons**, **Chris Mulcahy**, **Preston Polk** and **DJ Terry**. Our uniformed leaders and registered committee members were also recognized for their volunteering and commitment: **Kim Polk**, **Scott Bochniak**, **Ed Murtagh**, **Lourdes Luong**, **Fred Beam**, **Jane Owen**, **Matt Taylor**, **Sharon Barbee**, **Moses Hart**, **Dave Talbott**, **Mary Anne Gadbois** and **George Gadbois**. As well, appreciation goes out to our dedicated Den Chiefs from Troop 1083: **Ed Huggins**, **Bubba Hart**, **John Pitkin** and **Anthony Gadbois**. Thanks also goes out to the Randolph Lions, the RCA and all the dedicated parents who help make the pack run. It is with some sadness that we say goodbye to the **Taylor family** (Matt, AJ) as Matt has accepted a position overseas in the Foreign Service. We wish the Taylor's well and the best of luck, we'll miss all of you.

Our May outings included, in addition to a hike on the Billy Goat Trail on the 8th mentioned above, a family camping trip to Pinecliff

Our 2004 Camp Tuckahoe crew.



Campground in Frederick on the weekend of the 21st-23rd. The fun and activities included hiking, soccer, fishing, camp cooking (including two peach cobbles by **Mr. Beam**), a campfire, a visit from the ice cream man and some overnight rain to challenge our tents' waterproofing. Cubs attending the trip were **Matt Fieller, Kyle Blakely** (both now boy scouts), **Jake Blakely, Jason Beam, AJ Taylor, Gregory Gadbois, Joshua Hart, Joshua Murtagh, Mathew Luong** and **Tyler Bochniak**.

June brought our annual Pack Picnic and Mother/Son Softball Game to Randolph Hills Park on Sunday the 6th, where the Moms for the second year in a row narrowly squeaked by the Cubs in five innings, winning 14-13. Unfortunately, our second June outing at the Baysox game on the 11th against the Birmingham Mets was rained out. Another Scout Night ball game, however, occurred at the Frederick Keys on the 26th where our Cubs that attended saw the Keys beat up on the Potomac Cannons 5-2.

Cub Day Camp was held at Lake Needwood in Rockville in June and on the grounds of Holy Cross Church in July where we had boys from 1081 in each session. **Sawyer Kibbe, Tyler Bochniak, Preston Polk, DJ Terry** and **Chris Mulcahy** got a jump-start on their Wolf and Bear achievements by working on crafts, scout skills, performing skits & songs and enjoying a number of other Frontier Days theme activities.

(continued on page 20)

Cub Scout Pack 1081 Wants You!



Pack 1081, chartered by the Randolph Lions Club, joins with Baloo the Bear and his friends to invite you and your 1st through 5th grade son to become a part of one of America's leading values-driven organizations. The Cub Scout program is a valuable resource that can help families accomplish worthy goals while building and strengthening relationships within the family.

Cub Scouting combines fun with educational activities and lifelong values. It also helps parents to help their boys strengthen character, develop good citizenship, and enhance both mental and physical fitness. In addition, the program provides boys with positive peer groups and

tools to shape their future.

In Cub Scouting, boys learn ideals like honesty, bravery, and respect. These values help boys make constructive decisions throughout their lifetimes and give them the confidence they need to grow and develop. According to a study conducted by Louis Harris & Associates, "Character may be defined as the 'willingness to do what is right, regardless of circumstances.' Cub Scouting teaches boys what is right, in part by encouraging them to reflect on lessons learned through Cub Scouting activities."

Our neighborhood Pack 1081 will be hosting a "Join Cub Scouting Night" recruitment event to be held on **Thursday September 16, 2004, 7:00 p.m.** at Viers Mill Elementary School. Viers Mill ES is located at 11711 Joseph Mill Rd., Silver Spring, MD 20906. Join us that night for a short presentation and to get more information. Baloo, along with Akela and a reformed Shere Khan, encourages every boy to come by and sign up and to bring a buddy, too. Call Mr. George Gadbois (301-770-5386) if you have questions.

Cub Scouting: Everything you could want for your son and more.



Pack 1081

(continued from page 19)

From June 27 through July 1, our Webelos I & II scouts attended Camp Tuckahoe Scout Camp in Dillsburg, PA for five days of resident overnight camping. As in previous years, the Scouts kept busy from reveille to taps with swimming, nature & forestry, BB shooting, archery, sports, geology, outdoor skills, crafts, fishing, boating, a campfire and more! Attending Camp Tuckahoe were **Alan Costas, AJ Taylor, Gregory Gadbois, Jake Blakely, Joshua Hart, Jason Beam, Joshua Murtagh, Brenton Polk, Matthew Luong** and **Steve Hernandez**. Our first July outing was at the Glenmont Pool on the 10th where **AJ Taylor, Gregory Gadbois, Joshua Hart, Matthew Best, Sawyer Kibbe, Brad Gessford** and **Tyler Bochniak** cooled off swimming & splashing. Also in July we had our car wash fundraiser outing on the 24th, keeping boys cool while cars coming in were cleaned by **AJ Taylor, Jason Beam, Gregory Gadbois, Jake Blakely, Joshua Hart, Alexander Hevey, Matthew Best, Matthew Luong, Steve Hernandez, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Sawyer Kibbe, Preston Polk** and **Chris Mulcahy**. Special thanks to Colonial Shell and those that stopped by for a cleaning to help defer our Pack expenses.

August opened with yet another baseball Scout Night event for some of our boys in Bowie on the 6th where Kris Wilken singled home Val Majewski in the bottom of the eleventh providing the Baysox with a 5-4 win over the Akron Aeros. Our second outing, but final scout ball game event was up to Frederick again to see the Keys lose this time to the Cannons 8-4 on Thursday, the 19th at Harry Grove Stadium. The loss was offset by a cool laser show that followed.

As the school year starts, Pack 1081 will be recruiting again looking for "a few good boys" to join the

ranks of fun and adventure in the Cub Scouts. Physical Fitness Field Day in September and family camping weekend to Little Bennett Park in October are just two of our upcoming exciting activities. If you're a boy in the 1st to 5th grade, please visit us on Join Scouting Night at Viers Mill Elementary School on Thursday, September 16th at 7 PM to get more information and join up! Call Mr. George Gadbois at (301) 770-5386 for more details. Also, check our website <http://hometown.aol.com/pack1081> for updates on our activities and additional information. ■

Troop 1083 News

by Brian McGahey

Scout troops live for the summer. This summer, Boy Scout Troop 1083 went to summer camp three times and the beach twice.

In June we went to a private campground in Delaware. We enjoyed go kart racing, a night on the boardwalk in Ocean City, lots of the Atlantic Ocean and the hottest night I've ever spent outdoors.

In August, back to the Ocean. We learned surf rescue techniques from the Dewey Beach Lifeguard Station, and enjoyed the ocean. Of course the Scouts also learned how to avoid the need for ocean rescue through a comprehensive on how rip currents work, and what to do when caught in them.

At summer camp boys get a concentrated dose of Scouting. We went to three different camps this summer. In July, Troop 1083 went to Heritage Scout Reservation, near Uniontown, PA. They camped with Troop 495 of Kensington. Attending were **Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Anthony Gadbois, Bubba Hart, Edward Huggins, John Pitkin, Scott Talbott**

and **Andy Wood**. They were supported by adults **Rich Bushong** and **Dave Talbott**. In August we went to Goshen Scout Camps in Rockbridge County, VA. The first program was Len'hoksin trail, a week long backpacking trek in the mountains around Goshen. They learned about black powder shooting, rock climbing and traditional Appalachian culture ("Foxfire"), and most importantly, how to work together on common tasks when you just don't want to, because you are soaking wet. The group consisted of **Matt Binsted, Jake Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel, Edward Huggins, Galen Miley, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott** and **Andy Wood**. The adults on the trip were **Ken Wood** and **Greg Skolnik**. They did the whole trip with the Scouts. The next week, Troop 1083 went to the regular week of camp at Camp Olmsted. The boys on this trip were **Matt Binsted, Kyle Blakely, Jacob Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel, Edwing Fuentes, Anthony Gadbois, John Hilderbrand, Ed Huggins, Scott Johnson, Galen Miley, Joseph Owen, John Pitkin, Steve Santos, Chris Soares, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott, David Turish** and **Andy Wood**. They were supported by a crew of adults: **Dave Talbott, Ben Pitkin, Mike Saunders, Bill Blakely, George Gadbois** and **Brian McGahey**. Camp was cool in temperature, no rain, and not crowded full of Scouts. Merit badges earned at the two camps include: Archery - **Edwin Fuentes, Bubba Hart, Galen Miley, Steven Santos, Hafez Taghav**. Art - **Matt Binsted, Kyle Blakely, Scott Johnson**. Astronomy - **Steven Santos, Hafez Taghavi**. Atomic Energy - **Steven Santos, Hafez Taghavi**. Aviation - **Mark Bushong, Edward Huggins, Andy Wood**. Basketry - **Matt Binsted, Mark Bushong, Ed**

Note to Contributors:

The deadline for the November issue of the *Echo* is Friday, October 8th.

Huggins, John Pitkin, Scott Talbott, Andy Wood. Camping - **Matt Binsted, John Pitkin, David Turish.** Citizenship in the World - **Matt Binsted.** Climbing - **Galen Miley.** Computers - **John Pitkin.** Electricity - **Jacob Bolt.** Electronics - **Jacob Bolt.** Emergency Preparedness - **Jacob Bolt, Alex Cassel.** Energy - **John Pitkin.** Engineering - **Anthony Gadbois.** Fingerprinting - **Kyle Blakely.** Forestry - **Galen Miley.** Indian Lore - **David Turish.** Leatherwork - **Kyle Blakely, Joseph Owen.** Lifesaving - **John Pitkin, Scott Talbott, David Turish.** Mammal Study - **Kyle Blakely, Scott Johnson.** Motorboating - **Mark Bushong, Edward Huggins, John Pitkin, Andy Wood.** Oceanography - **Mark Bushong, Edwin Fuentes, Edward Huggins, John Pitkin, Andy Wood.** Orienteering - **Jacob Bolt, Scott Talbott.** Photography - **Jacob Bolt, John Pitkin.** Pioneering - **Anthony Gadbois.** Reptile and Amphibian Study - **Joseph Owen.** Rifle Shooting - **Alex Cassel, Edwin Fuentes, Joseph Owen.** Rowing - **Anthony Gadbois, Scott Talbott.** Soil and Water Conservation - **Anthony Gadbois.** Space Exploration - **Mark Bushong, Edwin Fuentes, Anthony Gadbois, Johnny Hilderbrand, Edward Huggins, Scott Talbott, Andy Wood.** Swimming - **Matt Binsted, Kyle Blakely, Edwin Fuentes, Bubba Hart, Chris Soares.** Weather - **Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin.** Wilderness Survival - **Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin.** Woodcarving - **Bubba Hart, Johnny Hilderbrand.**

Rank Advancements are the big steps in Scouting:

Matt Binsted - Scout, Tenderfoot,
Second Class, First
Class

Edwin Fuentes - Second Class

Galen Miley - Star

Alex Cassel - Life

Anthony Gadbois - Life

John Pitkin - Life

Matt Binsted is a Scout who used to live in Randolph Hills, moved to Delaware, and is now a long distance member of Troop 1083. This was a full summer for Troop 1083.

If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade or are 11 years old this program might be for you.

We meet on Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at Viers Mill Elementary School. Come and join us. Visit our web site – troop1083.org – to find out more about us and upcoming events; or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. ■

TROOP 1083

Strong leaders
are made,
not born.

The Boy Scouts of America has a proud tradition of preparing young people for leadership with character-building programs that instill timeless values.

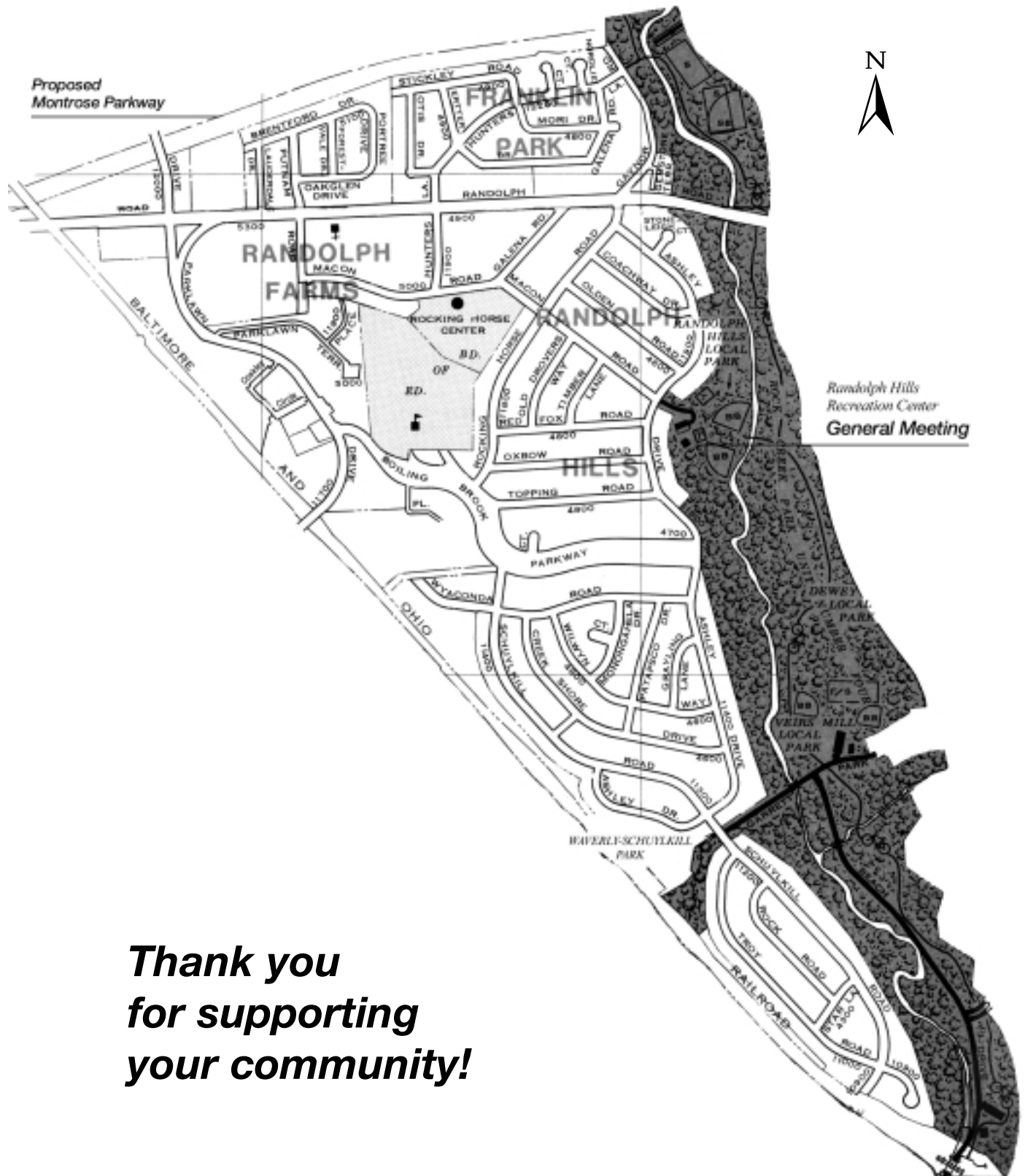
Trust, loyalty and honor are not just ways of scouting. They are a way of life.



Meetings: Mondays @ 7:30 PM
Viers Mill Elementary School
For boys ages 10 to 17

WANTS YOU!

For additional Info: Dave Talbott 301-933-0048



***Thank you
for supporting
your community!***

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.

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

KINDERMUSIK at L&L Music Wind Shop. The world's most respected name in musical learning for children. You and your child will participate together in every step of the learning process – music skills to academic skills to life skills. Classes available for newborn to 3 years old. Call 301-948-7273 to learn about free preview classes and semester schedules.

PRIVATE FLUTE LESSONS ranging from the new beginning band student to the adult student returning after several years. The Fall is a great time to try something new! All ages and experience welcome. Professional flute teacher with 7+ years experience, available for teaching lessons in home studio for ages 8 and up. Lessons include music theory and history, and recital opportunities. Call Julianne Martinelli (301) 881-8969 for scheduling.

AUNTIE SARA'S ANIMAL CARE. Long and short term care – walking, playing, administering meds, boarding. 301-468-6310.



Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

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

Andrew Souder 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive
Matt Bebawy 301-881-4698 Red Fox
Alex Cassel 301-770-8757 Macon Road
Steven Santos 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way
Chris Geerman 301-230-1386 Ashley Drive
Mark Bushong 301-942-5890 Bennion Road
Andy Wood 301-946-4634 Idlewood Road
Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Need Babysitting Services?

Casey Stillwell 301-380-1030 Macon Road



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Non-Emergency	301-279-8000
<i>(Police Reporting Areas (PRA): Franklin, Montrose Park: #306; Westminster, Randolph Farms: #308; Randolph Hills 1st & 2nd sections #308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)</i>	
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	301-279-1591
Police: Emergency	911
Park Police	301-949-3010
<i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuykill Parks)</i>	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	240-777-3600
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
<i>(wildlife nuisance problems)</i>	
Disability Resources	240-777-1246
Fire Non-Emergency	240-777-0744
Housing Code Violations	240-777-3600
<i>(for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.)</i>	
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
<i>(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)</i>	
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)	301-468-4448
Street Light Out	240-777-2190
Transportation (Highway Services)	240-777-7623
<i>(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)</i>	
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 June 2004

Address	Orig Price	Sold Price	Dom	Address	Orig Price	Sold Price	Dom
11822 Rocking Horse	\$310,000	\$310,000	5	11815 Ashley Drive	\$359,000	\$366,500	3
4605 Wilwyn Way	\$335,000	\$315,000	22	11133 Schuylkill Road	\$369,900	\$369,900	17
11104 Troy Road	\$325,000	\$325,000	3	11809 Timber Lane	\$369,999	\$370,000	19
11505 Schuylkill Road	\$339,000	\$339,000	12	12113 Troy Road	\$379,000	\$386,000	16
4701 Topping Road	\$339,000	\$339,000	18	12123 Galena Road	\$389,900	\$389,900	24
411301 Creek Shore Pl.	\$339,000	\$340,000	9	12114 Hunters Lane	\$400,000	\$400,000	21
4710 Wilwyn Way	\$340,000	\$340,000	14	5103 Oakglen Drive	\$399,000	\$415,500	9
11830 Rocking Horse	\$340,000	\$345,100	2	12105 Forestvale Drive	\$419,000	\$419,000	5
4609 Olden Road	\$354,900	\$350,000	15	5105 Brentford Drive	\$435,000	\$390,000	60
4812 Red Fox Road	\$345,000	\$350,000	8	12206 Hunters Court	\$449,900	\$422,000	28
12114 Otis Drive	\$349,900	\$350,000	7	12100 Portree Drive	\$419,000	\$431,000	3
11106 Rock Road	\$357,000	\$362,000	7	4814 Ertter Drive	\$499,900	\$450,000	29
4813 Oxbow Road	\$374,900	\$365,000	18	11913 Hunters Lane	\$479,900	\$502,768	26
11212 Ashley Drive	\$374,900	\$366,000	24	11915 Hunters Lane	\$479,900	\$527,427	171

"During your lifetime, an investment in your own home is likely to be the best investment you'll ever make. Fifteen years ago, you could purchase a home in Randolph Hills for \$130,000.

Since then, prices in the neighborhood have tripled! And guess what?

New homeowners are still drawn to the neighborhood by the same features as then... a pretty neighborhood, nearly surrounded by parkland, and in a convenient location."

When you're ready to buy a new home, or sell your current home, give Denise a call.



Denise
Szczur
301-452-5544



Email: denise.szczur@longandfoster.com