

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 51, Issue 1

September/October 2007

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President's Message

by Mike Saunders

Hope you had a great summer. Now that the school year has started, we all need to be aware of our children as they make their way to the bus stop each morning. Right now, there is no frost on the windows but there soon will be and frost makes seeing the little people a little harder when you are in a hurry to get to work in the morning. Please use extra care each morning as you get out and go to work. Little people don't always take all of the precautions they should when they approach the roadways. Same goes for afternoons when the children come home from school. Now that I'm a retired grandfather, I see a lot more things that make me nervous each morning and afternoon.

One major problem has cropped up over the summer. That is the plan by the County Park and Planning department to "Transfer or Demolish" our Randolph Hills Recreation Center located at 11805 Ashley Drive. This recreation center has served as the anchor building for the RCA community for over 50 years. The building is now closed because the staff at Park and Planning determined that the building may have rotted sill plates and therefore may be unsafe for use as a meeting place. RCA's leadership has written to all of our County Council and the County Executive indicating our dismay with the Park and Planning decision to either "transfer or demolish" our Rec Center. Park and Planning states that in addition to the condition of the building (their fault for not maintaining it), they find that our Rec Center is under-utilized. The standard the staff of Park and Planning has determined that each of these buildings needs to be utilized is more than 30% of the available hours and that they should pay for them-

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Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, October 4, 2007, 8:00 p.m

RCA Executive Meeting

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



New Meeting Location!

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

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

Mark your calendars! for these upcoming RCA Events

RCA Community Yard Sale

The Fall RCA Yard Sale is scheduled for **Saturday, October 6, 2007** at Loehmann's Plaza. Mark your calendars!

RCA Fall Community Picnic

The Fall Community Picnic is scheduled for **Saturday, September 29, 2007.**

Details on page 14.

RCA Executive Committee for 2007-2008

OFFICERS

President

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Vice President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

2nd Vice President

Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-770-5985

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Treasurer

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

Directors

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White
11225 Ashley Drive
301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo
11508 Monongahela Court
301-770-7590

Membership

John Kehoe
4814 Red Fox Road
301-231-4933

Environment

Matt Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Education

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Yard Sale Signs

Lorena Segura
4802 Macon Road
301-984-8727

Special Projects

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

Randolph Civic Webmaster

Karen Helfert
11429 Ashley Drive
301-468-0236

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

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

Cub Master, Pack 1081

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

Scout Liaison

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

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Brownie Leader, Troop 1028

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

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 2138

Deanne Marino
11129 Schuylkill Road
301-560-4840

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

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

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):

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

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

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive: Ike Leggett 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3

(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland Legislative District 18 (representing all of RCA):

Senator: Richard Madaleno 301-858-3137

Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181

Jane Lawton 301-858-3638

Jeffrey Waldstreicher 301-858-3130

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

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8:

Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341

email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate:

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Benjamin Cardin 202-224-4524

Election Precinct:

04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

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

751 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland 20851

www.777vote.org

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

Governor Martin O'Malley

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 \$10.00 per year.

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

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

President's Message

(continued from page 1)

selves. Throughout the county, there appears to be a cost of approximately \$220,000 to maintain all of the Rec Centers above and beyond the permit fee generated revenue. If I remember correctly, that is a function of the taxes collected from the citizens.

As a tax payer, I am very dismayed with the action and methods taken by the Park and Planning Department. Over the decades, they have failed to adequately maintain this and many other Rec Centers throughout the county. Now that these Rec Centers are reaching their life expectancy, the staff of Park and Planning wants to rid themselves of the requirement to maintain these structures for the benefit of the neighborhood and citizens who use the structures, namely the residents of RCA. The contractor hired by the Park and Planning Department, FEA of Northern Virginia, stated in their evaluation that not only was the Rec Center building structure not maintained to any standard by Park and Planning, but also "the cleanliness of the building reflected a custodial level of unkempt neglect."

Park and Planning's own Functional Plan for Recreation and Ancillary Buildings states that "Recreation Buildings are operated for the benefit of the general public, rented by the hour with Fees set by the Park Commission, reserved through Park Permits, and maintained by the Department of Parks Central Maintenance Division. Operating costs for Recreation Buildings may be subsidized as per the Park Commission's Park Fee Policy". From what I see, in addition to failing to maintain these buildings, they are also failing to operate according to their plan for these Rec Centers.

I recommend that each of you call, write or email your County Councilperson and County Executive Ike Leggett at the addresses below. This will be a great way to get the message out that we need our Rec Center as an anchor for our community and if it must be demolished, we the citizens will only accept a proper replacement structure with a better design (not a World War II surplus home building donated by the military after the war) as a replacement. If the goal of Park and Planning is to utilize the building at more than 30% of availability, a new building should be a pleasing structure that is well maintained and is useful the whole year long. That means heat in the winter and A/C in the summer.

Please let your elected County officials know what your thoughts (and anger) are on this matter. At the same time, also please copy your letter or email to John Hench at Park and Planning's Stewardship office. His email address is also listed below. We have a chance to turn this around with the proper amount of pressure being leveled at the Park and Planning Department. Our elected officials do respond to citizen input. Let's see if we can get 100% input from RCA-land.

These are the addresses you need to write, call or email. Roger Berliner is our councilman and at large council members representing us are Marc Elrich, Nancy Floreen, George Leventhal and Duchy Trachtenberg. The other council persons will most likely be getting comments from their districts too.

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett
Executive Office Building
101 Monroe Street, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850
(240) 777-2500
Email: ocemail@montgomerycountymd.gov

Phil Andrews	240-777-7906
councilmember.andrews@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Roger Berliner	240-777-7828
councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Marc Elrich.....	240-777-7966
councilmember.elrich@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Valerie Ervin.....	240-777-7960
councilmember.ervin@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Nancy Floreen	240-777-7959
councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Mike Knapp,V.P.....	240-777-7955
councilmember.knapp@montgomerycountymd.gov	
George Leventhal.	240-777-7811
councilmember.leventhal@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Marilyn J. Praisner, Pres.....	240-777-7968
councilmember.praisner@montgomerycountymd.gov	
Duchy Trachtenberg	240-777-7964
councilmember.trachtenberg@montgomerycountymd.gov	

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

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

Now that I've said my piece about our Rec Center, I also need to say a few words about cars parked over sidewalks. Since I retired in March, my wife Sharon and I have taken to fitness walking around the neighborhood. I've noticed, much to my dismay, that a number of my neighbors are parking across their sidewalk and thereby impeding my walk. This is not only a pet peeve of mine but it is also a violation of Maryland and Montgomery County vehicle law. Section § 21-1003 of the Maryland Vehicle Law states that "(c). Sidewalks. A person may not stop, stand, or park a

(continued on page 4)

HARRY B. SEWELL, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW, CHARTERED
3717 DECATUR AVENUE, UNIT 2
KENSINGTON, MD 20895

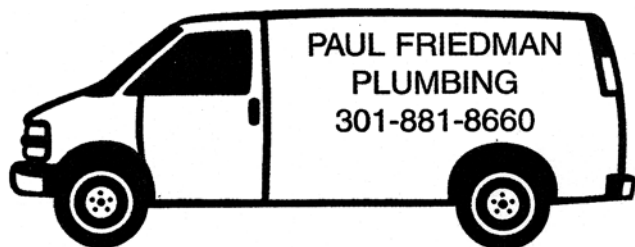
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DENTIST

President's Message

(continued from page 3)

vehicle on a sidewalk." I've been told by County Police that fines for this offense start at \$50 per citation and go up from there with no upward limit. To report a vehicle parked on a sidewalk, call the Montgomery County Police Department at 301-279-8000 (non-emergency number). Please indicate that the car is parked in violation of Section 21-1003 of the Motor Vehicle Law. That will facilitate their action.

Over the summer I heard numerous comments about the replacement for the Franklin Park Sign at the corner of Randolph Road and Hunters Lane. I'm happy to say that the sign design has been decided on and that we have nearly enough money to purchase and install a sign we can be proud of for our neighborhood. Our neighbor Shaul Kopyto at 4819 Ertter Drive has agreed to be the trail-boss for the sign replacement. Shaul will be contacting folks in Franklin Park to help us get the donations needed to make up the difference in what we already have for the sign in the RCA treasury and what it actually takes to build it. For those neighbors who have already donated to the sign project, I say Many Thanks! The new sign will be aesthetically pleasing and is the one that was pictured in the *Echo* last spring. We are nearly at our funding goal for installing it. If you want to donate any amount for the Franklin Park entrance sign, you can contact Shaul at 301-881-0388 or any of the RCA officers. Hopefully, we will be able to break ground and have the sign completed this fall. I'm looking forward to a Thanksgiving ribbon cutting ceremony.

Finally, we, as you already know, are in the midst of hurricane season which will be followed by Winter soon after. Are you prepared for a hurricane or a long term power outage? Do you have sufficient batteries that you could provide yourself with sufficient light if the power is out? What about water? Usually, when the power goes off, the water remains on and unaffected. It is time to rethink our personal Emergency Preparedness stance in case we do have a hit by a hurricane or early snow storm.

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

NOTE: the latest information and links on the topics discussed in this article will be posted on the RCA website: <http://www.randolphcivic.org/> and urgent updates will be sent to the RCA community list-serv: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/> (free to join and keep in touch with neighborhood friends, activities and news).

PLEASE CHECK THE RCA WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST NEWS ON THE REC CENTER CLOSURE.

Randolph Hills Recreation Center Building Recommended for Demolition

by Richard Zierdt

Tell Park and Planning you want your "Town Hall" preserved!

As RCA president Mike Saunders wrote, our recreation center building, where all RCA business functions are conducted, is in danger of demolition. If that happens, there will not be a replacement. The present building, while a "bare-bones" structure without air-conditioning, is rustic and quaint, and a historic relic (a 1950's era war surplus donation from the Defense Department!).

Park and Planning is soliciting residents for their thoughts. Feel free to call staff member Mark Wallis at 301-650-4389 and/or e-mail him at Mark.Wallis@mnccppc.org to share your views. Park and Planning believes the building might be too unsafe to occupy. The RCA believes that even if true, then the building should be fixed, and re-opened for use. Years of insufficient maintenance by Park and Planning should not diminish our neighborhood. Where have our tax dollars gone? ■

Playground Update

by Matt Tifford

Many of you were probably excited to read in the *Echo* last spring that both the Randolph Hills Local Park (Ashley Drive) and Veirs Mill Local Park (Garrett Park Road) playgrounds were scheduled to be replaced over the summer. You are probably also aware that the summer is now over, and we still have the same crummy playgrounds. The reason for this is that MNCPPC is planning on demolishing our Rec Center at Randolph Hills park and has put the playground construction on hold so they can put the new playground where the Rec Center now stands. Veirs Mill has been delayed because they wanted to do both playgrounds at the same time.

So, the question now is when we will have our playgrounds. It looks like there is going to be a battle over the Rec Center, and whether we win or lose that battle, no playground will be built until the issue is resolved. In the meantime it looks like MNCPPC will be moving ahead with the Veirs Mill playground in the fall. Hopefully I will have the plans to present at the October RCA meeting. ■

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Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

by Dan Hoffman

June 7th, 2007

RCA president Mike Saunders call the meeting to order at 8:05 pm. Guest: Jeff Waldstreitcher (pronounced Wald-Striker), one of our state representatives. He recapped the accomplishments in the state house: \$400 million for school construction, emission standards, storm water management, and legislation to decrease gang violence. Other topics included Montgomery County as a sanctuary for gangs, child welfare, taxes in Maryland vs. Pennsylvania, and the origins and justifications for an inheritance tax. Discussion regarding a new elementary school for RCA followed and attendees were told it was a county matter. Mike Saunders expressed frustration with illegal immigrants and their ability to serve on juries and acquire driver's licenses.

Minutes. Minutes from May meeting are approved. Treasurer Dell Pillers/Cline treasury report is accepted and approved.

Executive Board Election. Current slate of candidates presented and passed via a unanimous voice vote.

RCA president Mike Saunders requested the RCA withdraw its request to alter the traffic pattern on Rocking Horse Road. Discussion is tabled. It is requested that if anyone feels strongly about the topic they should attend the next RCA meeting.

Foxes and coyotes have been spotted in the neighborhood. A speaker on the topic will be sought for a fall meeting.

The construction of a Franklin Park sign is still on hold pending further support. An article regarding the endeavor was in the last *Echo*.

Residents have been complaining of noise in the area of Putnam and Lauderdale. If you would like to file a complaint please contact the police non-emergency number.

There has been a change in Girl Scout and Brownie troops. New Brownie Troop 1028 is based in the area. It was decided via a unanimous voice vote that donations from the RCA/RCF will be split between the two groups. The Brownie troop is seeking to become more visible in the area.

Alexandra Bowens of Dogtopia (4920 Wyaconda) proposed erecting dog waste stations in strategic locations in the neighborhood. It was moved and passed via a unanimous voice vote that the RCA write a letter of support to the county on the matter.

Concern was expressed over the RCA constitution and by-laws and the need for an update. The Executive Committee will review the matter at a later date.

The Shell station is closed again. Is there another leak? No. It will reopen as another brand.

9:45 pm, meeting is adjourned. ■

Replacement Trees for RCA Scheduled for the Fall

by Richard Zierdt

County arborist Brett Linkletter had promised us replacement trees for 120 addresses in RCA-land by the end of 2007. The list of homes affected was printed in the June, 2006 *Echo*, page 4. Mr. Linkletter wants affected homeowners notified when a tree is coming, even though the tree is on County property. This is that notice.

The RCA was also scheduled for the County's Block Pruning Program, but budget cuts forced the postponement of this for us until at least Fall, 2008. This program, upon written request of a neighborhood – which the RCA did – will “dragnet” a neighborhood, examining and trimming all qualified trees in a few days. The program was proposed to be completely eliminated for 2007-08 (down from \$2.5M), but \$1M was restored – still a 60% reduction. Mr. Linkletter thinks the budget for this program will “grow back” about a half-million with each fiscal year.

Residents can always call in individual requests for tree removal (not sure about tree replacement), which are handled by the County's operating budget. There is a six to seven month backlog for individual requests. Brett recommends that when making a request, always ask for the service request number, called the “TM number”. If it is not immediately available, and it probably won't be, ask “could someone call me back with the TM number?” Armed with the TM number, it is much easier to get service. Telephone 240-777-7623 and ask for the county arborist.

I asked Mr. Linkletter, when a dead tree is removed, a new tree isn't installed at the same time. He said that is his preference, but it's not the way the system is set up. He said his agency runs in “reactive mode.” He says the County Council feels that the number of requests for tree service doesn't justify the cost. But most homeowners are not aware of the connection between trees along the street and the County government. Many probably don't even think about it, and assume that no one is responsible. And some probably don't care one way or the other.

However, the importance of trees is well noted for their environmental benefits, but they are also a lovely picture as a tree-lined street in the spring and summer. Yeah, ya gotta clear their leaves in the fall. But just sweep 'em to the street for the County's leaf collection service. Ya don't even half to bag 'em.

Missing Tree List:

Ashley Drive: 11209, 11412, 11501, 11611, 11606, 11615, 11707, 11713, 11717, 11813, 11815, 11901, 11900, 11902, 12001, 12006, 12007, 12008, 12009, 12015, 12017, 12018, 12019

Coachway Drive: 4601, 4707, 4608, 4702, 4708

Ertter Drive: 4813

Galena Road: 12000, 12017, 12018, 12019, 12021

Gaynor Road: 12128, 12202

Hunters Lane: 12224, 12219, 12217, 12215, 12220, 12218, 12205, 12122, 12120, 12121, 12119, 12114, 12112, 12106,

Nordlie Drive: 12202

Otis Drive: 12108, 12110

Oxbow Road: 4818

Patapsco Drive: 11402

Randolph Road: 4607

Red Fox Road: 4813

Rocking Horse Road: 11825, 11801, 12005, 12009

Schuylkill Road: 11426, 11424, 11418, 11408, 11319, 11314, 11312, 11310, 11302, 11201, 11128, 11124, 11125, 11105, 11101, 11010, 11008, 11015, 11011, 11009, 11004, 11005, 11000

Star Lane: 4300, 4302

Stoneleigh Court: 4600, 4601, 4602, 4605

Troy Road: 11234, 10915, 10912, 10911, 10909, 10907, 10905, 10901, 10904, 10900, 10910, 11005, 11007, 11101, 11110, 11115, 11117

Wilwyn Way: 4811, 4810, 4808, 4708, 4612, 4605, 4601. ■

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RCA Membership Drive for 2007-2008 Begins

by John Kehoe

Welcome to Fall 2007! Yes, it means summer is over, but we can also say goodbye to those big electric bills from running the A/C so much. It also means it's time for the annual RCA membership drive! For the first time in 16 years, the RCA Executive Committee determined it was time for a membership dues increase. The cost of doing business has risen significantly over the last 16 years, yet our membership dues have not kept pace with the increases. We have also seen a drop in membership for the last several years, so less money is coming in to cover our expenses. It was voted to raise the membership to \$10 per year.

Yes, you might be surprised by the fact that it is doubling, and you may be asking, what am I getting for this? One big reason for the increase is that the RCA is now required to have – and purchase – corporate liability insurance to cover the community yard sales and picnics the RCA holds each year, a cost of \$750 annually. Also, the cost of producing the *Echo* has gone up substantially, and is now \$1,100 per issue. These two costs alone, if shared by every household, cost \$8.50 per household per year, but not every household joins. Our only other income is from advertising in the *Echo*.

I would like to highlight another big benefit of paying the dues and becoming a member, which is representation. Your RCA Executive Committee members volunteer their time to represent the membership to our local, county and state government. A recent example of their hard work is the behind-the-scenes effort put forth by president Mike Saunders and other committee members in tracking down those responsible for the proposal to demolish our recreation center. They have coordinated efforts and strategies, written letters, made phone calls, and even met in person with Councilman Roger Berliner to make our concerns known. Watch for continued coverage of this important issue in the *Echo* and online at www.randolphcivic.org.

One way to further help our community is to contribute any amount over \$10. These extra amounts go automatically to the Randolph Civic Foundation, our non-profit, charitable counterpart. All donations *over* \$10 are tax-deductible. Extra donations make you an automatic 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 resident has to join the RCA; membership dues and extra donations are completely voluntary. However, the more neighbors that join, the stronger our community becomes – and the better it is for all! Please join us to keep your community a good community.

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Listen. It's disgusting how some plumbers treat you when you have a problem. When you call you end up talking to an answering machine...or worse, "voice mail".

And when you do talk to a live person they don't want to give you a real appointment. They say "We'll be there between 10 and 4". Even at that, a lot of them don't show up at all.

But that's not all. When you are lucky enough to get a plumber to show up he can talk rude, smell like a goat, leave your house in a mess, charge you "an arm and a leg"...and as a final insult, act like he's doing you a favor. I believe...

Enough is Enough

I'm fed up with the bad image some plumbers are giving the rest of us.

That's why, 12 years ago, I started a "one company revolution" to give picky Washington Metro Area home owners the opportunity to call a plumber who will treat you with courtesy and respect. In fact, over 1,000 of the pickiest people in the Washington Metro Area have already discovered how to solve their...

- dripping faucet
- water leak
- stopped drain
- no hot water

...problems with ease and comfort.

HIDDEN SEWER ODORS?
SMOKEY, OUR ODOR DETECTOR
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So please do your part and use the convenient, pre-stamped envelope provided with this *Echo* to send in your \$10 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. Please update the form 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! If you'd like to join or renew your Sam's Club membership, keep in mind you save \$5 by doing it through the RCA. ■

Township Committee

by Matt Tifford

Over the summer, the County Council voted to deny a petition by the community of Rollingwood Village to incorporate as a municipality. They denied it not because there was a problem with the petition, but because they did not think there should be any more municipalities in the county. It's not unlikely that this will eventually go to court, and Rollingwood Village may even eventually succeed in their attempt. However, in light of the current situation, the Township Committee has decided to cease activities. ■

Spring Flower Bulbs – Order Now!

by Richard Zierdt

Summer is almost gone, and winter's comin'. But – plan now for the comin' Spring with wholesale-priced flower bulbs from your RCA!

Concurrent with the RCA membership drive, and with community beautification in mind, the RCA is offering a selection of eight bulbs ranging in color, size, height, price, and blooming season (early, middle, and late spring). Now in its third year, we've added new bulbs for your consideration.

We have Crocus, Anemone, Hyacinth, Daffodil, three Tulips, and an allium. The bulb company representative particularly recommended combining the three tulip selections: one is red, one is yellow, and the third is a combination of the two colors. The allium grows the tallest at over 26 inches, with a large, grapefruit-sized ball flower on top. Wonderful! (This bulb is also, er, commensurate with its price at \$2.33 each.)

However, all other bulbs run from 17 cents to 76 cents each. Pictures of all these flowers can be seen at (y)our web-site, www.randolphcivic.org. See the membership order form, which came with this *Echo*, for pricing. These prices are lower than what you'll find at Costco, etc., because the RCA buys them in bulk wholesale. Now we do charge \$5 per order for delivery, but that goes to Boy Scout Troop 1083 for its adventure programming. No one makes a penny doing this. ■

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

As of August 25, 2007, the balance in the RCA checking account was \$1,856.41. As anticipated, the balance in the RCA checking account ran seriously low this summer. Fortunately the advent of the new fiscal year has brought advertising revenues and dues payments should soon be arriving.

Thank you to our advertisers! ■

RCA Checking Register 05/05/2007 through 08/25/2007

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 0505/07			\$3,343.90
05/10/07	1015	Sams Club: yard sale stand food		-205.90	3,138.00
05/10/07	1016	Void		0.00	3,138.00
05/10/07	1017	Troop 1083: yard sale stand food		-44.10	3,093.90
05/10/07	DEP	Advertising income		15.00	3,108.90
05/17/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.98	3,082.92
05/24/07	DEP	Advertising income		20.00	3,102.92
05/28/07	1018	Quick Print: June Echo printing		-1,102.50	2,000.42
05/28/07	1019	M Biondo: postage reimbursement		-74.88	1,925.54
05/29/07	DEP	Advertising income		5.00	1,930.54
05/29/07	DEP	Membership income		100.00	2,030.54
05/30/07	1020	RCF: Scouts donations		-800.00	1,230.54
06/12/07	1021	Boy Scouts: Echo delivery		-960.00	270.54
06/12/07	1022	Boy Scouts: Bulb delivery		-225.00	45.54
06/18/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.92	19.62
07/03/07	DEP	Membership income		150.00	169.62
07/17/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.92	143.70
07/23/07	EFT	SunTrust Bank maintenance chg		-8.00	135.70
08/06/07	DEP	Franklin Park sign donation		50.00	185.70
08/16/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.29	160.41
08/17/07	DEP	Advertising income		352.00	512.41
08/22/07	DEP	Advertising income		1,352.00	1,864.41
08/23/07	EFT	SunTrust Bank maintenance chg		-8.00	1,856.41
		BALANCE 08/25/07			\$1,856.41

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The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

Calls Received May 3 to
August 25, 2007



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

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

2007-05-xx (Thu) 11:16 am Not anonymous / Franklin Park. Franklin Park lost its long-time regular mail carrier. Latest carrier is mis-mailing mail, confusing 4902 Ertter with 4902 Stickley, etc. Caller has called United States Postal Service's Ms. Jackson at 301-881-0949 and encourages all residents with bad post service to also call, before you get a late credit card fee assessed because you didn't get your bill. Thank you.

2007-05-xx (Thu) 7:45 pm Anonymous. Caller heard this from a neighbor who heard from another neighbor: Some real estate agents make anonymous complaints to County's Code Enforcement when a house is not up to the agent's standards. If a client of a real estate agent expresses a strong interest in buying your house, the agent may harass and hound the homeowner to the point where the homeowner would just as soon sellout. State Board of Realtors may want to investigate. Caller says caller is the one the County is harassing. Caller says we have to go to court and are subjected to \$1000 fine and potential jail time for having a yard that isn't quite up to some realtor's standards. [Note: RCA knows of no specific case that the caller describes. If someone has a specific case in mind, please let the RCA president know.]

2007-05-xx (Tue) 1:24 pm Not anonymous at 111xx Schuylkill Road. Caller wants resident to know that on May 14, two packages that were delivered and left on caller's front porch were stolen. There may be person(s) going around stealing packages. If someone hasn't received a package, it may be because it was stolen.

2007-05-xx (Wed) 6:45 pm Anonymous. Caller has comment about Coyotes reported in the June Echo. Coyotes, when they come into town, love house cats. They love to chase 'em, hunt 'em, catch 'em, and eat 'em. Keep your cats inside!

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Greg Skolnik



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2007-05-28 (Mon) 9:49 am Anonymous. Why does most of Franklin Park put their trash out on Memorial Day when there is no trash pickup. It's very disconcerting; especially when you're expecting guests that day and your guests have to see everyone's trash. Thank you.

2007-05-28 (Mon) 8:38 pm Anonymous on Galena Road. Memorial Day. Update to the reports of foxes in the June *Echo*: Caller also reports seeing foxes and in fact a mother fox with three young kits following along behind her. Caller is very excited about it, too.

2007-0x-xx (xxx) 00:00 pm Not anonymous. The residents of 121xx Galena Road have left a broken wheelbarrow on the County strip for the last three weeks. It may be helpful to publish the number for special trash pickup. *[RCA tape ran out during this call. The County provides for large-item pick up as follows: Schedule bulk collection service by calling 240-777-6410 no later than 11:00 a.m. on the business day before your trash collection day. Any requests received after 11:00 a.m. will be scheduled for the following week. Please provide a list of items to be picked up.]*

2007-0x-xx (Wed) 7:41 pm Not anonymous. Caller is new to the area; neighbor gave caller a copy of the *Echo*, and caller would like to know how to subscribe. Thank you. *[You're welcome. And Welcome to Randolph Civic! Membership drive for 2007-08 starts with this issue of the ECHO.]*

2007-08-xx (Thu) 11:43 am Anonymous, concerned citizen on Wyaconda Road. Caller reports forcible entry into a neighbor's home by a group of five kids who were caught unexpectedly while robbing the home when neighbor came home. The five attacked the neighbor; neighbor fought them off and caught one, who was arrested. In the meantime, neighbor has a swollen spleen, two cracked ribs, and various bruises due to beatings by the five with rocks that were tied to the end of a long-sleeved shirt. The group ran over the hill, who were then chased by a man who did not catch them. The group had totally messed up the entire house searching for things; they even had other jewelry from other homes that were left at neighbor's property when they were forced to drop everything and run. Anyway, caller wanted to make sure that all the people in the neighborhood should be a little wary of groups of teenagers. It seems these are the ones that are perpetrating these things. Caller is very upset over this; about a group that gained access to the house and attacked the owner as owner unexpectedly came in around 5 o'clock on Monday just as owner came home from work. Neighbors came over and looked at the suspect being arrested. They wouldn't let us take pictures of the kid. Caller hasn't heard from the police. You already know my name from your caller id, but please do not reveal it. We hail the group

down over the hill from us that helped to chase these kids away. Again, one kid was arrested; we hope it leads to other arrests. We let this stuff go on and on. The police arrived very quickly, but unfortunately not in time to stop the beating. Caller knows that caller's message is a long one, but caller wanted to get it off caller's chest. Be careful when you enter and keep your doors locked. Thank you. *[Thank you caller for your detailed report. The RCA does not have caller id. This can be verified by the price the RCA pays for business phone service as shown in the treasurer's report. Unless a caller leaves a name, etc, no one knows who calls.]* ■



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Ike Leggett's Town Hall Meeting Schedule

by Richard Zierdt

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett holds public meetings regularly throughout the County, which gives residents an opportunity to ask questions or voice concerns directly to him. This fall, he will hold meetings at the following places. You can attend any or all of them. You don't have to live in the neighborhood where they are held. Generally, Ike starts with an opening statement, then takes questions from the audience. All meetings begin at 7:30 PM.

THURSDAY, September 27, 2007

Potomac United Methodist Church
9908 South Glen Road
Potomac, Maryland

The church is at the intersection of Democracy Boulevard and River Road. South Glen Road is a continuation of Democracy Blvd. From RCA-land, take Boiling Brook Parkway; left on Nicholson, left on Old Georgetown, right on Democracy.

Wednesday, October 24
Aspen Hill
location TBA

Wednesday, November 7
Bethesda
location TBA

Wednesday, December 12
Burtonsville
location TBA ■

Trash Collection Update - No Changes for the Rest of 2007

by Richard Zierdt

The County provides trash, recycling, and yard waste pickup every *Monday* throughout all of RCA-land. On *some* holidays, our pickup day is altered to the next day, Tuesday. However, *no changes* will occur through the end of 2007. Columbus Day and Veteran's Day do not affect pickup. And since Thanksgiving always occurs on a Thursday, our pickup day - Monday - is unchanged. Christmas, which can affect our pickup, occurs on Tuesday this year, so again, our pickup day is unchanged. New Year's Day always occurs on the same day of the week as Christmas, so again, there is no change in trash/recycling pickup: There *will* be a pickup on Monday, December 31, 2007.

The County-wide rule is that only the following six holidays affect trash pick-up:

- **New Year's Day** January 1
MAY affect RCA-land
- **Memorial Day** Last Monday in May
DEFINITELY affects RCA-land
- **Independence Day** July 4
MAY affect RCA-land
- **Labor Day** First Monday in Sept
DEFINITELY affects RCA-land
- **Thanksgiving Day** Fourth Thursday in November
NEVER affects RCA-land
- **Christmas Day** December 25
MAY affect RCA-land

For 2008, the ONLY *Tuesday* pick-up dates are May 27, 2008, and September 2, 2008. ■

Community Events

RCA Community Picnic

Saturday, September 29
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 6
8:00 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!



Home Invasion in RCA-Land on Wyaconda Road

by Kim Williams

On Monday, August 6 at 6:34 pm, Rockville Police received a call of a home invasion on Wyaconda Road. The homeowner came home to find five youths in the house, who had gained entry through an unlocked door. The homeowner detained one of them, and the other four ran through the neighborhood, jumping fences and running through yards. Another homeowner spotted the youths running through their yard on Topping Road around 6:40 pm and heard sirens which prompted them to call Police, who were already in pursuit. A K-9 unit was called in to track them, but unfortunately their trail was lost at Topping Road & Ashley Drive. The one youth caught at the scene was arrested, and charges have been filed. Some of the items taken included a DVD player and alcohol, which was later found in the creek. Currently it is not known if the youths are residents of RCA-land.

The Police stated that the youths had been walking through the neighborhood looking for unlocked doors. This incident happened in broad daylight, and while it may have just been kids this time, there is an increasing level of vagrants and suspicious activity going on in our neighborhood park. Please keep your doors and windows locked; you never know who will be checking them! ■

RCA Meetings

RCA meetings are held the **first Thursday of every month** (except January, July and August) at 8:00 p.m.. Meetings will be held at the **Veirs Mill Rec Center, 4425 Garrett Park Road (intersection of Garrett Park Road and Beach Drive)** until further notice. Usually we alternate between General and Executive meetings. If you are unsure about meeting times and dates, please call the RCA Hotline (301-881-2722) for verification. All are welcome at every meeting. The current meeting schedule is:

October 4, 2007 General Membership Meeting
November 1, 2007 Executive Committee Meeting
December 6, 2007 General Membership Meeting
February 7, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting
March 6, 2008 General Membership Meeting
April 3, 2008 Executive Committee Meeting
May 1, 2008 General Membership Meeting
June 5, 2008 General Membership Meeting

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ECHO ADVERTISING EDITOR NEEDED

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

After many years (??) as your *Echo* Advertising Editor, I would like someone to assume this position by the 2008-2009 season. My thought is that we would work together during the 2007-2008 season as a way of easing the transition.

The role of Advertising Editor is very interesting and I'm sure whoever volunteers will find it most satisfying. My phone number is 301-770-7590.

Mauro Biondo

Volunteer Tutor Opportunities in Montgomery County

**300 students are on our waiting list
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Who we are: Founded in 1963, the Literacy Council of Montgomery County, Maryland is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to helping adults in Montgomery County learn to speak, read, write and understand English.

What We Do: We train volunteers to tutor one-on-one or with small groups of students who live or work in Montgomery County. LCMC provides Basic Literacy (read and write) and English as a Second Language training programs (read, write and speak).

Tutor Role: Meet with student/students twice a week for one hour. Set your schedule and location with your students allowing total flexibility.

Qualifications: Prospective tutors do not need to have any prior experience in education. You only need to be fluent in English yourself and have the desire to assist an adult to read and write in English.

Training: Start by attending our one and a half-hour orientation during which we will introduce you to our organization and training methodology. Our training workshops are usually spread over two Saturdays and last a total of 12 hours.

Commitment: Six months.

Your Impact: Provide your student/students with skills for life.

Contact: For more information please call 301-610-0030 or email asoka@literacycouncilmcmd.org

Website:
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News from Pack 1081

by Mike Mulcahy



Pack 1081 Cub Scouts are back for yet another year of fun and achievement, but first here are the exciting highlights from this Spring and Summer's activities.

At our May Pack Meeting, new Cub Master **Sandra Kimball** took over the reigns from **Mark Kibbe** who has moved on as his son **Sawyer** has crossed the bridge into Boy Scouting. Congratulations to you and Sawyer, Mr. Kibbe (We wish you all the best!) and a big warm welcome and congratulations to you as well, Ms. Kimball! Ms. Kimball is also a Reading Specialist at Viers Mill Elementary School by the way.

At the Pack Meeting, the following Wolves earned Sports and Academic Belt Loops & Pins in Bicycling: **Pedro Cerriteno** (pin), **Brian DeOliveria**, **Mark Kimball** (pin) and **Wolfie Woolward** (pin); in Computers: **Brian DeOliveria** (pin) and **Mark Kimball** (pin), and in Map & Compass: **Pedro Cerriteno** (pin), **Brian DeOliveria**, **Mark Kimball** (pin) and **Wolfie Woolward** (pin). Bears were awarded Sports and Academic Belt Loops & Pins as follows: in Computers: **Matthew Kimball** (pin) and in Map & Compass: **Matthew Kimball** (pin). Webelos I **Preston Polk** was a one Webelo I Scout show by earning Webelos Activity Pins for Citizen, Fitness, Naturalist and Communicator. In addition, Preston was awarded the Webelo Rank Advancement Badge. Congratulations to all on a job well done!! 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 – **Aidan Gibbons**, **Preston Polk**, **Adam Levensgard**, **Noah Reidinger**, **Brandon Wagner**, **DJ Terry**, **Colin McLean** and **Chris Mulcahy**; advancing to Webelos I from Bear – **Matthew Kimball**, **Cameron Lett**, **Jassir Begazo**, **Nick Galkin**, **Jonathan Romero** and **Mateo Streed**; going from Tiger to Wolf – **Mark Kimball**, **Brian DeOliviera**, **Pedro Cerriteno** and **Wolfie Woolard**.

Our May outings included the hike on the Billy Goat Trail on Saturday, May 5th and a family camping trip to Washington Monument State Park (north of Frederick, MD on the Appalachian Trail) over the weekend of May 11th-13th. The boys and their families had a great time on the camping trip, even though rain, thunder and lightning ended up playing center stage at the camp. Good food and good fun were had by all in attendance: **Aidan Gibbons**, **Colin McLean**, **Adam Levensgard**, **Chris Mulcahy**, **Mark Kimball**, **Matthew Kimball** and **Brain DeOliveira**. Cubs attending the Billy Goat Trail event included: **Wolfie Woolard**, **Aidan Gibbons**, **Mark Kimball**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Brain DeOliveira**, and **Preston Polk**.

Our annual Pack picnic at Randolph Hills Park on Sunday, June 3rd took place on a rainy day as well. The rain

never did let up enough to get the annual mother/son softball game in. Nonetheless, although the game was rained out, the boys and their families still managed to enjoy themselves under the tarp, and as usual, the food was great! The Scouts in attendance at the picnic were: **Matthew Kimball**, **Mark Kimball**, **Mateo Streed**, **Preston Polk**, **Aidan Gibbons**, **Adam Levensgard**, **Noah Reidinger**, and **Pedro Cerriteno**. Our second Scout activity in June took place on June 15th in Bowie, MD where the Bowie Baysox beat the New Britain Rock Cats for their fifth straight win, 5-4. Scouts **Aidan Gibbons**, **Galen Gibbons**, **Adrian Streed**, **Mateo Streed**, **Mark Kimball** and **Matthew Kimball** all enjoyed the very close game.

In July we had our car wash fundraiser outing at the Colonial Shell which was another opportunity for leaders and Cubs to both stay cool and to do some fundraising. We cleaned cars and trucks alike on Saturday, July 14th earning the Pack around \$175. Thank you to any of our RCAers who stopped buy to support us! Special thanks to Colonial Shell and those that stopped by for a cleaning to help defer our Pack expenses. Participating Scouts included: Webelos II **Preston Polk**, **Adam Levensgard** and **Noah Reidinger**; Webelos I **Mateo Streed**, **Jassir Begazo**, and **Matthew Kimball**; Wolf **Mark Kimball**, and Tigers **JoJo Polk** and **Adrian Streed**. Thank you guys for contributing to the cause! July Day Camp at Camp Snyder was attended by **Galen Gibbons**, **Adrian Streed**, **Mark Kimball** and **Matthew Kimball**.

From August 5th through 9th, 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, campfire and more! Attending Camp Tuckahoe were **Aidan Gibbons**, **Matthew Kimball**, **Noah Reidinger**, **Preston Polk**, **Mateo Streed** and **Adam Levensgard**. In August, some of the boys participated in the Montgomery County Fair. Among the participants were: **Aidan Gibbons**, **Galen Gibbons**, **Preston Polk**, **JoJo Polk**, **Adam Levensgard**, **Matthew Kimball** and **Mark Kimball**.

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 October and family camping in September 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 Wednesday, September 19th at 7 PM to get more information and join up! Call Ms. Sandra Kimball, Pack 1081's new Cub Master, at (301) 603-9078 for more details. Also, check our website <http://www.pack1081.org/> for updates on our activities and additional information. ■

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 host a **"Join Cub Scouting Night"** recruitment event on **Wednesday September 19, 2007, 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 pals Akela and Shere Khan, encourages every boy to come by and sign up and to bring a buddy, too. If you miss this event, feel free to stop by Viers Mill ES any Monday night at 6:30 p.m. during the school year to get information or sign up. Call Mrs Sandra Kimball (301-603-9078) if you have questions.

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



Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Scouts in Troop 1083 had a busy summer camping and participating in community events.

Our May campout was a weekend at Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. We began the weekend with a whitewater rafting trip down the Shenandoah River. Then, in preparation for the Philmont (the ultimate High Adventure experience), the Lenhok'sin crew hiked up to Maryland Heights, overlooking the Potomac and Shenandoah Rivers, for a spectacular view of the town below. The rest of the troop hiked the C&O Canal tow-path into town and enjoyed visiting the fascinating historical sites. Leaders who attended are: **Fred Beam, Matthew Demulder, Lourdes Luong, Brian McGahey, Ben Pitkin, Dave Talbott, and Scott Talbott.** Scouts who attended are: **Jason Beam, Matthew Best, Maxwell Demulder, Anthony Gadbois, Gregory Gadbois, Brad Gessford, Steve Hernandez, Johnny Hilderbrand,**

Sawyer Kibbe, Scott Levangard, Matthew Luong, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, John Pitkin, Erik Uglem, and Andy Wood.

In early June, the scouts from Troop 1083 fielded a team in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life fundraiser at Montgomery College Rockville campus. Adult leaders fielded a team, too. The event is an all-night marathon walk, and participants collect donations in advance of the event. The combined effort of scouts and troop leaders raised over \$6,000 to fund cancer research and support services. Scout team members: **Jason Beam, Matthew Best, Jake Blakely, Kyle Galkin, Bubba Hart, Steve Hernandez, Edward Huggins, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen,** and team captain **John Pitkin.** Adult team members: **Fred Beam, Jake Bolt, Leora Hernandez, Geoff Owen, Jane Owen, Ben Pitkin,** and team captain **Greg Skolnik.**

In mid-June we recognized the recent achievements of many of our scouts at our summer Court of Honor. Twenty-five merit badges and 18 rank advancements were awarded. Scouts

who earned merit badges are: **Jason Beam** (Personal Fitness), **Jake Blakely** (First Aid), **Kyle Blakely** (First Aid), **Bryan Bravo** (Citizenship in the Community), **Maxwell DeMulder** (First Aid), **Gregory Gadbois** (First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **Kyle Galkin** (First Aid), **Steve Hernandez** (First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **Edward Huggins** (Personal Management), **Scott Levangard** (First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **Matthew Luong** (First Aid), **Joshua Murtagh** (First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **Joseph Owen** (Collections, First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **Patrick Owen** (First Aid, and Personal Fitness), **David Santos** (First Aid, Personal Fitness, and Snow Sports), and **Ray Turish** (Citizenship in the Community).

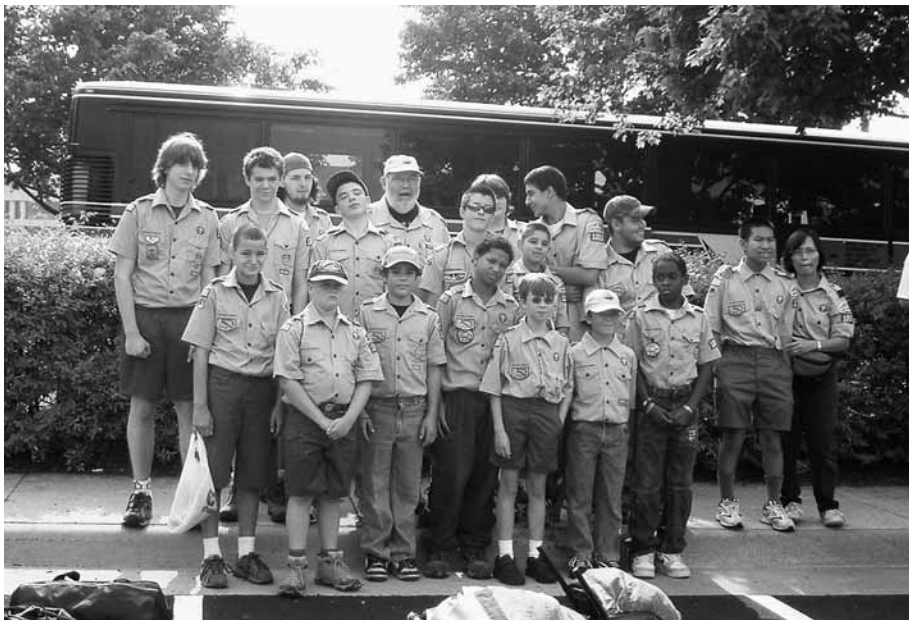
Then, before we could catch our breath, we were off for our annual beach campout at Assateague State Park in late June. Just like the year before, this campout included go-kart rides, a day in the surf, and an evening on the boardwalk in nearby Ocean City. It's always a blast! You can ask anyone who was there: **Matthew Best,**

Matthew Binsted, Maxwell DeMulder, Bubba Hart, Steve Hernandez, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Johnson, Sawyer Kibbe, Matthew Luong, Scott Levangard, and Andy Wood. Adult leaders: **Matthew DeMulder, Lourdes Luong, Greg Skolnik, Dave Talbott, Scott Talbott, and Jaime Todaro.**

At the end of July, the troop's Lenhok'sin High Adventure crew finished its 2nd year of preparations with the week-long Lenhok'sin High Adventure trail in Goshen, VA, where crewmember **John Pitkin** had been summering at Goshen as a camp counselor. Lenhok'sin offers older scouts activities that test and expand their backpacking and camping

Troop 1083 at the Ocean City boardwalk during the Assateague campout.





Group photo of Troop 1083 scouts departing to Goshen summer camp.

skills through trail crew teamwork. The crew kayaked a mountain lake, swam in a mountain stream, fired muzzle-loaded black-powder rifles, forged iron in a blacksmith shop, and rode horses, among other activities. Scouts in attendance were **Bryan Bravo, Anthony Gadbois, Bubba Hart, Johnny Hilderbrand, Joseph Owen, and John Pitkin**. Old-timers **George Gadbois** and **Ben Pitkin** did their best to keep up.

The first week of August found most of the troop's members at our usual week of summer camp at Camp Olmsted, also in Goshen. Scouts in attendance were **Jason Beam, Matthew Best, Jake Blakely, Gregory Gadbois, Anthony Gadbois, Brad Gessford, Bubba Hart, Josh Hart, Steve Hernandez, Johnny Hilderbrand, Edward Huggins, Scott Johnson, Sawyer Kibbe, Scott Levengard, Matthew Luong, Galen Miley, Joshua Murtagh, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, Daniel Pouridas, and Andy Wood**. Adult leaders there were **Fred Beam, Bill Blakely, Jacob Bolt, George Gadbois, Moses Hart, Lorna Luong, Brian McGahey, Ben Pitkin, Mike Asunders, Greg Skolnik, Dave Talbott, and Scott Talbott**. Troop 1083 scout **John Pitkin** served as a camp counselor.

In early August, Troop 1083 participated in "National Night Out", a crime and drug prevention campaign involving citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials. Scouts who participated are: **Jason Beam, Johnny Hilderbrand, Scott Levengard, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, and David Santos**. Adults and leaders who participated are: **John Hilderbrand, Carl Johnson, Susan Johnson, Laura Levengard, Brian McGahey, Jane Owen, Steven Santos, and Dave Talbott**.

To wrap up our summer, Troop 1083 participated in the 6th annual Beach Safety Weekend. The day started bright and early with a service project, as scouts distributed drinks to runners at a 5K/10K run to raise funds for charity. After the race, it was off to Dewey Beach Patrol headquarters. Under the guidance of the highly-trained Dewey Beach Patrol, scouts and siblings learned how to recognize and avoid surf and beach hazards such as dehydration, jellyfish stings, rip currents, and hard shore breaks. Then, participants ran through some examples of the training and responsibilities required of beach lifeguards. Next, they practiced surf rescue and first aid techniques. Finally, the program concluded with a full afternoon of relaxing and enjoying the beach – safely!

The scouts and their families owe a debt of gratitude to **Carl and Susan Johnson** of Silver Spring, who established the Beach Safety program to honor the memory of their son **Michael**, an Eagle Scout from neighboring Troop 495 who lost his life in a tragic accident at Rehoboth Beach on August 23rd 1998. Scouts who participated are: **Matthew Binsted, Brad Gessford, Kristi Gessford, Amanda Hernandez, Daniel Hernandez, Sergio Hernandez, Steve Hernandez, Scott Johnson, and John Pitkin**. Siblings who participated are **Kristie Gessford**; and **Amanda, Daniel, and Sergio Hernandez**. Adults and leaders who participated are: **Michele Gessford, Jose Hernandez, Leora Hernandez, Carl Johnson, Susan Johnson, Ben Pitkin, David Talbott, Judi Talbott, Scott Talbott, and Jaime Todaro**.

Only about 4% of all Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts. So achieving the rank of Eagle Scout has always carried with it a special significance, not only in Scouting but when entering higher education, business or industry, and community service. The Eagle Scout rank is a performance-based achievement whose standards have been well-maintained over the years. We would like to recognize Hafez Taghavi for completing the 5th of 6 requirements, the service project, on his way to becoming an Eagle Scout. For this requirement, Hafez built a fence to protect the wetlands at Meadowside Park. Congratulations Hafez!

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

Local School News

by George Gadbois

By now all youngsters in RCA-land are back in school after enjoying their much-needed time off. There are a few newsworthy changes that have occurred over the summer, mostly with our neighborhood middle schools.

The most significant is the reopening of Parkland. Please see the photos depicting the exterior of the newly renovated Parkland Middle School. According to reports, the building was completed and "punched-out" well before the first day of classes and students were able to find their way around with no noticeable signs of remaining contractor activity. We were taken by surprise when learning that 2-year principal Kevin Hobbs resigned to take a principalship back at his former school, Watkins Mill High. His acting replacement is Dr. Benjamin OuYang, who has been well received by the Parkland community.

Tilden Middle School started in the usual manner and flurry of activity. We have learned that Jennifer Baker has replaced Karen Rabin as Tilden's principal. Ms. Baker comes to Tilden with experience from North Bethesda MS and Walt Whitman HS, among other county schools.

Loiederman MS (old Belt) also welcomed back students on August 27th with some noticeable new exterior



View of Parkland's new main entrance

landscaping around the building and a new electronic marquee sign at the driveway entrance. Loiederman also had some staffing changes, but Ms. Alison Serino is still at the helm as principal.

Argyle MS, another MSMC choice for some of our students, had no reported changes.

As far as High Schools, Darryl Williams replaces 23-year veteran principal Phillip Gainus at Blair. The four other DCC High Schools, as well as Walter Johnson, had no change at the top. WJ has had great progress with their ongoing modernization. See pictures on their website <http://montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/wjhs/>.

On the Elementary front, Viers Mill (our National Blue Ribbon School) still has Matt Devan in charge, but Garrett Park now welcomes Elaine Chang-Baxter to replace Lee Derby as principal. Ms. Chang-Baxter was formerly an executive assistant to the deputy superintendent in the Office of Information and Organizational Systems. Mr. Derby has moved to Cedar Grove ES in Germantown.

The RCA welcomes all our new school administrators and staff. Best wishes for great success to all RCA-land students as we start the new school year. ■

Site view of the completed renovation at Parkland.



Girl Scout Troop 1028

by Leora Hernandez

To provide a little history: We formed two years ago as a Brownie Troop. This past year we had six girls from first grade to third grade. The girls had a very successful year and earned at least 8 badges. We had fun working on preparing food for our "Make It and, Eat It" badge, learned about different kinds of safety for our "Safety Sense" badge, and enjoyed making up our own dance routines for the "Dancercise". We also earned badges on Animals, Cookie Counts, Citizens Near and Far, Let's Pretend, and Art to Wear. We held a food drive in November, participated in the Potomac Watershed Clean up and watched the play "What's a Wolf to Do" in May. We went to the 95th Annual Sing Along held on The Mall in June, where we had a lot of fun trading SWAPS with other troops.

This coming school year we have decided to become a Daisy/Brownie/Junior Troop! We plan to meet again at the Veirs Mill Recreation Center along Garrett Park Road every other week from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on Thursdays. Our current troop has registered for next year and we have room for more girls from K - 5th grade. We will host an Open House for anyone interested in joining our troop on Thursday, September 20th at 6:30 pm at the Veirs Mill Recreation Center. Please contact Leora Hernandez at 301-933-0460 in the evenings or Rosi Muehlstedt (hablo Español) at 240-603-1847 for more detailed information. ■

Thank You

To our neighbors and friends
of Franklin Park:

Your generosity helped us raise almost
\$1,700 for this year's American Cancer
Society's Relay For Life.

The event was held on June 2nd and it
was spectacular. Hundreds of people were
there walking to raise money and awareness
to help cure cancer. Our personal goal for
next year is to raise \$2,000! With your help, I
know we can do it! Thank you again for your
generosity and support.

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Piano Teachers.

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

Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the November issue of the *Echo* is Saturday, October 6th.

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.

Keep in touch with your neighbors!

Join the
RCA Yahoo Group
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/>



Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

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

Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Jennifer Moy 240-672-4921

Anthony Gadbois 301-770-5386

Gregory Gadbois 301-770-5386



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Emergency ONLY	911
Police: Non-Emergency (County-wide)	301-279-8000
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	240-773-6070
Park Police	301-949-3010
<i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)</i>	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	240-777-3785
Abandoned Cars (on the street)	301-840-2454
Animal Control	240-773-5960
Building Permits	240-777-6200
Consumer Affairs	240-777-3636
Crisis Hotline (24 hours)	301-315-4000
Department of Natural Resources	800-442-0708
<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)	240-777-4999
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 1, 2007

Address	List Price	Sold Price	Dom	Subsidy	Date Settled
11816 Rocking Horse Road	\$435,000	\$443,000	30	\$16,500	01-Jun-07
4702 Coachway Drive	\$429,000	\$420,000	35	\$14,000	10-Jul-07
4704 Topping Road	\$400,000	\$380,000	28	\$0	10-Jul-07
11708 Rocking Horse Road	\$444,700	\$450,000	49	\$15,000	25-Jul-07
12110 Porttree Drive	\$499,900	\$471,000	34	\$3,500	27-Jul-07
5007 Randolph Road	\$439,000	\$447,000	219	\$15,000	08-Aug-07
11203 Ashley Drive	\$419,500	\$400,000	59	\$0	08-Aug-07
11207 Ashley Drive	\$449,900	\$445,000	4	\$0	13-Aug-07
5105 Oakglen Drive	\$499,900	\$479,000	31	\$0	15-Aug-07
Average	\$446,322	\$437,222	54		
Low	\$400,000	\$380,000			
High	\$499,900	\$479,000			



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