

The ECHO

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association

Volume 57, Issue 6

April 2014

MusicFest 2014 is Coming!

By Matt Tifford

Spring is finally here, and while others may get excited by the accompanying warmer temperatures and blooming flowers, in RCA land we know that the real excitement comes from the return of our community's wildly popular RCA MusicFest! Every spring the RCA community gathers for an afternoon of great local music, food, and fun. Proceeds from this yearly fundraiser go to the Randolph Civic Foundation sign beautification fund. In past years we raised enough money to purchase our beautiful community entrance signs, and to cover the continuing landscaping and maintenance expenses. If you come, you get to have a great time AND support your community. Now in its fourth year, this year's RCA MusicFest will be held on Sunday, May 4th from 4-6pm at the Mem Sahib Restaurant in Randolph Hills Shopping Center. If you've never been to Mem Sahib it is a wonderful Indian restaurant right in our backyard with great food and entertainment. This year, our neighborhood performers will include Bebel Delgado, Christiana Drapkin, Savoy Truffle (featuring Dean Evangelista), The Wingmen (featuring Domenic Mazzaglia, Mark Nensel and Chris Tedesco), Nell Rumbaugh, and Erik Turkman.

Tickets are currently on sale for \$25 per person or \$40 per couple and \$15 for children 18 and under. The ticket price includes hors d'oeuvres and non-alcoholic beverages. Contact Lindsay Hoffman for tickets by emailing musicfest@randolphcivic.org or call (240)668-4722. If you are not able to attend the event, but would like to donate to the fund, you can do so by calling the number above.



Meet the Candidates on May 1st!

By Dan Hoffman

Typically May is a month for a meeting of the RCA executive board, but given the upcoming election we thought it would be a great opportunity to bring out some of the candidates running in the election this summer/fall. Since the primary is on June 24th this year it's appropriate for us to hold a forum this spring before our summer break. This forum will be featuring all of the candidates running to represent our own District 18 in the Maryland State House of Delegates. All candidates running in the primary have been invited and as of when this Echo went to print all but one has accepted the invitation.

The format of this event is not a debate. It's also not going to be a venue for long-winded speeches. Each candidate will be given a few minutes to introduce themselves to the audience. After they have introduced themselves the audience will be able to mingle with their neighbors and visit with each candidate they found interesting. Each candidate will be stationed at a table where they can answer questions from attendees or hand out information about their priorities.

We hope all of you take this opportunity to come out and engage in our democratic process. One of the greatest aspects of our government is the ability to participate in free and open elections. Come learn about the candidates on May 1st at 8:00pm and don't forget to vote on June 24th!

Upcoming Events

RCA General Membership Meeting

Special Guests: Representatives from the Montgomery County Department of Recreation and Parks Department
April 3rd, 2014 8:00pm-9:30pm, Veirs Mill Recreation Center

RCA General Membership Meeting Meet the Candidates! Come meet your candidates in District 18!

May 1st, 2014 8:00pm-9:30pm, Veirs Mill Recreation Center

RCA Executive Committee and Committee Chairs for 2013-2014

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President's Message

by Chad Salganik, RCA President

Hi everyone, it's a balmy 63 degrees outside, and the Boy Scouts delivered my mulch today. Despite the maddeningly cold weather we've had, there's cause for optimism.

With Spring comes a busy time for the RCA. There are a bunch of opportunities for you to get involved with your neighbors and help to improve our community. Though they aren't scheduled yet, there will certainly be calls for volunteers to help plant flowers around our neighborhood signs. We are lucky to have some folks with green thumbs who can direct people like me to help make our entrances look great.

We will have a string of exciting General Meetings starting April 3rd. We are scheduled to host representatives from Montgomery County Parks and Recreation departments to discuss plans for the new Wheaton Rec Center, upcoming parks and recreation projects in White Flint, and how our rec center fits in to the County's plans going forward.

The General Meeting on May 1st is being billed as "Meet the Candidates from Maryland House of Delegates, District 18". We had originally slated this event for the April meeting, but had to move it to May because of scheduling conflicts. We've invited all of the candidates to introduce themselves and then make themselves available for your individual questions as part of a meet and greet. This is not a debate, but an opportunity for you to directly interact with the candidates. We are super excited about this event and are looking forward to it.

A reminder that Musicfest, which supports the beautification of our neighborhood signs, is scheduled for 4pm on May 4th at Mem Sahib, right here in the neighborhood. Enjoy live music from our neighbors along with great food. Tickets are now available for purchase on the website. Help support the neighborhood and have a great time all at the same time.

Lastly, we will be starting the June General Meeting a bit early to coincide with the end of the annual RCF Spaghetti Dinner. We are happy to have Lind-

(Continued on Page 5)

RCA Telephone Number: (240)668-4722.

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

Membership in the RCA is \$10.00 per year.

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

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

Chris Mann Real Estate Co.

Randolph Hills, Randolph Farms, Franklin Park, and Montrose Park Sales

April 2014 Update

Last 10 Randolph Civic Area Home Sales

Status	Address	Beds	Baths	Listed	Sold	Sold Date	Seller Help
Sold	12203 Nordlie Dr	3	2	\$419,000	\$405,000	3/12/2014	\$2,000
Sold	4809 Ertter Dr	3	2	\$419,000	\$385,000	3/10/2014	\$11,550
Sold	4812 Creek Shore Dr	4	2	\$385,000	\$385,000	3/8/2014	\$0
Sold	4310 Star Ln	3	2	\$375,000	\$375,000	2/28/2014	\$3,500
Sold	44808 Mori Dr	3	2	\$369,000	\$360,000	2/10/2014	\$0
Sold	714 Topping Rd	3	3.5	\$379,900	\$375,000	1/30/2014	\$10,000
Sold	11409 Ashley Dr	5	3	\$434,900	\$419,000	1/6/2014	\$12,570
Sold	4704 Randolph Rd	3	3	\$400,000	\$400,000	1/3/2014	\$11,500
Sold	12111 Putnam Rd	4	2	\$425,000	\$415,000	1/2/2014	\$0
Sold	5002 Randolph Rd	4	3.5	\$419,000	\$407,000	12/23/2013	\$8,000

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March Executive Meeting Minutes

by Jason Ott

1. Call to order: 8:00 PM
2. Old Business
 - The intersection at Schuylkill and Boiling Brook will be modified. A slight bumpout will be incorporated into the turn onto Schuylkill. A stopsign will be included to eliminate the right-hand turn without a stop.
 - The intersection at Boiling Brook and Rocking Horse will also be changed. A bumpout will be included for traffic turning right on Rocking Horse towards Parklawn. RCA will suggest making it a temporary bumpout. The southwest corner will have a bumpout for those making a U-turn to go back on Boiling Brook towards Charles E. Smith. Westbound Boiling Brook will have two lanes east of the intersection. RCA will request the right-hand lane be signed for "Right Turn Only (Except Buses)".
 - A revised draft of the Rocking Horse Center letter is being reviewed and will then be submitted to MCPS.
 - MusicFest is May 4th at Mem Sahib. Tickets are now on sale through the website. Please consider attending this wonderful neighborhood event.
 - The Community Yard Sale and Bazaar is Saturday, May 3rd, at Loehmann's Plaza.
 - The pavement on Ashley continues to have deep potholes. RCA will do a follow up. The permanent fix may not be completed until the conditions allow it to be made.
 - Tax forms have been submitted.
3. New Business
 - The Friends of White Flint is having a Showcase and Happy Hour on March 10th at Paladar Latin Kitchen.
 - White Flint Post Office will be moved to the mall across from Wendy's.
 - For the April General Meeting RCA is working on getting a representative from the Montgomery County Parks Department to speak about Wheaton Rec Center and the future of some of the park facilities.
 - For the May Meeting there are plans to hold a General Meeting featuring District 18 State Delegate candidates. Invitations are being sent out. The format would not be a debate. Rather, candidates would present a brief statement and then participate in a "get to know you" forum where people could move around and interact with the candidates.
 - The June Meeting will be a General Meeting. There will be a spaghetti dinner beforehand. Then, RCA will give a brief presentation during the dinner. The meeting will not be a normal meeting with old and new business.
 - Dan Hoffman presented a bud-

get proposal. The FY2014 finances were presented and discussed. The FY2015 budget included giving a stipend to a person for leading the RCA Membership Drive. Volunteers are willing to help, but RCA needs a strong lead person to coordinate the efforts. RCA would seek a two-year commitment and pay the stipend at the end of the year using an incentive-based approach. The budget was approved by unanimous voice vote with changes.

- Community Day is Saturday, October 4th. This was approved by unanimous voice vote.
4. Standard Business and Reports
 - The minutes from the February General Meeting were approved.
 - The Treasurer reported that there have been two transactions since the last report. This includes a payment of the Echo.
 - Committee Chair Reports
 - Amber Tedesco presented the Education report. There is a county-wide proposal to change bell times. Kindergarten orientation is in May. Viers Mill ES will be closed this summer for bathroom renovations and a roof replacement.
 - The Board approved a slate of candidates for the upcoming elections. Elections will be held on April 3rd, 2014, at the General Membership Meeting.
 - President – Brian Hooker
 - Vice President 1 – Mark Nensel
 - Vice President 2 – Matt Tifford
 - Secretary – (NOTE: we are currently seeking a volunteer secretary)
 - Director – Amber Tedesco
 - Director – Jason Ott (serving final two years of vacated term)
 5. The RCA Meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

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Neighborhood News in Brief

- **RCA seeks volunteers for several positions** - The RCA is successful because of the dozens of volunteers that perform important tasks such as managing its finances, editing and laying out The Echo, organizing events, and working with County officials. If you're new to the neighborhood or just feel like you could do a little more for your community, we'd love to hear from you. Please attend the membership meeting on April 3rd at 8pm to meet some of your neighbors and learn how you can get involved. Details and location are on the cover.
- **Board of Elections Open House April 9** - Do you have questions about Voting? If you would like to know more about 1) Early voting, 2) Voting by Mail, or 3) working at the polls on Election Day ... then please attend the open house with members of the Board of Elections for Montgomery County! The event will be held Wednesday, April 9, 2014, 7pm to 8:30 pm, at the Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Rd., Silver Spring. For more information, call the Montgomery County Board of Elections at (240) 777-VOTE.
- **Election Judges needed** - The Montgomery County Board of Elections needs Election Judges to serve in the upcoming Gubernatorial Elections. The Primary is June 24th and General is November 4th. This is a great opportunity to serve your community by participating in the electoral process as well as seeing all of your neighbors. Election Judges are volunteers that work in the polling precinct assisting voters. Opportunities exist to serve all day or part of the day for those who do not wish to commit for the full day. The Board of Elections is looking for registered voters in the State of Maryland, who can read, write and speak the English language, and who are at least 17-years-old before or on November 4, 2014. Volunteers cannot be running for or hold political party office or are a campaign manager or treasurer for a political party or committee. Do you meet these requirements? Please consider volunteering. A frequent question: would qualifying high school students get community service requirement credits for being judges? Answer: yes, or they can opt to be paid. To volunteer or for more information please visit our website at www.777vote.org and click on Election Judge or you may call our office at 240-777-8533.
- **The post office in White Flint Mall is scheduled**

to move this spring and, although the USPS had originally announced that the new location was on the other side of Rockville Pike (on Edson Lane), this has since changed. Now, the post office is going to be in the strip shopping center on Nicholson Lane – the one with the martial arts center and the Pizza Hut -- between Nebel Street and Boiling Brook Parkway - much closer to /our neighborhood!

Presidents Message

(continued from page 2)

say Hoffman, Executive Director of Friends of White Flint, present on the current and future happenings in White Flint.

I look forward to seeing some new faces at these events. They are only as good as the people who participate in them, so please mark your calendar and come on out. Check our website for updates, <http://randolphcivic.org>

As my second and final term as RCA President winds down, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of the RCA Board Members I've worked with over the last few years. Thank you for helping to make the neighborhood a better place to live. And a heart-felt thank you to the families of the RCA Board Members. Attending meetings often requires the juggling of schedules, and I know I couldn't do it without the support of my family, so thank you RCA Board Member families!



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The RCA Hotline

240-668-4722 (4RCA)

Calls Received February 12, 2014 through March 16, 2014



General Note: The RCA gets a lot of calls about code violations (untagged cars, tall grass, etc). Please note that phone numbers for agencies that handle such matters are published on the website. You don't have to leave your name or phone number. The RCA reserves the right to not publish any calls that could be viewed as solicitations, personal attacks against neighbors or calls longer than 1.5 minutes due to the time it takes to transcribe and cost to publish. You can always email the RCA at info@randolphcivic.org or submit an article for publication to the Echo editor.

02-12-14 (Wed) at 8:13am. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. Hello, I've lived [near] Rocking Horse and Red Fox for many years now and I've noticed that the on-street parking problem has gotten progressively worse. The parking problem used to be concentrated further down Red Fox (between Timber La. and Ashley Dr.), but now it's moved up the street. There's a Toyota minivan that belongs to someone at 48xx Red Fox that parks in front of that house in the opposite direction of traffic. There's also a Chevy Impala that belongs to someone at 48xx Red Fox that parks so close to my driveway apron that I have a hard time entering/leaving my own driveway. When both of these cars are parked there, something as simple as getting out of my driveway becomes a lesson in three point turns. I shouldn't have to fight to get out of my own driveway. Is there someone in the county gov. or police that I can contact about this? [RCA Note: Please call the police non-emergency number or 311 to place a code enforcement complaint.]

02-12-14 (Wed) at 8:26am. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. I'm a long-time resident of Randolph Hills and lately I've noticed a Montgomery County school bus (No. 229) that parks in Randolph Hills Park (in front of the tennis courts) at around 7AM and sits there with the engine idling for at least 1/2 hr. while the driver sleeps. To me, the stinking diesel fumes ruin the morning walks with my dog in the park. Aren't parks supposed to be a place to escape from the everyday hustle and relax? This noisy, stinking bus does the exact opposite and I'm sure it's only a matter of time before people along Ashley complain about the noise. If the driver needs to kill some time before starting his route, why not park the bus in the parking lot of the Randolph Hills Shopping Center? That's a more appropriate place for an idling bus.

02-13-14 (Thurs) at 9:15am. Not Anonymous. Hi, I live at 11xxx Schuylkill Road and wondered if there was anyone who could help me shovel my walk. I'm not able to do this kind of snow – it's too heavy and too much for me. Is there anyone that might be able to help? Thank you!

02-13-14 (Thurs) at 11:42am. Same Caller. Hi, I had called to ask for help with shoveling my snow. Unbelievably, one of my neighbors is helping me so I don't need any more help. Thank you! [RCA Note: We don't think this is unbelievable!]

02-15-14 (Sat) at 3:17pm. Not Anonymous. Received via Info@RandolphCivic.org. I'm writing in concern with the company contracted to plow snow in our neighborhood. During the initial snow on the 13th, one of the kids driving a Lima Landscaping truck came up our street in a reckless manner, trying to plow the snow UP the hill. He got stuck near the top and spent 15min. blocking the intersection (Grayling and Wilwyn) trying to get the truck free. Two days later on the 15th, they were back (for no reason as the street was already clear) and used the plow to move a pile of snow that one neighbor made while shoveling her driveway (the pile was on the corner of her driveway and the street, on the grass and out of the way) directly in front of another neighbor's driveway, effectively blocking it completely. There was no reason for the snow plow to be on our street on the 15th as it was already clear. Additionally, the kids hired to drive the trucks showed little to no experience driving in the snow, let alone operate a plow truck. What can be done to prevent this in the future?



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02-27-14 (Thurs) at 3:03pm. Not Anonymous. Hi, I live at 12xxx Galena Road and I did not get my Echo and I really miss it. I would appreciate a copy of the March issue. Thank you.

03-13-14 (Thurs) at 7:18pm. Not Anonymous. We live on Schuylkill Road and we are elderly. During the last few months, someone has very kindly brought our newspapers up through the snow and all the bad weather and left them at our door so that we didn't have to go out in the bad weather. We are very grateful to this person or these persons; we don't know who it is. And, we would like to express our thanks in the Echo and say that we deeply appreciate what they have and are still doing. [RCA Note: We're always glad to hear of good deeds in the neighborhood. Keep them coming RCAland!]

RCA Letter to PEPCO Regarding Power Outages on Ashley and Boiling Brook

The following letter was recently sent to Pepco, and was copied to our D18 delegates and Adam Fogel, Chief of Staff for Nancy Navarro.

"During the winter storms, a recurring issue in the Randolph Hills area of North Bethesda/Rockville, MD resurfaced as the neighborhood suffered multiple multi-hour power outages.

Obviously, with the snowfall some problems could be anticipated, but one portion of the neighborhood has more frequent and prolonged outages than the rest of the neighborhood. It is this section that we are most concerned about. The north side of Boiling Brook Parkway from Rocking Horse Road to Ashley Drive, as well as a portion of Ashley Drive from Boiling Brook Parkway to Topping Road seems to suffer from the most outages.

Anecdotal reports from residents show that this cluster appears to be known to Pepco (e.g., a single reported power outage immediately results in the same cluster of 50 homes on Pepco's outage services).

Many residents have also mentioned that just prior to the outages; they hear what seems to be an explosion (perhaps of a transformer).

Can Pepco please comment on the state of the grid in the Randolph Hills development, and why a group of homes are more prone to power outages? Can you address any upgrades or service improvement plans that are in place for this part of the neighborhood?

If there are no plans, can someone please identify the source of these repeated outages? They're proving exceptionally disruptive to our residents. I look forward to your response. Thank you for your time."

Chad Salganik
President, Randolph Civic Association

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Andrea
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FRI, MAY 2, 8PM



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MCDOT Proposal for Fixing Boiling Brook Parkway / Rocking Horse Road Intersection

By Chad Salganik

A long standing issue in our community is the daily frustration many of us feel as we try to navigate the Boiling Brook Parkway / Rocking Horse Road intersection. Several RCA board members spent a cold December morning monitoring traffic at the intersection with a member from the Montgomery County Department of Transportation, taking notes and brainstorming suggestions.

It is clear that the intersection has issues. Unfortunately, given the location of the intersection with the creek, our options are somewhat limited.

The image below reflects the changes that MCDOT has proposed. A larger version of the photograph and its design changes can be found on the RCA website: [http://randolphciv.org/2014/03/boiling-brook-parkway-rocking-horse-road-intersection/](http://randolphcivic.org/2014/03/boiling-brook-parkway-rocking-horse-road-intersection/)

The changes are aimed at calming the traffic in the intersection and limiting some of the motions, which will hopefully make for a more orderly intersection. Any changes would be marked temporarily to gain feedback prior to permanent changes being made.

Please examine the proposed changes and feel free to share your feedback privately with RCA President Chad Salganik at chad@randolphcivic.org or with the community on our Yahoo Group: <http://randolphcivic.org/>



MCDOT Proposal to Remove 'Hot Right' to Schuylkill Road

By Chad Salganik

Based on feedback from the community, the RCA asked the Montgomery County Department of Transportation to consider removing the "hot right" from Boiling Brook Parkway on to Schuylkill Road.

This intersection is dangerous for pedestrians. The proposed changes are aimed at calming traffic and improving pedestrian safety.

The image below illustrates the changes MCDOT has proposed. A larger version of the image can be found on the RCA website: [http://randolphciv.org/2014/03/boiling-brook-parkway-schuylkill-road-intersection-possible-change/](http://randolphcivic.org/2014/03/boiling-brook-parkway-schuylkill-road-intersection-possible-change/)

Please feel free to share your feedback with RCA President Chad Salganik privately at chad@randolphcivic.org or with the community on our Yahoo Group: <http://randolphciv.org/>



Buy Tickets NOW



RCA Musicfest

Benefiting the RCF
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Mem Sahib
in Randolph Hills Shopping Center
May 4th, 2014, 4-6pm



Featuring music from
neighborhood artists!
To buy tickets call
(240)668-4722 or
go online to
www.randolphcivic.org



Restaurant Review: Amalfi Ristorante Italiano

By Christiana Drapkin

It's been quite exciting to see so many new eateries open up in the past two years along Rockville Pike. I hope you've gotten a chance to sample the variety of cuisines and settings. But it's also sweet to realize that there are a couple of longtime establishments that managed not just to hang on through the years, but also to update their menus and their ways of doing business.

We struck gold with Amalfi Ristorante Italiano, an excellent family-owned and operated restaurant that's been at the fringe of our neighborhood since 1977. When you hang a right off Randolph Road, drive up Parklawn, past the U-Haul and the storage spaces on the left and all the other nondescript looking commercial buildings, you can easily overlook the side street that loops in on your left, Wilkins Avenue. Our friends had invited us there for a dinner recently. It was dark, and we almost couldn't believe that on that stretch -- which is pretty deserted after business hours -- we would find a thriving restaurant with a loyal regular customer base.

Most evenings, Teresa, who co-owns the restaurant with her husband, Moe Senior, will greet you at the reception desk. There are several rooms, which gives the place a very homey feeling while accommodating a lot of diners. They have a private dining room for parties, and they also provide off-site catering, which is good to know.

We were impressed by their lovingly prepared food and beautiful presentation. The salads and appetizers were up-to-date. My favorite was the arugula & pear salad; and even such simple appetizers like fried zucchini or calamari were done with a light touch. I loved the mussels in red wine sauce. Their breads and pizza and the fresh pasta are all made in-house. The menu choices are traditional Italian cuisine, but everything is delicious and elegant, from their popular eggplant parmigiana and pillowy tomato-basil gnocchi, to a variety of seafood, chicken, veal, and beef. Osso buco reigns supreme. Their dessert menu, however, could use an overhaul. Who needs yet another tiramisu, I wondered. But seeing my table neighbors dig into one of the chocolate-heavy dishes, I decided not to quibble. I preferred the light, moist ricotta cheesecake and a good cup of coffee, but of course they let me have a taste of their favorites, too.

Check it out for yourself! Make a reservation, peruse the menu online, and "like" them on Facebook after you've had a delicious meal there, lunch or dinner.

Amalfi Ristorante Italiano, 12307 Wilkins Avenue, Rockville, MD 20852, 301.770.7888.

Weekdays: lunch, 11am – 2pm; dinner, 5pm – 9pm

Saturday: 1:30pm – 10pm

Sunday: 1:30pm – 9pm

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News from Cub Scout Pack 1081

By Leora Hernandez

Pack 1081 is accepting boys from first grade to fifth grade into their pack. The boys enjoy learning all kinds of life skills and experience a wide variety of activities such as camping, trips to museums, bowling, and skiing.

In February, The Blue and Gold dinner had a pirate theme. The boys, families, and special guests enjoyed a spaghetti and meatball dinner while wearing eye patches. It was a lot of fun for all.

In March, the pack will have their annual parent son bake-off. The boys love to bid on their own creations and others. They are judged for taste and appearance and awarded ribbons for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place. Webelos II will be camping with Boy Scout Troop 1083. This will give them another opportunity to be introduced to the older boys. Bears and Webelos I will be spending an overnight at the MD Science Museum. This is another favorite activity for the older boys in the pack. They will visit exhibits and sleep there as well.

In April, the Webelos II will be bridging up to Boy Scouts at the pack's pow-wow.

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

Troop 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin

Foremost among the highlights of recent Troop 1083 events are the achievements of two of the Troop's senior members toward attaining Scouting's highest rank, the Eagle Scout. First: Congratulations to Brady Grundy, who on January 24th cleared the final hurdle when he passed his Eagle Board of Review, and thereupon officially became the Troop's newest Eagle Scout. Brady's Eagle Scout service project is described in the October 2013 ECHO.

But Brady's status as the newest Eagle may not last long, because in February Brad Gessford led his own Eagle project. The project is just one of the many rigorous requirements a Scout must satisfy before he earns the Eagle badge, but it is the most challenging and time-consuming part of the journey. Once the project itself is completed, a Scout is (usually) most of the way home. Brad's project consisted of collecting donations of usable sporting goods and redistributing them to recipients who would otherwise not have the opportunity to play, get some exercise, and maybe even find their calling! For the project to succeed, Brad knew he'd first have to get the word out to potential donors, and make it as widely known as possible. So he assembled teams of volunteers and coordinated the efficient and widespread distribution of informative flyers on February 5th and 8th. Then on February 9th and 15th, Brad coordinated

the collection of the donated sporting goods. Afterwards, the donations were taken to a warehouse for sorting and subsequent distribution to the teams and individuals who needed them. Congratulations to Brad!

On January 26th, the Troop held its Winter Court of Honor to recognize the merit badges, rank advancements, and special awards earned by all the Scouts in the preceding three months. In all, Troop 1083 Scouts collected 23 merit badges and 13 rank advancements. Aiden Finn, Jacob Hotaling, and Jude Weiksner each advanced two ranks, and Jarod Hackenberg advanced three!

Also recognized at the Court of Honor were four Scouts nominated by their peers to join the Order of the Arrow, Scouting's honor society. Those four—Noah Hall, Michael Loebach, Matthew Tiffany, and David Werking—have exemplified outdoors skills and a spirit of friendly leadership to their fellow Scouts, and so they have been selected to be eligible to participate in the first of the Order's three succession, Ordeal. Two Eagle Scouts, and Greg also selected the Order's known as the very rare and

Troop February— not canceled weather—fo- badges.



Josh Hart

February— not canceled weather—fo- badges. About a dozen merit badge options were offered so the Scouts would be assured a topic of interest. Any scout with ambitions of reaching the Eagle rank must earn at least 21 merit badges, of which 12 must be from a specific "core curriculum." Many of this year's offerings are from the list of Eagle-required merit badges.

If you're watching the NCAA men's basketball tournament "March Madness" this year, and the Villanova Wildcats are still advancing through the brackets when you read this, watch them play and look for the young man wearing uniform number 3. That's freshman guard (and Troop 1083 Eagle Scout) Josh Hart.

The remainder of March and early April will keep the Troop 1083 Scouts and their families busy with service projects and fun outings such as the Webelos weekend campout, some high adventure practice hikes, a trip to the Rockville Aquatic Center, and a neighborhood stream and park cleanup.

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's web page at www.troop1083.org.

RCF President's Message: Spaghetti Dinner, Annual Meeting & Bylaws Amendments

by Lindsay Hoffman

The Randolph Civic Foundation's year has two major highlights. The first involves our neighborhood clean-ups and the second is our Annual Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner. This year's spaghetti dinner will be on June 5th at 6pm – come join your neighbors at the Viers Mill Recreation Center for a free delicious dinner and a fun time.

During the business portion of the evening, the RCF will ask members to take votes on two important matters. The first will be election of new officers. If you are interested in getting involved with our community's wonderful philanthropic arm, please email me by Wednesday, April 16th at LindsayHoffman@aol.com. Stay tuned for a slate in the next issue of the ECHO.

The second vote will be to amend the RCF's bylaws, which have not been reevaluated in some time. Below is a summary of the proposed changes:

- Linguistic Changes: such as changing all uses of the word "Corporation" to "Foundation" and "By-Laws" to "Bylaws."
- Changing the organization's street address to that of an active member of the Board.
- Defining a "member" of the Randolph Civic Foundation as any adult (minimum 18 yrs.) who lives or owns real property within RCA-land.
- Striking the requirement for dues.

A full draft of the bylaws with proposed amendments may be found on our website at www.RandolphCivicFoundation.org. Please send any comments to me at LindsayHoffman@aol.com. Thank you!

RCF Board of Directors for 2013-2014

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Lindsay Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-775-9807

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11513 Ashley Drive
301-468-7310
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11429 Ashley Drive
301-468-0236

Alison Dewey
5003 Macon Drive
sabaly@hotmail.com

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

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

News from Girls Scout Troop 1079

By Leora Hernandez

This troop is for girls in the 6th-12th grades. At the Cadette Troop level the girls have opportunities to grow leadership skills, earn SSL hours, and have fun!

The girls are designing their dream home as part of the requirements for the Rising Tide Patch program, based on the "Hunger Games: Catching Fire" book. We also discussed how it feels to be in a life-threatening situation and how we would cope with facing it.

We have finished selling Girl Scout cookies this year. Hope you have enough to last until next year. They all freeze well and some are good to eat that way. Thin mints are especially tasty cold. Thank you for supporting us.

On April 5th, we will help honor the Japanese Americans who fought for us in WWII at the Japanese American Cherry Blossom Freedom Walk. It is both a learning experience and a service project for us. Hopefully the Cherry Blossoms will be at peak. This is our third year participating.

Girls in 6th-12th grade interested in joining us? Contact Leora Hernandez at 240-593-9318 or leorah20@yahoo.com for more information.

Venture Crew 1083

By Ben Pitkin

On February 16, Venture Crew 1083—along with affiliated Girl Scout, Boy Scout, and Cub Scout units—went skiing and snowboarding at Ski Liberty in Pennsylvania. The Crew has always known, but it's been especially appropriate this winter: if it's going to snow anyway, you might as well get out and enjoy it!

Several members of the Crew have already spent one year preparing for their High Adventure trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico in 2015, and they'll spend this year finishing their preparations. But it's not yet too late for other age-eligible Crew members to join the 2015 trek. So, the week after the ski trip, the Philmont 2015 group invited their Venture Crew colleagues on a miniature "shakedown" to get a flavor of what it's all about. The event involved a day hike around Lake Bernard Frank in Rockville, and it featured a quick campsite set-up and breakdown drill. Philmont in July is not quite the same as Rockville in February; but, at altitude in New Mexico, it can get pretty cold at times—so the simulation wasn't too much of a stretch of the imagination!

Venturing is open to coed youth aged 14 through 20. Crew meetings are Monday nights from 7:30–8:45 pm at Viers Mill ES. Why not join us? Bring a like-minded friend so you'll already know someone else at the meeting! For more information, contact crew advisor Greg Skolnik at 301-942-3755.

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Note to Contributors:

Deadlines for the remainder of the 2013-2014 Issue year are:

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4704 Randolph Road	\$400,000	\$400,000	23	\$11,500	03-Jan-14
11409 Ashley Drive	\$434,900	\$419,000	19	\$12,570	06-Jan-14
4714 Topping Road	\$379,900	\$375,000	55	\$10,000	30-Jan-14
4808 Mori Drive	\$369,000	\$360,000	66	\$0	10-Feb-14
4310 Star Lane	\$375,000	\$375,000	43	\$3,500	28-Feb-14
4812 Creek Shore Drive	\$385,000	\$385,000	0	\$0	7-Mar-14
4809 Ertter Drive	\$419,000	\$385,000	63	\$11,550	10-Mar-14



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