

The ECHO

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association

Volume 59, Issue 1

September 2015

RCA Community Day is Oct. 3d -- Featuring Brazilian BBQ

by Alison Dewey

There is always something for everyone at the RCA Community Day! Enjoy a neighborhood cookout featuring authentic Brazilian BBQ prepared by our own RCA neighbors, horse-mounted Park Police, and fun under the park pavilion! You will be more than deserving of a second plate of Brazilian BBQ by participating in the RCA 5K and Kids' Fun Run that morning.

The fun starts with the 3rd Annual Community Day 5K at 10:00am (registration opens at 9:30am) with the Kids Fun Run to follow. Bring your running shoes, cow bells and cheering voice! The 5K course will take you through some of your favorite local streets south of Randolph Road and on the Rock Creek Park Hiker/Biker Trail. The Kids' Fun Run will be held within the immediate area of the park. Details, including course information and sign-up information, are posted at Randolph-civic.org. Please check the site frequently for updates.

Be sure to stick around for more RCA Community Day festivities afterwards. Enjoy food, drinks and neighborly conversation at the Community Day picnic being held following the Kids' Fun Run (around noon) until 2:00pm. Mark your calendars and come on out for the festivities on Saturday, October 3rd. Reconnect with your neighborhood friends and meet new ones! What: RCA Community Day. When: Saturday, October 3rd. 5K: 10:00am (check-in at 9:30am). Kids Fun Run: 11:00am (all ages welcome). Cookout: Starting around 12:00 and ending around 2:00. Where: Randolph Hills Park. Course Map: <http://goo.gl/maps/lbSYJ> Who: Anyone can participate, bring a friend! Running strollers are allowed, dogs are not. Need additional information or want to volunteer to help? Email Alison Dewey at alisonandbrian@mac.com

Schuylkill Sign Vandalism and Replacement

by Matthew Tifford

The Schuylkill sign, located at the intersection of Schuylkill Road and Garrett Park Road, was one of five new signs purchased and installed in 2011. Over the course of the preceding two years the RCA held several fundraisers for the \$6000 purchase. After an astonishingly lengthy and convoluted permitting process, the signs were installed by our local Boy Scout Troop 1083 as an Eagle project.

This past Spring, late in the evening of May 26, vandals destroyed the Schuylkill sign, making off with most of the sign except for one small portion left hanging from one of the posts. After the damage was discovered the next day, police were called and a police report for the incident was filed. Unfortunately, the perpetrators left no clues as to their identity, so an eventual arrest is unlikely. An RCA resident living nearby heard what he assumed to be teenagers in Waverly-Schuylkill Park the same evening, so it's possible they were the culprits.

The Randolph Civic Association was able to dip into emergency funds for the \$2032 needed to order a replacement sign, and RCA volunteers installed the new sign on July 26. Regrettably, the signs were not covered by the RCA insurance policy. RCA is currently pricing out supplemental insurance against the possibility of future incidents.

As for the vandals, in the very least one can hope someone got a splinter.

In this year's membership drive, please consider an additional donation to the Randolph Civic Foundation Sign Beautification Fund. This tax-deductible contribution will help us restore much needed funding so we can continue to maintain our sign areas.

(See photos of the old and new signs on page 8).

Upcoming Events

RCA General Membership Meeting: Thursday October 1. 8:00pm-9:30pm, Viers Mill Recreation Center

RCA Community Day and Fun Run: Saturday October 3. 9:30am-2pm, Randolph Hills Park

RCA Community Bazaar: Saturday October 10. 8am-1pm, Loehmann's Plaza

President's Message - September 2015

by Brian Hooker, RCA President

This summer has certainly been a busy one in RCA-land. The summer started off with the launch of the White Flint 2 planning open house on June 25. As we have reported previously the White Flint 2 planning area includes Randolph Hills Shopping Center and presents many opportunities for our neighborhood to vocalize the importance of connectivity between the White Flint 1 area and our neighborhood. It was good to see several RCA residents attend the meeting and provide written feedback. On July 23rd the Maryland State Highway Administration and MCDOT's Division of Transportation Engineering held a public hearing seeking comments on a proposal to construct Montrose Parkway between Maryland Route 355 (Rockville Pike) and Parklawn Drive. RCA Board members attended the meeting and the RCA submitted written comments. The controversial roadway, which sparked a lively debate on the RCA Yahoo Group, is proposed to have a grade-separated crossing at Parklawn Drive. The RCA commented in opposition to the grade-separated crossing as we feel it is not keeping with the vision of a walkable, bikeable system of roadways as in the White Flint 1 & 2 Sector Plans. The grade-separated crossing would be similar to the Montrose Parkway/Rockville Pike intersection. An at-grade intersection, RCA's preferred alternative, would be similar to Montrose Parkway and East Jefferson Street. Also, while on the subject of improving pedestrian access, most of RCA-land has noticed that the improved sidewalks and bump-outs are being finally installed on Boiling Brook after over a year of discussion and adjustment of the temporary measures. We look forward to continuing improvements in this area through the White Flint 2 planning process.

Although not as impactful to all of RCA-land as the previously mentioned activities, the Randolph Farms subdivision was presented an unexpected surprise from the MCPS Rocking Horse Road Center. Without any notification to the community (direct contact or signage of any sort), the Center installed two "temporary" trailers on their property in violation of County property line set-back requirements. The Center has plenty of property where these facilities could have been placed less obtrusively and within County codes. MCPS has stated that while County zoning ordinances don't apply to them, they do strive to meet them when practicable. I personally don't believe they made any sincere effort to abide by County set-back requirements in this case. Due to many neighbors reaching out to MCPS and Councilmember Nancy Novarro, the RCA was able to get assurances from MCPS that the trailers will be removed in December. The RCA intends to hold them to this promise. As a part of the recent conversation with MCPS we learned that the Center is finally taking steps to address the lack of parking at the Center. The Center has approximately 100 off-street parking spaces and 159 staff on site. In addition, they serve approximately 3,600 clients (pre-K/head start and international enrollment) throughout the year. The lack of off-street parking places a great strain on streets within Randolph Farms. As recently as the week of August 17th surveyors could be seen at the Center preparing for additional parking lot proposals. We intend to work closely with the Center to ensure that these permanent measures are a least impactful to the neighborhood as practicable. Also, neighbors should note that the Health Clinic in the Rocking Horse Center is available to "all families" within Montgomery County by appointment (phone number: 240-777-1550). Please let the RCA know if you have any problems making appointments.

Looking forward I hope to see neighbors out for this year's RCA Community Day and Fun Run on October 3rd (see accompanying article for details). It should be a great event this year featuring authentic Brazilian BBQ prepared by our own RCA neighbors! The public hearing regarding the rezoning of the Montrose Baptist Church property has been rescheduled again until Friday December 11th at 9:30. We hope to get the developer scheduled for a meeting with the RCA prior to the hearing.

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



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

<u>Address...</u>	<u>List Price</u>	<u>Sold Price</u>	<u>DOM</u>	<u>Subsidy</u>	<u>Date Settled</u>
12107 Lauderdale Drive	\$350,000	\$350,000	132	\$0	01-Jun-15
11116 Schuylkill Road	\$399,000	\$399,000	10	\$0	02-Jun-15
4808 Erfter Drive	\$389,000	\$370,000	164	\$0	09-Jun-15
4808 Randolph Road	\$399,900	\$398,000	13	\$7,970	23-Jun-15
11448 Schuylkill Road	\$429,900	\$441,000	4	\$0	29-Jun-15
4708 Topping Road	\$370,000	\$370,000	16	\$11,000	07-Jul-15
11308 Schuylkill Road	\$399,900	\$375,000	14	\$0	08-Jul-15
5009 Macon Road	\$379,000	\$367,000	5	\$0	30-Jul-15
4600 Stoneleigh Court	\$279,000	\$279,000	0	\$0	03-Aug-15
12006 Ashley Drive	\$299,900	\$270,000	2	\$0	04-Aug-15
4627 Gemstone Ter	\$345,000	\$340,000	28	\$5,000	04-Aug-15
11213 Ashley Drive	\$364,900	\$364,900	7	\$2,000	18-Aug-15
11107 Rock Road	\$379,900	\$380,000	8	\$0	18-Aug-15
11512 Ashley Drive	\$407,500	\$397,000	32	\$1,000	21-Aug-15
12104 Lauderdale Drive	\$350,000	\$345,000	8	\$2,000	24-Aug-15

*If you're thinking of selling or buying a home this year,
call Denise for advice, timing and marketing strategies.*

*Denise has more than twenty-five years of experience
as a realtor in the neighborhood.*



Denise Szczur
Associate Broker
Long and Foster Real Estate, Inc.
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email: Denise.Szczur@LNF.com
website: DeniseSzczur.LNF.com

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Ways and Means Committee

Mara Greengrass
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June 4, 2015 General RCA Meeting Minutes

By Diane LaGrega Bertocchi

- 1) Call to order: 7:15 PM
 - 2) Old Business
 - A. Summer Recess: No ECHO delivery for July and August.
 - B. Upcoming Community Day is on October 3rd, 2015 at the Randolph Hills Park. There will be a 5K and Fun Run for the Kids.
 - C. Amber Tedesco: Michael Powell will be the new principal of Viers Mill Elementary starting in the fall.
 - D. The Court of Honors for the Boy Scouts will be Monday June 15, 2015 at the Elk Lodge in Rockville MD at 7:30pm. The RCA, who sponsors the Boy Scout Troup that delivers the ECHO for Randolph Hills will present a check to the Boy Scouts.
 - 3) New Business:
 - A. White Flint Update: The meeting that was scheduled for June 17, 2015 has been rescheduled. Stay tuned with Friends of White Flint, because it will affect the Randolph Hills Shopping Center and the Intersection at Boiling Brook and Rocking Horse.
 - B. Montrose School Rezoning Hearing: The hearing has been moved to September 21st, 2015 (since rescheduled to Dec. 11, 2015).

They want to rezone from single family homes to town-homes/ condominium to sell they land faster so they can move.

 - a. The developers have made a verbal promise to not open the road between the single family homes and the Safeway. Current homeowners are concerned about traf-fic issues.
 - b. The Holiday Park Neighborhood would like to do joint events with the Randolph Hills neighborhood. Amber Te-desco will follow-up with representatives from the Holiday Park Neighborhood.
- Committee Reports:
- Environment: Matt Tifford has filed a report regarding the vandalized sign. The RCF has requested a donation from the RCA to replace the sign.
- Safety – No issues to report.
- Treasurer's Report: Mara Greengrass: we need to review the budget first and then decide how much we can donate to the RCF to replace the vandalized sign in the neighborhood.

Summer Break: No meetings until September 2015.

Meeting adjourned: 7:30pm



ARE YOU READY?



National Preparedness Month

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BE PREPARED?

1. Read your insurance policies carefully
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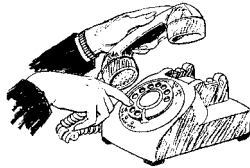
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The RCA Hotline

240-668-4722 (4RCA)

**Calls Received June 8, 2015
through August 22, 2015**

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



06/08/15 at 9:06am: Anonymous. Yes, Good morning. I just received my newsletter today, Monday June, the 8th. If I wanted to go to the spaghetti dinner, which was on June the 6th, I guess I missed it. Why couldn't the newsletter have gone out sooner. Thank you. Bye.
RCA response: Thank you for your comment. We try to work closely with the Boy Scouts to deliver the newsletter in a timely fashion. Unfortunately this does not always occur and we apologize if this prevented your attendance at the RCF Pasta Dinner. We encourage residents to follow the RCA on Facebook (www.facebook.com/randolphcivic) and via the Yahoo group (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/randolphca/info>) for time critical information.

06/09/2015 at 5:34pm: Anonymous. Yeah, I'm timing this call so that is all gets put into the newsletter. It is illegal to back into the street. So, back into your driveway so if you can pull out into the street safely. It is illegal back into the street. These speed cameras on Randolph Road by the crossing/crosswalk, If they put it before the crosswalk so that it would catch people in the crosswalk it would be about safety. But they put the camera past the crosswalk. That's about raising money. Not about safety. It's about raising money for a company in New Jersey. That's 50 seconds. I expect the call to be in the newsletter.
RCA Response: Thank you for your comment.

06/11/2015 at 1:08pm: Not anonymous. Hi, this is 11XX Schuylkill Road. My car was broken into and cash was stolen. I'd like to thank my neighbor that found my wallet that had pictures and some other things. I'd like to thank my neighbor whose name I forgot. I just wanted to say thanks for being a great neighbor. That's it I don't know any other way to contact her, she told me her name but I was a little frazzled and I don't remember. Thank that neighbor if there's a way to do that. Thank you, bye bye.
RCA Response: We're sorry to hear that your car was broken into but glad you were able to connect with your neighbor. We hope that you were able to reconnect since June.

7/18/2015 via info@randolphcivic.org: Not anonymous. A male parked in front of my house this morning and walked across my property to go to the woods in the back. When he came back I stepped outside to ask him who he was and he advised that he was leaving vitamins and minerals for the deers for their antlers to grow. He advise he has permits and that they are coming back in September to hunt for the deers in the woods. Is hunting permitted in the woods in our neighborhood? I let him know that if that is the case that I would prefer he not walk through my property, but again, are the woods that run behind the homes on Stickley Rd. permitted for hunting. Can you direct where we can find further information on that?

RCA Response: Deer hunting is not allowed in our part of the park. However, it is permitted in other parts under very controlled circumstances to control the deer population. He could also mean that he was trying to encourage antler growth so that he could come back later and look for shed antlers. Although that is usually in the spring. Regardless, he should not be trespassing since there are plenty of public access points along the park. More information is here: http://www.montgomeryparks.org/PPSD/Natural_Resources_Stewardship/Living_with_wildlife/deer/deerFAQs.shtm



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The Boiling Brook Bumpouts have arrived

by Matthew Tifford

The intersection of Boiling Brook Parkway and Rocking Horse Road has long been the bane of neighborhood motorists due to confusion as to the proper flow of traffic through the intersection. Because of the often unpredictable traffic flow, this intersection has been of particular danger to pedestrians.

And just around the corner, the "hot right" where Schuylkill Road ends at Boiling Brook Parkway has raised similar pedestrian safety concerns- particularly with its proximity to the Ride-on bus stop.

Back in December 2014, MCDOT installed bump-outs comprised of temporary flexible posts at both of these intersections (as well as elimination of the hot right) in an attempt to improve their function and safety. Over the last six months, and with feedback from the community, MCDOT has studied the resulting changes in traffic flow. Transportation workers have been periodically adjusting the locations of the posts to determine the ideal configuration for the bump-outs in order to both allow traffic to flow with minimal obstruction while aiding the safe passage of pedestrians.

In August, work finally began on permanent concrete bump-outs at both locations. With your input, the civic association will continue to provide feedback to MCDOT as our community adjusts to the new configuration.





The saga of the RCA sign at Garrett Park Rd: above, the vandalized remains of the original sign; below, the replacement version, July 2015.



The Randolph Civic Association

RCA Membership Form

Name: Nombre:	
Address: Dirección:	
Rent/ Alquiler <input type="checkbox"/>	
Own/ Propia <input type="checkbox"/>	
Phone: Número de teléfono:	
Email: Correo electrónico:	

Want to Donate Online? Fill out this form completely, including dollar amounts, check the box letting us know you've paid online, and mail in.

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All contact information is kept entirely private. RCA does not rent, lease, sell or divulge any email addresses, names, or phone numbers.

		Amount
RCA Membership Dues		\$10.00
Additional Donation RCA	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Donation RCF	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<small>*(Tax Deductible amount)</small>		
Sign and Entrance Beautification Fund	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<small>+(Tax Deductible amount)</small>		
Total:		\$

Want to volunteer?

Yes please contact me via:

☐ Phone
☐ Email

Paying online rather than with a check ☐

Time to Make a Difference

The Randolph Civic Association is forum for public discussion of matters of community interest and is open to all residents.

We encourage participation in neighborhood initiatives, decisions, and gatherings.

Have an idea for the neighborhood? Would you like to see something change?

Renew today and share your thoughts.

Please note: Make checks payable to Randolph Civic Association. Please DO NOT mail cash. If you would like us to come pick up your form or check in-person, please email info@randolphcivic.org to schedule a pick up.



What does your membership support?

Your membership allows us to continue producing and delivering the Echo and delivering it to your home, conduct the Neighborhood Watch, run our email list, continue our ongoing advocacy efforts, and that's just the beginning. Your membership and donations help create a strong community and improve our quality of life.



Renew Today!





www.facebook.com/pages/Randolph-Civic-Association/



@RandolphCivic

*Additional RCA Donation supports publication of the Echo, advocacy, community events, the Neighborhood Watch and other civic improvements.
**Additional RCF Randolph Civic Foundation supports youth groups, neighborhood beautification, and education.
+RCF Sign and Beautification fund targeted donation for improvements to our neighborhood entrances.



TROOP

1083

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

BSA Troop 1083 / RCA Community Bazaar and Yard Sale Saturday October 10, 2015

8:00am-1:00pm, Loehmann's Plaza

Show up early to claim a good spot!

RCA members get a free space!

Non-members pay \$10 per space

**Any questions contact Jessie at jessiemcginley@gmail.com
[301-537-6014](tel:301-537-6014)**



VENTURING BSA

CREW 1083

A Beloved Bakery Reopens, and other Proprietors to Patronize

by Christiana Drapkin

Many of you are probably enjoying our delicious food shopping opportunities, which are a decided departure from that old "sliced white bread" suburban cliché. We certainly have a lot to celebrate when we want to put something delicious on our table. I love dropping in at Vignola Gourmet in the Boiling Brook Mall for my favorite pancetta sandwich, fresh mozzarella, pasta, and ready-made lasagna and eggplant parmesan, and so much more. I can't resist the Italian sopressata, it goes great with broccoli rabe over fresh pasta, which brings back memories of our Italian vacation. As the newest feature, you can check their daily menu online, and order ahead, to cut down on your grumbling stomach's wait time. Moti's Market, formerly known as Kosher Mart, is one of the largest kosher supermarkets in our county, and it lures me back time and again for my old-time favorites, from matzoh-ball soup to their variety of Mediterranean delicatessen offerings. Of course, I'll always have to add on something special, like their jars of candied figs, which go well alongside roasted lamb, over ice cream, or as a counterpoint in my homemade chicken, olives, capers, and tomato dish. Oh, I cried tears of joy, when I discovered that the little French bakery formerly known as St. Michel – on Wilkins Avenue, off Parklawn by Franklin Park – has reopened under new ownership as "La Bohemia Bakery." On my regular trips for their flakey, buttery croissants, chocolate mouleux (just try to say that without starting to salivate), canneles (don't know what it is, but pop one in your mouth), baguette and country breads, I had started to bond with the bakers, Christian and Frejus. It was so sad last May, when they told me they

were losing their jobs, as the business owner was calling it quits and moving back to France. Great news: the same talented bakers are back, with their recipes, plus a couple of additions that the new owners, who are immigrants from Eastern Europe, have brought with them. Go and delight in their delicious fare. I'm sure you'll become a regular. Last, but not least, our weekly Pike Central Farm Market is going strong. Founded by Debra Moser and Mitch Berliner in 2008, the efforts of their tireless team has made this Saturday market an attraction across Rockville Pike, where construction dust, heavy machinery, and the closed-down strip mall would have otherwise kept us away. I credit their ingenuity and tenacity with sparking our interest through those trying years, helping to get our interest and foot traffic coming to the new Pike & Rose businesses. Our Farm Market purveyors are truly special. If the weather is hot and sticky, or if it's a nasty, rainy, shivery day: the vendors are out there from early in the morning, bringing their regional produce, cheeses, meat products, fresh seafood, cakes, jams and chutneys, wine, pottery and specialty products that could make nice, thoughtful little presents, too. Show them some love, bring your shopping bags, and let them know that you appreciate all this extra effort, travel, co-ordination, and risk-taking that these small growers and producers put on the line, just to bring us something extra special to put on our table. A little everyday "Thanksgiving" goes a long way, and helps to keep them in business.

Vignola Gourmet www.vignolagourmet.com 11612 Boiling Brook Place; Moti's Market <http://motismarket.com> 4860 Boiling Brook Parkway; La Bohemia Bakery <http://labohemiabakery.com> 5540 Wilkins Court; Pike Central Farm Market, www.centralfarmmarkets.com 5992 Executive Blvd.

Bon appetit!

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RCF President's Message - September 2015

by Ashley Salganik

I hope everyone enjoyed their summer! I wanted to start off by thanking everyone that came to our Randolph Civic Foundation Annual Meeting and Spaghetti Dinner in June. The turnout was great and we all enjoyed the delicious pasta and salad provided by Vignola Gourmet. We raised nearly \$300 to put towards replacing the neighborhood sign at the intersection of Garrett Park Road and Schuylkill Road that was damaged by vandals and needed to be replaced. As I'm sure you have noticed, the new sign has been installed (thanks to the efforts of Matt Tifford who ordered and installed the sign) but we still have a long way to go to pay off the cost of the new sign. Please consider donating additional money towards the RCF when you fill out your membership form in the next month or two. Also, thank you to our volunteers that planted flowers at our neighborhood signs. The flowers are doing great and it is nice seeing colorful flowers when entering our neighborhood from the various entrances.

For those that are new to the neighborhood, here is some information to get you familiar with the purpose of the Randolph Civic Foundation. The RCF is a neighborhood, non-profit organization focused on the improvement, betterment and beautification of our community. If you're new to our neighborhood, you can see our work in the signs welcoming you to the neighborhoods and the benches at many bus stops. We have neighborhood cleanups throughout the year and we plant colorful flowers and plants near the neighborhood signs. In addition to these contributions to our community, we also support activities like the local Scout troops, our annual neighborhood caroling and resident block parties. We are always open to ideas on how to improve and beautify our neighborhood. Feel free to contact me at ashleysalganik@gmail.com

RCF Board of Directors for 2015-2016

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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




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Karen Wood has over 25 years of experience teaching piano to adults and children. She earned a Bachelor of Music with major in Piano and minor in Voice, and guides her students by standards of the National Guild of Piano Teachers.



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Venture Crew 1083 News

By Ben Pitkin, Corresponding Secretary

The summer of 2015 marked the close of Venture Crew 1083's seventh year of operation. In the transition to Year 8, the Crew and its members participated in High Adventure activities, in greater numbers than ever before.

In the Scouting program, High Adventure refers to long-term outings, typically in wilderness settings. These outings require intensive preparation, with many weekends spent on "shakedown" hikes and campouts, practicing strict leave-no-trace camping principles; building long-range and high-altitude hiking stamina; discovering which items are indispensable, and which ones are just extra weight, on extended backpacking trips; learning to cook, clean, and purify drinking water on the trail; preventing injuries and, if needed, providing first aid in remote settings; managing any kind of weather within a very wide range of extremes; and protecting bears and hikers alike by suspending food, garbage, and other "smellables" at night from ropes strung between trees at least 20 feet off the ground.

These practice hikes culminate in a weeklong trek at the Lenhok'sin High Adventure Base in the Blue Ridge Mountains near Goshen, Virginia. In July 2015, Venture Crew 1083 sent 10 youths (aged 13 and 14) and 3 adult advisors on their first of two annual summer treks. The boys hiked, camped, and lived out of their backpacks on the wooded mountain trails. They learned a lot about teamwork under pressure and they had an awesome time doing it. Hard work? You bet. Fun? Even more so.

After two years of weeklong High Adventure warmups, a Venture Crew 1083 posse spends its third summer at the Mecca of High Adventure, Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. In twelve days on the Philmont trail, the distances are greater, the altitudes higher (roughly 7,000 to 12,000 feet), and the wildlife a bit more varied (as in, bigger—and usually hungrier).

At the end of June 2015, Venture Crew 1083 sent 7 youths and 3 adult advisors to Philmont. Even more than Lenhok'sin, the journey poses an enormous challenge to overcome, and the fun and the excitement are beyond description.

A trip to Philmont is truly a trip of a lifetime!

High Adventure is a big-ticket endeavor, and along with

unparalleled outdoor experiences, it teaches its participants how to work in creative ways to help defray some of the costs. In that way, they learn the importance of paying at least part of their own way—and how to go about it successfully. One such way is by sponsoring the RCA Spring and Autumn Bazaars, held in May and October in the Loehmann's Plaza parking lot.

The coming Autumn Bazaar will be on Saturday morning, October 10. In addition to sponsoring the event, the Crew provides the food and beverage sales for hungry and thirsty bazaar-goers. Because the proceeds support the Crew's High Adventure component, every bit you do to help—and enjoying a burger and a soda helps—is most appreciated. Be sure to check the RCA Yahoo group for any late-breaking additional details about the Bazaar.

Venturing is open to coed youth aged 14 through 20. The Crew will meet every Monday night during the school year, from 6:30–7:30 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.

(Below: At over 14,000 feet, Pike's Peak is a good high-altitude warm-up for the Venture Crew before hitting the Philmont trail).



Troop 1083 News - September 2015

By Ben Pitkin, Assistant Scoutmaster

There's a lot of ground to cover in this report! Back in June, the Scouts of Troop 1083 started their summer with the annual beach campout at Assateague State Park. The weekend included a Friday afternoon at the go-cart track, Saturday at the beach, and a night on the boardwalk in Ocean City. The beach campout is always a Scout family favorite!

The week of July 5th, 7 scouts and 2 leaders attended a week of summer camp at Camp Olmsted at the Goshen Scout Reservation in Goshen, VA. This was the first time the Troop has been to Camp Olmsted in several years and the Scouts enjoyed swimming in Lake Marriott, working to the scout rank advancement in the Trail's Head program, and completing a few merit badges, to boot.

In the last week of July, over two dozen Scouts and 8 leaders attended a week of summer camp at the Rodney Scout Reservation on the Upper Chesapeake in North East, MD. They earned bucketloads of merit badges, extended old friendships and started new ones, and enjoyed arts and crafts, archery, swimming, boating, and the many other things one can only do outdoors in the summertime. It was one for the ages!

Since the last Echo issue, four 1083 Scouts completed their Eagle Scout service projects, three of them passed their Eagle Boards of Review (thereby officially earning the rank), and three of them celebrated their Eagle Courts of

Honor (the ceremonial recognition of their accomplishment). Matthew Kimball's project involved raising public awareness, collecting donated goods, and sorting and sending them as care packages to U.S. armed forces serving overseas. Kevin Oakes built a new hiking trail along Lake Seneca at Seneca Creek State Park in Boyds, MD. Mateo Streed's project involved clearing a fence line at the Rocking Horse Community Center, planting some new trees and installing a bench there, and landscaping around the bench. Nick Kurtz's project involved constructing a large all-natural sandbox, ringed by a palisade of vertical logs, at the Brookside Gardens Nature Center in Wheaton Regional Park. Matt Olson and Spencer Brigman passed their Boards of Review in June; Mateo Streed passed his in July. Chuck Reese, Spencer Brigman, and Matt Olson held a combined Court of Honor—the first such three-fer in Troop 1083 history, to anyone's knowledge—in August.

Many of the Troop's Scouts with dual membership in Venture Crew 1083 took part in some very notable High Adventure activities this summer. Check out the Venture Crew article for details.

2015/2016 is shaping up to be another great year in Troop 1083. We have outings throughout the year, where we learn and have a lot of fun. Why not join us? If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade you can join us. We meet Monday night at 7:30 at Viers Mill Elementary School. You can call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048, or check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org.



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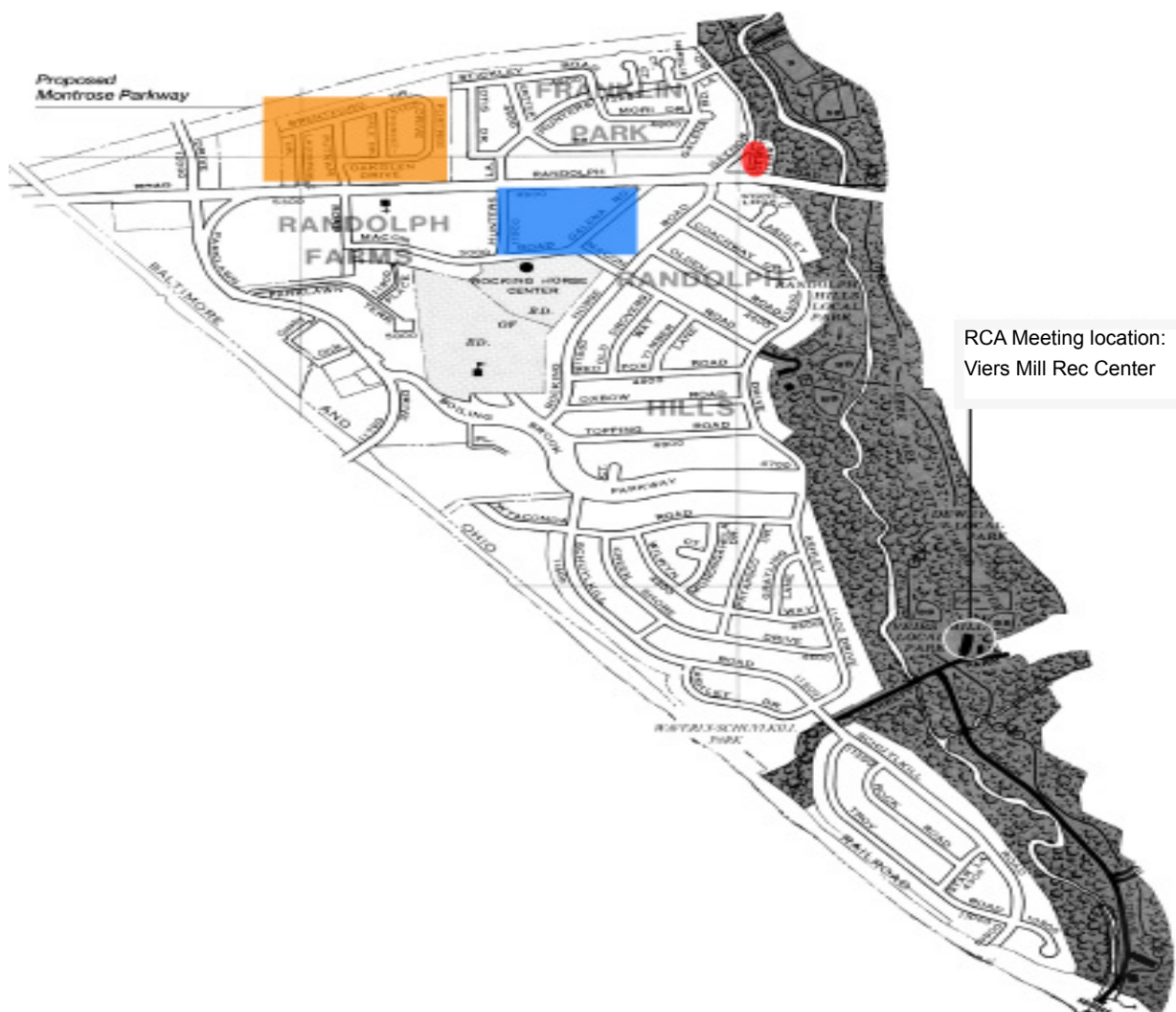
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WATERCOLOR CLASSES. Learn to paint in nearby Garrett Park! Small, informal classes for adults. All levels welcome, including complete beginners. Held in teacher's Victorian home. Martha Seigel, MFA, the American University, over 30 years experience. Call 301-946-5388.

Parents of young children...Are you interested in meeting other parents in the neighborhood? If so, please consider joining the "RCA Parents" Facebook page. Contact Nikki Forry for additional details or questions at nikki.forry@gmail.com.

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Market summary for June 1, 2015-August 31, 2015

Average List Price: \$374,251
Average Sold Price: \$363,371
Low Sale Price: \$270,000
High Sale Price: \$441,000
Average Days on Market: 47



***** The full Market Update for the neighborhood is on p. 3 of this issue. *****



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