

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 45, Issue 4

January/February 2002

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President's Message

by Kevin Kline

Where is RCA-land? Rockville? North Bethesda? You're not the only one confused! The telephone operator tells us we live in Kensington!

I object to the Community Phonebook describing zip code "20852" as "Pike." According to the United States Postal Service, the mailing address name of zip code area 20852 is "Rockville" or "North Bethesda," but never "Pike." In reality, very few 20852 addresses are physically located within the city limits of Rockville.

"The Pike" is the historical toll road that became Wisconsin Avenue/Rockville Pike/Frederick Road. The pike has a glorious history, both in Colonial and Civil War times. The nation-wide phrase "...goes/comes down the pike" began with our very own Rockville Pike. However, "The Pike" has always been used to describe the road itself, not a specific area. The pike could equally describe Bethesda, Rockville, points in-between, or points beyond.

The Community Phonebook lists Strathmore Hall under Bethesda, and that unquestionably is wrong. Strathmore Hall is actually located in North Bethesda. The "Schools" section lists Luxmanor Elementary and Tilden Middle schools as being in Rockville! Both these schools are physically located in North Bethesda. "Community Centers" lists the Montgomery Aquatic Center as being in Bethesda. The Aquatic Center is actually closer to the Rockville city limits than Strathmore or the two schools. The sign in front of the Aquatic Center proclaims its location as North Bethesda.

I wrote the DataNational company of Chantilly, VA that prints the Community PhoneBook, to tell them of their mistakes.

Upcoming Events

RCA Executive Meeting
Thursday, February 7, 2002
8:00 p.m.

RCA General Meeting
Thursday, March 7, 2002
8:00 p.m.

Meetings are held at the Randolph Hills Recreation Center at the corner of Ashley Drive and Macon Road 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.

Representative from Trash & Recycling to Speak at March General Meeting

A representative from the County's Division of Solid Waste Services will give a presentation on Trash & Recycling at the RCA General Meeting on Thursday, March 7th, 8 PM. This is your chance to find out the what/where/when/why and who of trash pickup. Poor trash service? Come on out! Want to recycle more? Come on out! Want twice-a-week trash pickup like we used to have? Come on out!

RCA Executive Committee for 2001-2002

OFFICERS

President

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Vice President

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Secretary

Open

Treasurer

Richard Zierdt
4707 Coachway Drive
301-881-0283

Directors

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Frank 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

Patricia Longenecker
4703 Wyaconda Road
301-770-1927

Environment

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Education

Elinor Walker
12111 Galena Road
301-468-6335

Mobile Watch

John Polk
11216 Troy Road

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

Brian McGahey
11805 Timber Lane
301-770-7882

Cub Master, Pack 1081

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Scout Liaison

Frank Rossomondo
11611 Ashley Drive
301-770-7450

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487

Pat Hart
4905 Randolph Road
301-239-2740

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:
Kevin Kline, Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt
www.montgomerycivic.org

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):
Councilman: Howard Denis 240-777-7964
email: Councilmember.Denis@co.mo.md.us
Mr. Denis' aide: Ken Hartman

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive (all of RCA):
Douglas Duncan 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3

(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland State Legislative District 17 -

South of Randolph Road:

Senator: Jennie Forehand 301-858-3134

Delegates: Kumar Barve 301-858-3001

Michael Gordon 301-858-3519

Cheryl Kagan 301-858-3046

Maryland Legislative District 18 -

North of Randolph Road:

Senator: Christopher Van Hollen 301-858-3137

Delegates: Leon Billings 301-858-3028

Sharon Grosfeld 301-858-3028

John Hurson 301-858-3464

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8 (all of RCA):

Constance Morella 202-225-5341

email: rep.morella@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate (all of RCA):

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Paul Sarbanes 202-224-4524

Election Precincts:

4-08 South of Randolph Rd. Vote at Rockinghorse Center.

4-26 North of Randolph Rd. Vote at Montrose Baptist Church.

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

www.co.mo.md.us/services/elections



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

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

Membership in the RCA is \$5.00 per year.

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

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

December 6, 2001

President Kevin Kline opened the meeting by welcoming the Boy Scouts who were attending to earn Citizenship Merit Badges. The RCA assisted this Scouting effort by opening the meeting in a more formal manner, adhering to Roberts Rules of Order.

Approved by majority vote: the November Exec meeting minutes as published in the *Echo*, and the RCA/RCF operating budget. The budget was amended to defer spending \$650 on Welcome Wagon notebooks until next year, in order to balance projected income with expenses. Treasurer Richard Zierdt briefed us on the financial status, reporting that the RCA has combined assets of \$8,700.

Kevin and Richard then gave a briefing on area zoning, of all the commercial and road construction projects planned for the area. This included the news that the County agreed to our stipulation that the parking waiver for the new Loehmann's Plaza Chuck E. Cheese (in the former Rite-Aid) be limited to that restaurant only. If the Chuck E. Cheese closes, any replacement restaurant will have to re-apply for a zoning waiver.

Kevin quoted chapter and verse from the M-NCPPC Park Classification System, to demonstrate that Randolph Hills Local Park falls under the classification of "Smaller types of parks that are primarily used by local residents and nearby areas..." The point being that even the County's own literature states that it is our park, to be used primarily by RCA'ers. Park representatives are always surprised when we point this out to them.

Approved by majority vote: to opposed state bill MC 207-02 that would increase School Board salaries from \$12,000 to \$18,500 (with the Board President earning \$4,000 above that). Board members would also be eligible for health benefits. The RCA opposes this salary increase because it comes at the same time the School system is facing budget cutbacks, and just proposed eliminating 168 employees, and increasing class size. Overall, the school system budget will decrease 5 percent, when last year it went up 10 percent, and 9 percent the year before that.

Later, RCA School Committee member George Gadbois reported that the Downcounty Consortium appears dead in the water due to lack of funds. The County was relying on Federal funding, and when that failed together with a director change, the initiative slowed down. The time line has moved back one year and the Wheaton signatures are undergoing some regrouping.

Approved by unanimous vote: for the RCA to send a letter voicing our concerns about the poor quality of Wheaton HS, and urge the School Board to

change the school boundaries so our kids can attend another high school. We will also recommend that Rocking Horse Elementary be reopened. The RCA Treasurer recently had an opportunity to meet with our School Board Representative Pat O'Neill and discuss our concerns.

Approved by unanimous vote: that the RCA write a letter to the County supporting the idea that citizens and civic groups be allowed to donate money for their local schools.

Approved by unanimous vote: that the RCA write a letter to the Federal Highway Administration that an exemption to "independent utility" be granted, or else that the MD 355 Montrose/Randolph intersection project be delayed until the County Council fully funds the Montrose Parkway.

The RCA Execs explained "independent utility" means that road projects funded by the federal government must "stand alone" on its own merits, rather than be part of a larger transportation project – like the Montrose Parkway.

The Execs discussed local traffic problems by displaying and explaining a large blueprint of proposed changes to Randolph Road. The Execs object to the County's plan of closing the existing Randolph Road,

(continued on page 4)

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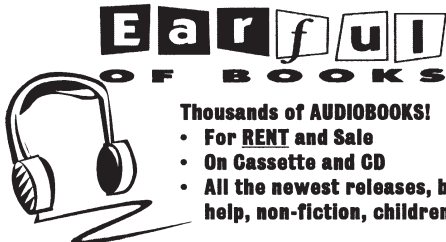
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RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 3)

and merely replacing it with the Montrose Parkway. (However, the RCA is in favor of the Montrose Parkway). This plan doesn't add additional road capacity. The County's idea is that easing the traffic flow through the intersections (at Montrose & Rockville Pike, and over the railroad tracks) will allow for more traffic. The Execs want to keep Randolph Road as it is, and add a new Montrose Parkway.

Traffic build-up on Rocking Horse was also discussed, including the RCA's previous idea of installing a traffic light at Boiling Brook/Rocking Horse. The County has been unresponsive.

Approved by unanimous vote: to donate \$200 to the new Girl Scout Troop. The membership welcomed the new troop to RCA-land!

The president ended the meeting at 10pm sharp!

County to Offer Free Course on Trash and Recycling

Montgomery County's Division of Solid Waste Services is offering a free course on trash and recycling called "Behind the Scenes" starting on Thursday, February 21, 2002, and continuing for six Thursdays. The last class is April 4. Classes are held from 7-9 p.m. at the Solid Waste Transfer Station on MD Route 355 (near the Shady Grove metro). You may attend any/all class(es) that interest you – you do not have to attend all six. You must pre-register, however, at

http://solidwaste.dpwt.com/bts/bts_registration.htm

See more details, including course syllabus and an optional field trip, at

<http://solidwaste.dpwt.com/bts/>

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GNC	(301) 984-3363
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Kumon U.S.A.	(301) 231-6977
Loehmann's	(301) 770-0030
Parcel Plus	(301) 468-2177
Safeway	(301) 770-3665
SunTrust Bank	(301) 998-8580
Sherwin Williams	(301) 984-7124
Subway	(301) 881-2477
Urban Accents	(301) 881-4451



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Treasurer's Report

by Richard Zierdt

As of January 7, 2002, combined RCA+RCF assets total \$9,882.78. I missed reporting a deposit of \$709 on October 26, 2001 which did not appear in December's *Echo*. It is listed in this report.

We made two donations since November: One for Girl Scout Troop 1087 for \$200, and \$100 to the Kensington Volunteer Fire Department, which serves our neighborhood.

Randolph Civic Foundation interest credits from Suntrust are often an estimate because I haven't received the Bank's statement until after the deadline for the *Echo*. It is corrected in the next issue.

RCA Checking Register 11/11/2001 through 1/7/2002

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 11/11/2001			8,336.75
10/26		RCAssociation	membership	709.00	9,045.75
11/14		RCAssociation	inc:advert	40.00	9,085.75
11/16	E-xfr	Verizon	Oct 22 telephone	-20.88	9,064.87
11/18	656	Victor Vissari	Sam's Club refund	-14.00	9,050.87
11/19	657	SAM's Club	2 SAM's mbrshps	-30.00	9,020.87
11/19	658	SAM's Club	2 SAM's mbrshps	-30.00	8,990.87
11/21		RCAssociation	inc:advert	40.00	9,030.87
11/21		RCAssociation	inc:membership	521.00	9,551.87
11/21		Suntrust Bank	returned check & fee	-10.00	9,541.87
11/23	659	SAM's Club	2 SAM's mbrshps	-30.00	9,511.87
11/23	660	SAM's Club	1 SAM's mbrshp	-15.00	9,496.87
11/23	661	SAM's Club	1 SAM's mbrshp	-30.00	9,466.87
11/23	662	SAM's Club	3 SAM's mbrshps	-45.00	9,421.87
11/26	663	Quick Printing	Dec ECHO 20 pgs	-892.50	8,529.37
11/30		RCAssociation	inc:membership	10.00	8,539.37
12/05		RCAssociation	inc:advert	140.00	8,679.37
12/07	664	Quill	paper/ECHO production	-60.89	8,618.48
12/17	E-xfr	Verizon	Nov 22 telephone	-20.89	8,597.59
12/24		RCAssociation	Glenmont Heating/AC	180.00	8,777.59
12/31		RCAssociation	advertising:	95.00	8,872.59
			Electrical	60.00	
			Criswell Chevy	30.00	
			2nd classified ad	5.00	
01/07		RCAssociation	membership	319.00	9,191.59
		BALANCE 01/07/2002			9,191.59

RCF Checking Register
11/11/2001 through 1/7/2002

Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 11/11/2001			890.85
11/17		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	940.84
11/30		interest	Suntrust Bank .28%	0.19	941.03
12/07	1049	Girl Scout Troop	donation - Troop 1087	-200.00	741.03
12/17		RCFoundation	donation	50.00	791.03
12/31	1050	Kensington Volunteer	donation	-100.00	691.03
12/31		interest	*Estimate* .28%	0.16	691.19
		BALANCE 1/7/2002			691.19

Total RCA+RCF cash assets

9,882.78

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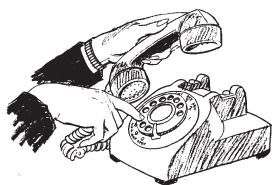
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Calls Received on the RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

**November 11, 2001 to
January 7, 2002**



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.

2001-11-11 (Sun) 11:57 am Sam's Card difficulty.

2001-11-11 (Sun) 3:27 pm Where's my Sam's Card?
[New cards are obtained at the end of October]

2001-11-12 (Mon) 3:10 pm Anonymous. Could a right-turn only lane be installed going from Nicholson Lane onto Boiling Brook Parkway? Could we look into it? Caller would appreciate it.

2001-11-18 (Sun) 3:14 pm Anonymous, Franklin Park. On Nov 17, about 6:30, caller found a juvenile in caller's back yard, hiding in a bush by rear door, waiting to enter caller's home. Boy wore black pants and black sweatshirt pulled up so the only thing you could see were his eyes. He is about 5' 6", 15 or 16 years old. Boy was waiting (in vain) to obtain entry into caller's home. Caller detained the boy, asked him his name, but was told he (juvenile) did not know his own last name or his address. He couldn't explain what he was doing in caller's yard. Caller followed the boy home; he lives in the 4900 block of Ertter Drive in a rental house. Caller spoke to juvenile's father, but doesn't think the father is going to do anything about it. Neighbors around Hunter's Lane, Ertter Drive, Stickley: Beware! Any suggestions?
[Thanks for calling the RCA. Caller could also call the police to at least get it in the record. If caller will call back with exact address, RCA can contact the owner.]

2001-11-19 (Mon) 4:48 pm Anonymous, Boiling Brook Parkway. Trash pickup and recycling day. Trash collectors continue to leave trash cans in the street and bang them up. The handles are broken on the lid and trash can. The lid no longer will fit the can. Trash is left in the street, and broken bottles in a million pieces from the

street to the sidewalk. Caller gets satisfactory answers from the County (240-777-6410). However, when caller calls the company itself (294-6114), caller gets the runaround: "We'll see what we can do about it..." These people su**. I hope something can be done about this. Maybe the County can switch collection companies.

2001-11-20 (Tue) 3:53 pm Anonymous, Ashley Drive and Rocking Horse Road. Remind neighbors, when walking their dogs, please carry something to pick up their business. Caller carries plastic bags when walking the dog. There have been a lot of dogs out roaming the neighborhood lately, and people might want to take a little more care, because some of the kids are getting scared.

2001-11-22 (Thu) 8:18 am Schuylkill Road. Thanks to all who maintain the landscaping in RCA-land, particularly at Schuylkill and Garrett Park Roads.

(continued on page 10)

ELLIOTT C. FLICK, D.D.S.

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RCA Hotline

(continued from page 9)

2001-11-27 (Tue) 9:24 am Anonymous (Rocking Horse Road). Caller is glad the RCA contributes to the Boy Scouts and is proud to have the Scouts in our community.

2001-11-28 (Wed) 1:03 pm Where's Sam's Card?

2001-12-01 (Sat) 3:26 pm Anonymous. Call in reference to calls about dogs left out in the Ashley/Macon/Olden area. Residents need to call the Humane Society at 301-279-1823. This number is published in the *Echo*. The only way to help the dogs and correct the situation is to call. Also, caller is glad that Home Depot is not going to be built (north of the Giant on Rockville Pike). There is so little green space left. It's stressing everybody out, because we really need green spaces and the animals are losing out as well. [Footnote: *Although Home Depot bailed, we've heard that Target is investigating this same spot for a 2003-2004 opening. Oh, well...*]

2001-12-01 (Sat) 9:44 pm Anonymous. Caller would appreciate a correction to [presumably, the same anonymous caller's] last month's message left on the RCA hotline. What caller said was: "...I don't believe, unless we are *all* in agreement, that money should be donated to any organization, including the Boy Scouts, that discriminates against a group of people, and in this case, that group of people are homosexuals."

2001-12-01 (Sat) 10:13 pm Stickley Drive. A homeless man has set up a tent, etc., in the park, as if it were a campsite [editor: could this be the Montrose Parkway right-of-way?]. Park Police have been notified, but have not responded. Caller is moving, but thought that the RCA should know about it. [Would caller please leave phone number so RCA can follow up?]

2001-12-05 (Wed) 5:11 pm Anonymous, resident of Ashley Drive near Rocking Horse. Caller asks if a "Do Not Block" sign might be placed at corner of Ashley and Rocking Horse Road. Often, traffic is blocked at this intersection, where cars can neither enter or exit.

2001-12-10 (Mon) 3:15 pm Mrs. Murray, Franklin Park. 301-770-2555. Caller and some other RCAer's would like to start a "mother's club."

2001-12-12 (Wed) 2:51 pm Mori Drive. How to get a street light repaired? [call 240-777-2190]

2001-12-17 (Mon) 2:35 pm odd commercial call.

2001-12-19 (Wed) 12:07 pm Please publish in the *Echo* the name of the County building we call... [End of message; not sure what the caller wanted]

2001-12-21 (Fri) 3:30 pm Otis Drive. Yesterday, a wounded deer came into neighbor's yard with an arrow in its side. MC police arrived around 4:30 and put the animal down, and left it there. At 3:30 the next day, the animal is still there. Neighbor called animal control, but they wanted the neighbor to drag the three or four-hundred pound buck from the back yard to the curb. This is outrageous. First the County shoots the animal, leaves it there, and then tells the homeowner to drag it out. Caller finds the County's attitude cavalier, and wishes the RCA could have a word with the County about this.

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2001-12-23 (Sun) 12:50 pm Wilwyn Way. Caller wants to thank whoever is in charge that the Santa Claus was the most wonderful treat in the whole world. Caller is relatively new in the neighborhood, and hopes to be more involved with the Association in the future. Caller believes the neighborhood is its best friend. Thank you very much. *[You're welcome!]*

2001-12-28 (Fri) 1:46 pm Anonymous. Please add the phone number for abandoned cars on County property to the Important Phone Number list. It is 301-840-2454.

2001-12-29 (Sat) 3:26 pm Old Drovers Way. It is caller's understanding that the Kensington Volunteer Fire Station located at Veirs Mill Road and Parkland Drive has cut their manning down. Unfortunately, we had a small fire on Old Drovers Way last night, which although turned out not to be major, the first unit (engine #211) failed to respond adequately with the usual number of personnel (with at least three on it), and instead responded with only two. It is caller's understanding that Montgomery County, at Kensington's request, has elected to take the career men out of the Parkland station, so consequently the people in our area are getting cheated out of fire service. If we call for ambulance service, it may not come from the closest station.

2001-12-31 (Mon) 9:27 am Creekshore Drive. Every time the trash is picked up, they leave the cans in the street or in the middle of caller's driveway. Caller has complained and complained; they say they're going to do something about it, but they never do. We're paying money for this. Why can't they put the trash cans back where they got them? Please, if there's anything you (RCA) can do, thank you very much, and Happy New Year.

2001-12-31 (Mon) 11:57 am Boiling Brook Parkway. Today, trash pickup was horrible. Trash was not left in caller's yard, instead it is in the creek. Caller has called the County number for trash service, 240-777-6410. Person was nice, and said a complaint would be added to the file. Caller believes another solution needs to be found, perhaps a contract with a different service provider.



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Madison
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Boiling Brook Parkway

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(continued on page 10)

Taylor *
Turner **
Vatter *

Forestvale Drive

Arora
Durgavich
Gzirian
Sullivan *
VanBrunt

Galena Road

Bowdren
Chow
Craft *
Gitzen
Jones
Kotzalas **
Nix
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Troy **

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Bledsoe
Grossman
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Woo

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Walters *
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(continued on page 14)

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Biondo ***
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Riegel

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Fishman ***
Graham *
Hash **
Loyd
Mitchell
Nightingale *
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Conversano ***
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Robinson **
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Smith *
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McGuire
Tekovic

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Franks ***
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Kaplan
Ricker
Saah **
Smith ***
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Ensor
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Erzen ***
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Jones *
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Papini *
Smith **
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Williams **

(continued on page 16)

***Don't forget to check out RCA's web site at
<http://www.randolphcivic.org>***

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To Contact Electric Web Avenue to design your business web site,
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(continued from page 16)

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Muck
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Shapiro *
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Yani *
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Alkire *
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Dommel *
Frew
Galeano *
Lee **
Longenecker **
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Schneider
Smith ****
Trapani ***
Utterback
Woo
Yeager

Out of Neighborhood Members

Bailey **
Biss *
Epstein *
Morris *
O'Shaughnessy
Sonnenfeldt

**Total RCA
Members: 695**

Got A Minute?!

by David C. Murphy

Modern technology! What a blessing. We use it in almost everything we do on a daily basis. From our TV sets, to radio, cars, etc. One key technology product we rely on is the family cell phone. Wait a minute, this is not about the issue of driving and talking on the cell phone, no, this is about having a cell phone for emergency use.

The other night I went to pick my son up from basketball tryouts at Wheaton High School. I arrived early like a good father should always do. I parked under a light post so that I could read a magazine while waiting for my son. I turned off the engine and settled in with my magazine. Ten minutes later out came my son and one of his buddies who needed a ride home. I turn the ignition key, not a sound! I went through the whole list of things you are supposed to do; raise the hood, check the belt, etc. I had just put in a new battery about 4 days before. I asked another parent for a jump start. No luck, it still would not start. The other parents left; there I was with my son and his buddy.

No need to worry, modern technology is here; just get my cell phone, Oh! No! My wife had the cell phone; she went to pick up her mom for Thanksgiving. Unfortunately I could not think of one phone number to call for help. Finally my son remembered another buddy's phone number and we called from someone's cell phone, his dad was home and came and picked us up. When I got home I called the towing service and they towed my vehicle to the house.

I reckon that the moral of the story is not to rely on technology for everything. I had all the numbers programmed into the cell phone, but without the phone it was no use to me. My suggestion is, collect all those important emergency numbers, make a list, and keep them in your wallet or with your emergency supplies in your vehicle. I'm sure everyone has emergency supplies such as a flashlight, batteries etc; just some food for thought.

Thanks for the minute.

Did You Get Your Echo?

In the event you do not receive your copy of
The Echo, please call the RCA hotline
(301-881-2722)
and one will be delivered to you.

The next *Echo* will be the March 2002 issue.
Look for it in early March.

News from Pack 1081

by Doneby Smith



November and December are busy times for everyone, and Pack 1081 is no exception. On Nov. 10, along with Troop 1083 Boy Scouts, Scout leaders, and many parents, the following Cub Scouts from our Pack collected more than 80 crates of non-perishable food for those in need: **Brenton Polk, Ayinde Warren, Patrick Owen, AJ Taylor, Jason Beam, Gregory Gadbois, Alan Costas, Shaquille Austin, Tony Caffi, Dylan Summers, Andrew Costas, Joseph Owen, SanJuan Austin, Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, and Miguel Manzano.**

Since our last *Echo* column, all these boys worked hard to earn the following: Webelos 1 Pins Engineering - **Joseph Owen, John Hilderbrand, Andrew Costas, Fredis Mata, SanJuan Austin;** Webelos 2 Pins-Communicator - **John Pitkin, Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley;** Outdoorsman - **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, Galen Miley, John Pitkin;** Showman - **John Pitkin;** Webelos 2 Compass Emblem - **Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, Galen Miley, John Pitkin, Thomas Rivas-Siles;** Webelos 2 East Compass Point - **Anthony Gadbois, Galen Miley, John Pitkin;** West Compass Point - **John Pitkin;** Bobcat badge - **Ryan Brown, Andrew Costas, SanJuan Austin, Fredis Mata, Shaquille Austin, Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Andrew Garcia, Joshua Hart, Benjamin Hawkins, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Jaccen Schairer, Thomas Shaw, Alexander Taylor.**

Duck pins went flying with the many strikes and spares when 20 of us went bowling at White Oak Lanes on November 18. Even the adults faced off against each other. On Dec 15th, **Jake Blakely, Kyle Blakely, Josh Hart, Moses Hart, Sasha Hevey, John Hilderbrand, John Pitkin, and AJ Taylor** braved the weather to go downtown to the Air and Space Museum where there is always something new to see.

Under the direction of **Karen Wood**, a musical and loyal parent, the Pack caroled for the elders at the Randolph Hills Nursing Center on Dec.9th. Our chorus included **Krisztian Mazo, Daniel Murillo, Patrick Owen, Brenton Polk, Albert Silva, Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Alan Costas, Gregory Gadbois, Andrew Garcia, Joshua Hart, Benjamin Hawkins, Sasha Hevey, Dwayne Remillard, Alexander Taylor, Kyle Blakely, Tony Caffi, Matthew Fieller, Augusto Silva, Andrew Costas, John Hilderbrand, Joseph Owen, Anthony Gadbois, Moses Hart, and John Pitkin.**

Our Holiday Pack meeting on December 20th featured music, caroling, decorations and even a visit from Santa himself. Thanks to **Moses Hart** and **Dave Talbott** for filling in for our hoarse Cubmaster. Just a couple of days later, Santa handed out candy canes with the help of Boy Scouts and our Webelos II scouts, **Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin, Miguel Manzano** and **Moses Hart** on a fire truck ride through the Randolph Hills neighborhood. Taking advantage of the winter break, many boys cut, filed, sanded and puttied their Pinewood Derby cars either at home or at a couple of afternoon sessions at Mr. Gadbois' well-equipped workshop.

In our excitement about the latest addition to his family, we forgot to include **Mike Costas** among our list of those who completed Basic Leader Training. Congratulations on the new family member and a big "Thanks" for your dedication.

Derby Day comes up January 19 and some of our Webelos scouts will attend the annual Klondike event with the Boy Scouts at Little Bennett Park on the 26th.

Happy New Year! Visit our website:

<http://hometown.aol.com/jph3190/1081.html>

Please help us find a missing Cub Scout uniform.

Consists of (a) navy blue short sleeve shirt, size small, sky blue paint stain on one sleeve, numbers "1081" sewn on individually instead of as one single patch, various patches and pins attached throughout (b) Red felt vest with a slew of patches on it (c) Plaid Webelos neckerchief.

Uniform was borrowed at the end of Nov. 26 den meeting. Can't recall who borrowed it or the exact purpose of borrowing, but it might have had something to do with demonstrating patch placement for a Webelos uniform, or perhaps to display a sample uniform to a church group considering starting a cub scout pack. **Please call 301-770-4038** with any information – this missing uniform symbolizes years of our son's hard work and happy memories!

Character is doing what's right when nobody's looking.

~ J.C. Watts, Jr.

Troop 1083 News

by Brian McGahey

If you bought a Christmas tree from us – thanks a lot! You're supporting the youth of our area. And we will see you next year.

What have we been up to? We delivered candy canes with Santa Claus and the Kensington Vol. Fire Dept. Scouts helping out were **Jake Bolt, Mark Bushong, Alex Cassel, Ed Huggins, Nachi Roper, Steven Santos, Chris Soares, Hafez Taghavi, Scott Talbott, Andrew Tao and Andy Wood**, as well as Webelos from Pack 1081 **Anthony Gadbois, John Pitkin, Miguel Manzano and Moses Hart**. Adult support was provided by **Dave Talbott, Ken Wood, Greg Skolnik, and Freeman Tao**. Special thanks to **Lynn Russell** from the KVFD for getting the fire truck and driving. We would be riding in pickup trucks if Lynn didn't get the fire truck. Also thanks to **John Deem** and Armand's Pizza at Congressional Plaza for the pizza afterwards. We met at the Talbott's house for a wonderful holiday gathering and enjoyed Judi and Dave's delightful hospitality.

Upcoming events include the Klondike Derby, a Scout skill competition campout in January. The annual Scout dinner will be in February, as will be our annual ski outing.

We have backpacking and other adventures planned for this spring.

If this sounds like fun to you and you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade, join us on Monday nights at Veirs Mill Elementary School. We meet at 7:30 p.m. except when school is closed. Or call Mr. McGahey at 301-770-7882.

Giant A+ BonusBucks and Safeway Club Card for Education Programs

by Karen Tincknell

Treasurer, Veirs Mill Elementary School PTA

As you may know, the old system of saving Giant and Safeway receipts and giving them to schools to obtain educational equipment has been replaced with an electronic system. The new system uses your Giant Bonus Card or Safeway Club Card to automatically credit the school(s) you designate at the time of your purchases. These programs run from the end of September through the end of March 2002, so it's not too late to sign up! If you sign up before the end of a month, Giant and Safeway will credit your purchases for that entire month. For instance, if you sign up by the end of February, the stores will credit your purchases from the entire month of February.

For those of you who haven't already done so, I would like to encourage you to designate our RCA public schools to receive credit for your purchases. Our schools will use the credit they receive to purchase much-needed educational equipment and supplies. There are two ways you can designate the school(s) of your choice: 1) you can sign up at the Customer Service counters at Safeway and Giant; or 2) you can sign up online at http://www.giantfood.com/bonuscard_aplus.htm and <http://proghqtrs.com/safeway>. The public schools our children from the RCA area attend include Veirs Mill Elementary School, Garrett Park Elementary School, Parkland Middle School, Tilden Middle School, Wheaton High School, and Walter Johnson High School. Thank you for helping our local public schools with every trip you make to the grocery store!

Campbell's Labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education Programs

Our local schools also are collecting Campbell's product labels and General Mills box tops to help earn educational equipment and supplies for the schools. These programs run year-round.

Participating Campbell's products include Campbell's soups, Franco-American SpaghettiOs pasta, Prego pasta sauces, Swanson broths and canned poultry,

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Pace salsa and picante sauces, V8 and V8 Splash juices, Campbell's tomato juice, and Pepperidge Farm breads, cookies, crackers, soups, and frozen products.

Participating General Mills products include Big G cereals (Cheerios, Chex, Basic 4, Oatmeal Crisp, Total, etc.), Betty Crocker products (Hamburger/Chicken/Tuna Helper, Bisquick, cake and brownie mixes, Suddenly Salad, instant potatoes, and fruit snacks), Lloyd's Barbeque, and Yoplait yogurt.

Please save your labels and box tops, and send them to a school with a child (your own or your neighbor's) or drop them off at the school. Our RCA public schools appreciate your support with every label and box top you save.

Fall Leaves and Winter Snow: Here's Your Help

Here's a list of boys willing to perform leaf raking, snow shoveling, general yard work, etc. The RCA always receives a few calls every year, sometimes from adult children of elderly residents, asking for yard help. So here are some resources. Negotiate cost and payment with each boy. By the way, we have received no calls from girls offering to perform yard work, but their names will be listed if they offer. Another useful list would be for those willing to babysit. Call the RCA (301-881-2722) if interested.

Andrew Souder 301-770-7632 Ashley Drive

Matt Bebawy 301-881-4698 Red Fox

Brett Valenta 301-816-0293 Ashley Drive

Brendon Tolley 301-947-1486

Alex Cassel 301-770-8757 Macon Road

Mike Couture 301-984-8647 Creekshore Drive

Steven Santos 301-468-1756 Wilwyn Way

Comments on topics concerning the neighborhood?

Call 301-881-2722

RCA Hotline – 24 hours

Gardening Tips

Store your lawn products inside, as many lawn products will deteriorate if left in freezing temperatures. Knock heavy snow from evergreens and shrubs with a kitchen broom. Don't touch if coated with ice. When melting ice, calcium chloride is easier than salt on plants. Spray snow shovels with a silicon spray and the snow will slide right off.



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The History of RCA-land

RCA-land is Veirs Mill!

Last month we explained that in 1860 your neighborhood was Montrose! Montrose was a small community (including a US Post Office) just west of where the railroad tracks cross Randolph Road, where the old Montrose Schoolhouse was built in the 1930's. It never existed where present-day Montrose Road is today.

But before 1860, your neighborhood was also known as Veirs Mill! Mills used water power to grind corn and other grains, and were very important centers before the advent of steam power. Veirs Mill was one of 14 that operated on the stream known as Rock Creek in the 1700s and 1800s, according to county historical documents. It was built in 1838, just south of Rockville, where Veirs Mill Rd crosses Rock Creek.

The mill went into operation soon after Samuel C. Veirs bought 400 acres of farmland and forest from the original land-grant owners [that's RCA-land!]. Veirs, whose family came to Maryland before 1700, was "an important figure in the county," wrote historian Roger Brooke Farquhar in 1952. "For years he was judge of the Orphans Court, serving almost continually from 1864 to 1880."

Veirs was also among several Montgomery County residents sent to Baltimore in 1861 to debate whether the state should secede in the Civil War, Farquhar wrote.

Veirs Mill (as in the actual grist mill) "operated successfully for seventy-five or eighty years and provided a great market for farmers in the surrounding area," according to Farquhar. It not only ground grain from the Veirs family farm but did the same for other farmers, making money off the grinding fees and selling flour.

County Historical Society Librarian Pat Andersen believes the mill might have been a much bigger success than Farquhar's modest assessment indicates. She notes that another historian found that the "Veirs and Bro. Mill was worth \$230,000 in the 1880 US Census, had 14 employees and a 100-bushel per day capacity."

"That would have been a really big business in those days" Andersen said. "Imagine what \$230,000 would be 120 years later."

Historian Rob Braunberg also found other details. For instance, the mill sold flour as the Rockville Flour Milling Co. The brand names were Veirs Mill and Bouquet.

Local mills, such as the Veirs Mill operation, went out of fashion in the early 1900s, when regional milling centers on major rail lines proved more economical. According to the county, the land where the Veirs Mill facility sat is now parkland!

Neighborhood Notes

Zoning News

The drive-through Wendy's restaurant is being built at 5001 Nicholson Lane. It's on Nicholson, just past the bridge over the railroad tracks, on the north side of the street. This tiny treed area is so small, only a drive-through can fit! The RCA complained that the County made that decision without consulting RCA-land, the nearest neighborhood.

Montrose Office Center II

Construction began on a new office building on Rockville Pike, between the Forum Condo building and the existing Montrose Office Center I. The new Montrose Office Center II will have underground parking for 194 spaces. Landscaping enhancements include trees and shrubs along the Pike, a bike trail, and fencing.

New Book on History of Rockville Published

by Eileen White

If you like reading the "History of RCA-land" articles in the *Echo*, which are kindly provided by a diligent RCA member, you might be interested in picking up a copy of Eileen McGuckian's new book "Rockville – Portrait of a City." Ms. McGuckian is a founder and executive director of Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd., which was formed to help preserve historic buildings and promote Rockville's heritage. Her book is a fascinating read, well illustrated with lots of photos of old Rockville. I'm sure many of our long-time residents will remember the Rockville drive-in, or when Congressional Plaza looked like it's pictured here. I know I do!

"Rockville – Portrait of a City" is available at Barnes & Noble and other local bookstores.

Did You Know...

100 years ago: in 1901

- The tallest structure in the world was the Eiffel Tower.
- The American flag had 45 stars. Arizona, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Hawaii and Alaska hadn't been admitted to the Union yet.
- Alabama, Mississippi, Iowa, and Tennessee were each more heavily populated than California. With a mere 1.4 million residents, California was only the 21st most populous state in the Union.
- The population of Las Vegas, Nevada was 30.
- The average U.S. life expectancy was forty-seven.
- Only 14 Percent of U.S. homes had a bathtub.
- Most US women washed their hair once a month, and used borax or egg yolks for shampoo.
- Only 8 percent of US homes had a telephone. A three-minute call from Denver to New York City cost eleven dollars.
- There were 8,000 cars in the US, and 144 miles of paved roads. The speed limit in most cities was 10 mph.
- Ninety percent of all U.S. physicians had no college education. Instead, they attended medical schools, many of which were condemned in the press and by the government as "substandard."
- More than 95% of all births in the US took place at home.
- Canada passed a law prohibiting poor people from entering the country.
- The average US wage was 22 cents an hour. The average US salary was \$200-\$400 per year. A competent accountant could expect to earn \$2000 per year, a dentist \$2,500 per year, a veterinarian between \$1,500 and \$4,000 per year, and a mechanical engineer about \$5,000 per year.
- Sugar cost four cents a pound. Eggs were fourteen cents a dozen. Coffee cost fifteen cents a pound.
- The five leading causes of death in the US were:
 1. Pneumonia and influenza;
 2. Tuberculosis;
 3. Diarrhea;
 4. Heart disease;
 5. Stroke.
- Crossword puzzles, canned beer, and iced tea hadn't been invented.
- There were no Mother's Day or Father's Day.
- One in ten US adults were literate. Only 6 percent of all Americans had graduated from high school.

- Marijuana, heroin, and morphine were all available over the counter at corner drugstores. According to one pharmacist, "Heroin clears the complexion, gives buoyancy to the mind, regulates the stomach and the bowels, and is, in fact, a perfect guardian of health."
- Eighteen percent of households in the US had at least one full-time servant or domestic.
- There were about 230 reported murders in the US.

Late-breaking News: Animals Poisoned in RCA-Land

Several residents have reported animals being poisoned in our neighborhood. So far 17 squirrels, 2 crows, and 2 pet dogs have been poisoned. The dogs were both poisoned on Christmas day, and rushed to the animal emergency room on Nebel Street. The vet said it was a "harsh toxin," not anti-freeze, and not rat poison.

One resident witnessed two squirrels dying on his property. The State of Maryland came out, and said to wrap any new dead in plastic (wear disposable gloves!), freeze it (ugh!) and call them.

This is all the information we have at this time. If you see any animals that appear to be poisoned or know of any pets being poisoned, please call the RCA Hotline and let us know.



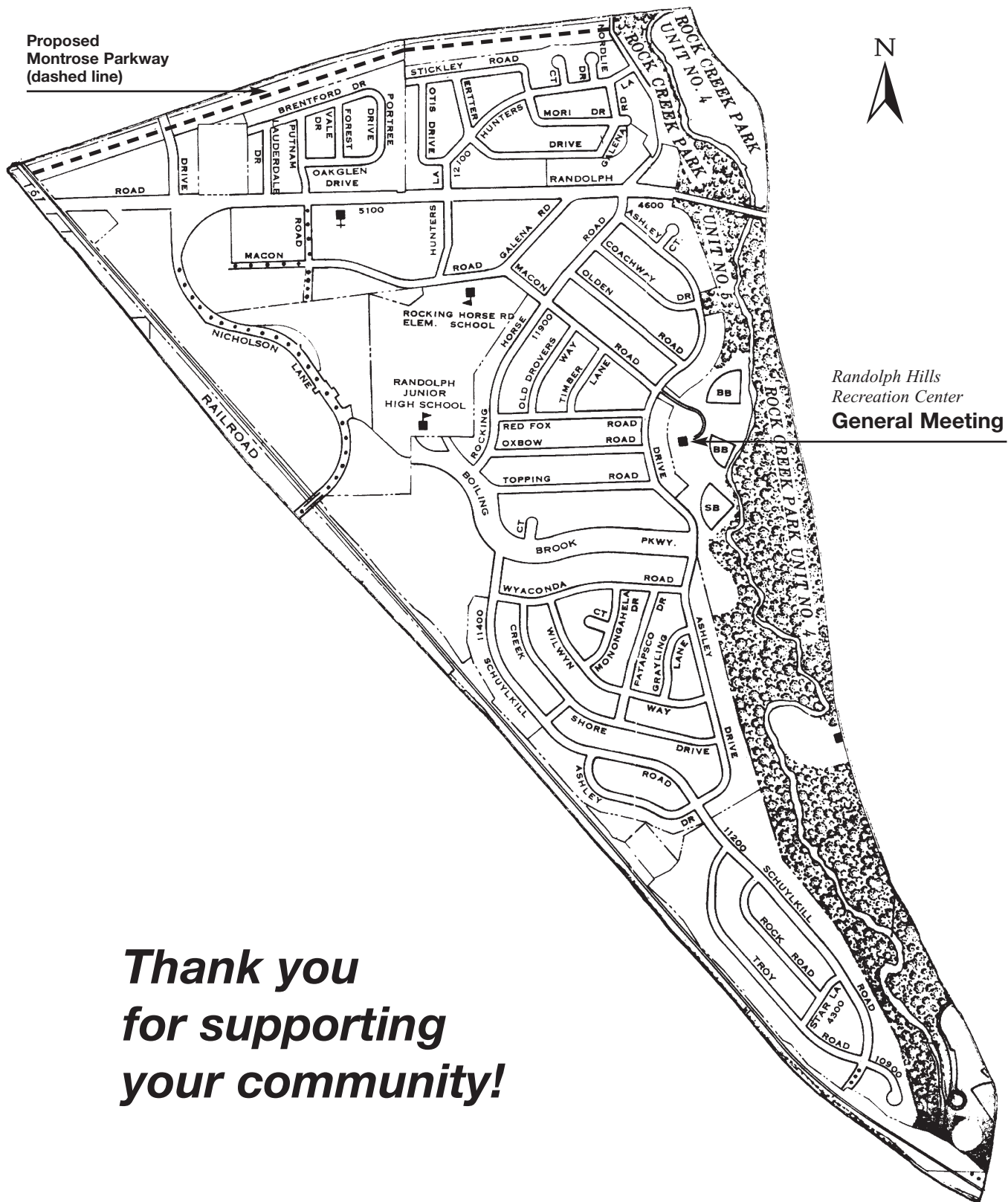
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**SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY ?
DRUG USE ?**

**CALL THE PARK POLICE
EMERGENCY: (301) 949-3010
NON-EMERGENCY: (301) 949-8010**

RCA Hotline – 24 hours Call 301-881-2722

The RCA invites you to call the RCA Hotline at any time and leave your comments on topics concerning the neighborhood. The Executive Committee is notified of each message left on the answering machine. Be assured your calls are heard and that we appreciate your input.



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.

FOR SALE: Twins stroller Kolcraft-Caravana in lite blue, pink and yellow. In perfect condition. \$100.00. Please call Mrs. Amorim, 301-984-2554.

WANTED: BASEMENT APARTMENT to rent for single woman, very quiet. References. Please leave message if no one answers. Thanks. Louise 301-468-6310.

Don't forget to check out 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.

RCA Meetings

RCA meetings are held the
first Thursday of every month
(except January, July and August) at the
Randolph Hills Recreation Center
at 8:00 p.m. 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.

Note to Contributors:
The deadline for the
March issue of *The Echo* is
February 2nd.



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Non-Emergency301-279-8000
(Police Reporting Areas (PRA): Franklin, Montrose Park: #306;
Westminster, Randolph Farms: #308; Randolph Hills 1st & 2nd sections
#308; Randolph Hills 3rd section: #309)

Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station) . . .301-279-1591

Police: Emergency911

Park Police301-949-3010
(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)

Abandoned Cars (on private property)240-777-3600

Animal Control301-279-1823

Building Permits240-777-6200

Consumer Affairs240-777-3636

Crisis Hotline (24 hours)301-315-4000

Department of Natural Resources800-442-0708
(wildlife nuisance problems)

Disability Resources240-777-1246

Fire Non-Emergency240-777-0744

Housing Code Violations240-777-3600
(for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.)

Large Item Pick-up240-777-6410

Libraries: Hours, etc.240-777-0002
Telephone Reference240-777-0001

Metro rail and Metrobus schedules & info.202-637-7000

Montgomery County Humane Society301-279-1823
Emergencies only301-279-1694
Licensing Dept.301-279-1249

Motor Vehicle Administration301-948-3177

Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance . .240-777-7700
(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)

Parking Violations240-777-8960

Parks: Information & Permits301-495-2525

PEPCO: Power Out toll free 1-877-737-2662
Emergency/Life Threatening202-872-3432

Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville301-231-5973

Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.)240-777-3986

RCA Hotline301-881-2722

Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org)240-777-6400

Recreation Information240-777-6804

School Information301-279-3391

Senior Citizens (Holiday Park)301-468-4448

Street Light Out240-777-2190

Transportation (Highway Services)240-777-7623
(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)

Transit Information Center (www.dtwp.com)240-777-7433

Trash Collection240-777-6410

Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist) . . .240-777-7623

Voter Registration240-777-8500

Water and Sewer (WSSC)301-206-8000

Weeds/Rubbish Complaints240-777-6400



Randolph Hills, Franklin Park And Montrose Park Market Update!



Randolph Hills/Farms

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Average List Price	\$161,139	\$169,756	\$178,652	\$197,414
Average Sale Price	\$156,260	\$167,950	\$178,080	\$198,087
Lowest Sale Price (RH)	\$127,500	\$102,000	\$149,900	\$125,000
Highest Sale Price (RH)	\$188,000	\$200,000	\$204,900	\$232,000
Average # Days on Market	83	47	29	21
Sales per Year	41	47	43	42



Franklin Park

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Average List Price	\$180,499	\$189,727	\$200,593	\$229,867
Average Sale Price	\$176,654	\$186,764	\$201,600	\$230,385
Lowest Sale Price	\$161,500	\$169,000	\$181,500	\$204,000
Highest Sale Price	\$210,000	\$204,000	\$249,000	\$282,000
Average # Days on Market	44	21	27	22
Sales per Year	13	11	14	9



Montrose Park

	1998	1999	2000	2001
Average List Price	\$197,944	\$189,300	\$203,983	\$233,225
Average Sale Price	\$197,944	\$183,333	\$205,000	\$228,750
Lowest Sale Price	\$197,944	\$171,000	\$180,000	\$218,000
Highest Sale Price	\$197,944	\$199,000	\$225,000	\$239,000
Average # Days on Market	14	27	6	32
Sales per Year	1	3	6	4



Nobody Knows the Neighborhood like Denise!

"2001 was a great year... and 2002 should also be a good year. If I can assist you in selling your home or finding a new one, please give me a call... I'd be delighted to help."



Denise
Szczur

301-452-5544

Email: denise.szczur@longandfooster.com

