

The Echo

The Newsletter of the Randolph Civic Association and Randolph Civic Foundation

Volume 50, Issue 8

June/July/August 2007

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President's Message

by Mike Saunders

Happy Summer fellow RCA'ers! I hope this message greets all of us in a glorious summer season. Over the last couple of months, we've been making preparations for our son Anthony's wedding. A lot goes into weddings these days and it is more interesting when done from 200 miles away. The big day was June 2nd.

We had the RCA General Membership Meeting on May 3rd. At that meeting, we voted on raising the annual dues for RCA membership to \$10. It passed after a lengthy discussion on the topic. I've lived here in RCA-land for 27+ years. Over that time, the annual membership dues for RCA has remained at \$5. Over that same period of time, gasoline has gone from \$1.30 to \$3.10, Cable TV from \$30 to \$70 for the same service, the price of a car from \$15,000 to \$25,000 for the same car, etc.

Over that same period of time, RCA has seen its expenses for printing the *Echo* nearly triple. RCA must now carry an insurance policy to enable us to have two yard sales and an annual picnic, just for liability. Over that amount of time, RCA officer's salaries have remained the same \$0.00, although the president is now asking for a substantial 200% salary increase (please remember that 200% times \$0.00 is still \$0.00). We still deliver the *Echo* eight times a year to over 1300 households in the RCA and we still pay for telephone service for the hotline and for the RCA web site. All of which has increased in cost. RCA sponsors a Boy Scout Troop, a Girl Scout Troop and supports a Cub Scout Pack mainly of RCA residents. Our costs have increased but our income has remained the same. The cushion we once enjoyed is no longer there.

(continued on page 4)

Upcoming Events

RCA General Meeting

Thursday, June 7, 2007, 8:00 p.m

Guest speaker:

Maryland State District 18 Delegate

Jeff Waldstreicher

(see page 5 for details)

Have a great summer!

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.

Save the Dates! ***for these upcoming RCA Events***

RCA Community Yard Sale

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

RCA Fall Community Picnic

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

Details to follow in the September/October Echo.

RCA Executive Committee for 2006-2007

OFFICERS

President

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Vice President

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

2nd Vice President

Dan Hoffman
4602 Wilwyn Way
301-770-5985

Secretary

Kevin Kline
4808 Randolph Road
301-230-1486

Treasurer

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

Directors

Jack Stillwell
5106 Macon Road
301-231-4934

Frank Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

Matthew Shore
11230 Troy Road
301-468-1225

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Echo Editor

Eileen White
11225 Ashley Drive
301-984-2579

Echo Advertising

Mauro Biondo
11508 Monongahela Court
301-770-7590

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

(continued)

Membership

John Kehoe
4814 Red Fox Road
301-231-4933

Environment

Matt Tifford
11235 Ashley Drive
301-770-4377

Education

George Gadbois
4718 Topping Road
301-770-5386

Yard Sale Signs

Lorena Segura
4802 Macon Road
301-984-8727

Special Projects

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

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

Scout Leader, Troop 1083

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

Cub Master, Pack 1081

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

Scout Liaison

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

Scout Unit Commissioner

Mike Saunders
12107 Hunters Lane
301-468-9268

Girl Scout Leader, Troop 1487

Stephanie French
11012 Schuylkill Road
301-770-3171

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION DELEGATES

Montgomery County Civic Federation:

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

North Bethesda Congress: Matthew Shore, Richard Zierdt

MUNICIPAL AREAS FOR RCA

County Council District 1 (representing all of RCA):

Councilman: Roger Berliner 240-777-7828

email: Councilmember.berliner@montgomerycountymd.gov

Mr. Berliner's aide: Than Tran

Councilmember: Nancy Floreen 240-777-7959

email: Councilmember.floreen@montgomerycountymd.gov

Ms. Floreen's aides: Merle Steiner, Joyce McCaffrey,
Jocelyn Rawat

General County Council Offices: 240-777-7900

County Executive: Ike Leggett 240-777-2500

Montgomery County Public Schools: 301-279-3000

School Board Offices: 301-279-3617

School System Information: 301-279-3391

School Board Member for District 3

(representing all of RCA):

Ms. Patricia O'Neill 301-320-7600

Maryland Legislative District 18 (representing all of RCA):

Senator: Richard Madaleno 301-858-3137

Delegates: Ana Sol Gutierrez 301-858-3181

Jane Lawton 301-858-3638

Jeffrey Waldstreicher 301-858-3130

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

Montgomery County Delegation Office:

All Senators & Delegates: 301-858-3010

U.S. Congressional District 8:

Christopher Van Hollen 202-225-5341

email: chris.vanhollen@mail.house.gov

U.S. Senate:

Barbara Mikulski 202-224-4654

Benjamin Cardin 202-224-4524

Election Precinct:

04-15 Vote at Rockinghorse Center, 4910 Macon Road

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

751 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, Maryland 20851

www.777vote.org

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

Governor Martin O'Malley

Office of the Governor

100 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-974-3591

governor@gov.state.md.us

www.gov.state.md.us



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

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

Membership in the RCA is \$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 eeewhitedesign@comcast.net.

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

Web site: www.randolphcivic.org



Master Gardener Robert McDowell discusses landscaping techniques at the May 3rd RCA General Meeting.

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting *by Richard Zierdt, Acting Secretary*

May 3, 2007

RCA president Mike Saunders calls the meeting to order at 8:10 pm. Guest: Mr. Robert McDowell, master gardener, speaks on residential landscaping: "Eight Things That Always Work." Mr. McDowell discusses several things the homeowner gardener can do: (1) Curved lines of a flower bed are more attractive than straight lines; (2) lighting to accent focal points or edges, but don't overdo it; (3) cut grass high – about 3"; (4) water new grass everyday, but not heavily since the roots are very shallow; (4) use turf-type tall fescue – it's preferred over Kentucky Bluegrass; (5) fertilize in September/October timeframe; (6) avoid hardwood mulch – it accumulates manganese over 30 years and it cannot be removed – use softwood mulch instead. Mr. McDowell distributes handouts for everyone.

Minutes from the March, 2007 General Meeting are approved. **Treasurer's Report:** Dell Pillers/Cline Treasurer's Report is accepted as printed in the May *Echo*. Bank balance is \$3283. **Committee Reports. Environment:** Matt Tifford. New playground equipment is expected this summer for the Randolph Hills Recreation Center. Matt shows the plans on large plot paper. **Education:** George Gadbois. Parkland Middle School will re-open this September, after completing

its renovation. **Franklin Park Sign:** Shaul Kopyto. Shaul searched out three more sign estimates, and distributes them. The sign estimate and design from Patrick Signs seems the best. The sign will need two (brick) pillars – one at each end. **Randolph Civic Foundation:** No report. RCF will work with RCA's treasurer to transfer donated funds from the RCA to the RCF.

Randolph Civic Association dues. Dan Hoffman discusses raising the dues from the current \$5 per year to \$10. Karen Helfert moves that dues be raised to \$10. Seconded. Further discussion ensues. Most think \$10 is long overdue and that the RCA needs the increase to stay financially solvent. It is noted that it takes \$1 to print and distribute each copy of the *Echo*, let alone all the other expenses of the Association. For example, liability insurance is \$750 per year. On the other hand, dues must remain reasonable to residents. Will \$10 dues discourage participation? After discussion, the motion passes unanimously.

Community Yard Sale for May 5. There was some confusion at JBG Realty, the owners of Loehmann's Plaza,

(continued on page 7)



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President's Message

(continued from page 1)

This year, RCA's treasurer Dell Pillers/Cline expressed concern that we may not be able to meet our obligations with the income from membership dues and advertising in the Echo. We will just squeak by with the income and money we have in the treasury if we have no extraordinary expenses pop up.

We needed to improve the RCA's financial position and membership dues of \$5.00/year was one area that has been the same for over 27 years. Moving the dues to \$10.00 was one of the least drastic choices available. I hope the members who were not at the meeting also approve for the reasons stated.

Have a great summer – See you in September. ■

RCA/RCF Elections for 2007-2008 in June

by Richard Zierdt

The election for officers for 2007-2008 will be held at the RCA/RCF General Membership Meeting June 7. Members who have agreed to serve are:

Randolph Civic Association (RCA)

President: Michael Saunders

Vice-president: George Gadbois

Second Vice-president: Dan Hoffman

Secretary: Kevin Kline

Treasurer: Dell Pillars/Cline

Directors:

Jack Stillwell

Matthew Shore

Frank Shore

Randolph Civic Foundation (RCF)

President: Michael Saunders

Vice-president: George Gadbois

Second Vice-president: Dan Hoffman

Secretary: Kevin Kline

Treasurer: Richard Zierdt

Directors:

Jack Stillwell

Matthew Shore

Frank Shore

The above members are all incumbents. However, the RCA and RCF are legally two separate organizations. Residents may serve on the boards of both organizations, but this is not necessary. So, if you're interested in serving your community, there's plenty of room. No one will be offended if you offer! ■



Delegate Waldstreicher Our Guest June 7

by Richard Zierdt

Our own Maryland State District 18 Delegate Jeff Waldstreicher is our guest at the next RCA meeting, Thursday, June 7, 2007, 8 PM, Randolph Hills Rec Center. Del. Waldstreicher is one of three delegates who represent us in State government.

The State is facing a fiscal shortfall of about \$1B (Billion with a "B") that is coming to a head with next year's budget, which will likely raise taxes. The only question is: Which ones? Sales tax? Gasoline tax? Income taxes?

Delegate Waldstreicher will report on how the last state legislative session went, which ended in April, and what he expects for the January, 2008 session. He knows which new laws were passed this year, which ones weren't, and what they mean for us.

Besides taxes, many other issues affect us here in RCA, but usually are not felt directly because the impact is so buried. What about Maryland corporations that avoid real estate transfer taxes by creating "shadow" corporations immune to such taxes? Then there's the infamous loophole that allows the formation of multiple corporations, often at the same address with same directors, to skirt campaign finance limits.

There are several non-tax State issues: the ICC – Will it ever be built? Because the Governor has postponed financing for one year, those who oppose this road have a golden opportunity right now to try to stop it (the RCA has taken no position on the ICC, other than to study it). What about slot machines? Good entertainment, or a tax on people with poor math skills? School financing: Is Montgomery County getting its fair share of State school constructions funds?

Election reform: Should there be multiple voting days and/or multiple voting locations? Public finance of Maryland elections: Good idea or a waste of money?

Does the State have any concerns if neighborhoods form new municipalities? That'll raise attendance! See you June 7. ■

Keep in touch with your neighbors!

Join the
RCA Yahoo Group
at

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/
randolphca/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/randolphca/)

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

As of May 5, 2007, the balance in the RCA checking account was \$3,343.90.

Expenses recorded this period totaled \$1,842.21 while income deposited amounted to \$60.00 for a net expense of \$1,782.21. In addition to the *Echo* printing expense, substantial expenses included our annual corporate insurance payment. ■

RCA Checking Register					
04/07/2007 through 05/05/2007					
Date	Num	Payee	Memo	Amount	Balance
		BALANCE 04/07/07			\$5,126.11
04/10/07	1012	Erie Insurance: annual Corporate ins		-694.00	4,432.11
04/16/07	EFT	Verizon: Telephone		-25.71	4,406.40
04/23/07	1013	Quick Printing: May Echo		-1,102.50	3,303.90
05/02/07	1014	Dutch Mill Bulbs: flower bulbs		-20.00	3,283.90
05/04/07	DEP	Membership income		5.00	3,288.90
05/04/07	DEP	Advertising income		5.00	3,293.90
05/04/07	DEP	Franklin Park sign contribution		50.00	3,343.90
		BALANCE 05/05/07			\$3,343.90

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TROOP 1083

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Minutes of the RCA General Meeting

(continued from page 3)

where the yard sale is supposed to be held. JBG questioned whether RCA's liability insurance was adequate, even though it had been for years. As a backup, Mr. Allen Kronstadt, owner of the Randolph Hills Shopping Center (where the RCA used to hold its yard sales), volunteered his center in case the issue with JBG Realty could not be resolved. Mr. Kronstadt just happened to visit the RCA's general meeting this evening! He was warmly thanked.

[Secretary's note: The insurance issue was indeed resolved with JBG, and the yard sale took place at Loehmann's Plaza.]

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:54 pm. ■

Ike Leggett Town Hall Meeting Scheduled in July

Montgomery County Executive Ike Leggett will hold his next Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, July 19, 2007 at the Woodside United Methodist Church, 8900 Georgia Avenue, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

These meetings generally start with a short statement by the executive, followed by lots of Q&A. Several issues are typically raised, ranging from affordable housing to zoning. It's a good way to ask the executive directly what's on your mind. After July, the next meeting is scheduled for Potomac on Thursday, September 27, 2007 at a location to be announced.

ECHO ADVERTISING EDITOR NEEDED

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

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

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

Mauro Biondo

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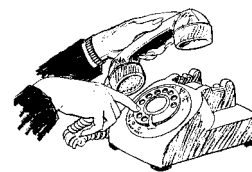
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The RCA Hotline

301-881-2722 (2RCA)

**Calls Received April 13 to
May 3, 2007**



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

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

2007-04-18 (Wed) 1:26 pm Not Anonymous. 119xx Rocking Horse Road. Caller was thrilled to see a beautiful red fox this morning in caller's back yard. Amazing. Caller has seen deer before, but never a beautiful red fox. Just thought you'd like to know! Has anyone else seen him? [Thank you for taking the time to call. Yes, it is amazing. Maybe it was looking for Red Fox Road!]

2007-04-26 (Thu) 7:33 pm Not anonymous. Please ask the caller who helped another caller do something about the dump trucks at the corner of Stoneleigh Court and Ashley Drive. Usually there are two trucks, sometimes three, sometimes one, but not only are they unattractive, when they start in the morning, the stench of these diesel trucks is horrible. They're noisy, and they make it hard for the school buses to negotiate around them.

2007-04-30 (Mon) 6:25 pm Concerned citizen on Troy Road. Has anyone seen any of these coyotes? (as reported in the May Echo) What can we do about it? Caller is concerned about the well being of caller's pets.

2007-05-02 (Wed) 7:00 am Concerned neighbor. Why can't you people check into these people running their carpet business? Either you're afraid to check into it or you don't want to check into it. People complain about the mail service, and other things, but you can't check into people having a carpet business out of their homes and they have all these trucks parked on both sides of the street which take up most of the road and you can't drive through. Something should be done about this. Next time, I might just call the police since you all can't come out and check it out and do anything about it. You have a good day. [It would help if caller provided at least a street name! Caller's use of "you people" likely refers to RCA elected officials and committee chairs. Read on.]

2007-05-02 (Wed) 7:08 am Anonymous. Neighbor calling about the people at 118xx Old Drovers Way. Caller can't understand why you say there's nothing you can do about people starting a business out of their homes. If that's the case, then everyone should start a business out of their homes. Would you do something then about it? Caller doesn't think it's right; it's wrong for them to run a carpet business out of their home when they can go open a store and do it in a public commercial place. They have big trucks come through here to deliver carpet. If you all don't think it's wrong to open up a business, then caller thinks everyone in Randolph Hills section should open a business in their homes, and you have a good day. *[Richard Zierdt here. Businesses are allowed in residential neighborhoods if the amount of traffic created is less than (some number) of trips per hour. However, this case sounds more serious. The RCA is not "afraid" of calling housing code enforcement, but an address is required, which this caller provided. However, even though it's not absolutely necessary, being anonymous doesn't help. The RCA never identifies who calls unless caller specifically states that it's OK to do so. So please leave contact information so the RCA can help callers get problems like this resolved.]*

Note: after this call was transcribed, another call came in and overwrote four messages! Transcriber apologizes profusely for this!

2007-05-03 (Thu) 9:58 pm Anonymous from Franklin Park. We have a serious problem with our mail. For years and years, we had a mailman who knew everyone in the neighborhood, looked after the neighborhood; he acted like this was his own little town. He cut grass; looked out for burglars, etc. He was a real asset. Now we have a mailman who can't put the mail in the mailboxes. Ertter and Stickley addresses are the same; caller's mail is regularly delivered to the wrong street. Caller's credit card statement never got to caller, resulting in a \$50 late fee and damage to caller's credit, which is not funny. Caller is especially upset because a police officer pulled caller over because of expired tags. But caller's tag renewal notice was never delivered. It's a \$250 fine. We all need to call the postmaster in Rockville 301-231-5973. Caller believes postmaster's name is Eugene Fry. Caller urges all residents to call and get this straightened out before someone else has to pay a fine and suffer the humiliation of being pulled over. Thank you for your patience. ■

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

Enough is Enough

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

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

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Equal Chance	(301) 770-4658
Hair Systems	(301) 881-0338
Lifestyle Spa	(301) 468-9770
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RCA Community Yard Sale

It was a beautiful day, and we had a great turn-out at the RCA Spring Yard Sale on May 5th. Don't miss the Fall Yard Sale on October 6th!

*Top and left: Plenty to choose from at the RCA Yard Sale.
Below: RCA Director Jack Stillwell and daughter Casey, who visited the face painter, and Echo Editor Eileen White.*



News from Pack 1081

by Mike Mulcahy



Our April Pack meeting featured our annual Native American "Pow Wow" ceremony, along with an array of awards. After our Medicine Man, **Mr. Don Gibbons**, presented ceremonial names upon our newest members in the Pack, the Order of the Arrow American Indian Ceremonial Team performed their always-impressive ceremony for our Webelos II scouts earning the highest award in Cub Scouting, the Arrow of Light. Congratulations to our hard-working Webelos IIs who earned this award: **Sawyer Kibbe, Gabe Hernandez, David Villereal and Jose Velasquez**. The Webelos II scouts kept busy also by earning belt loops, pins, patches and points. **Jose Velasquez** earned the Sports and Academic Belt Loop and Pin for Volleyball and Swimming. Furthermore, Webelos Activity Pins were awarded as fol-

lows: Outdoorsman: **Gabe Hernandez and Jose Velasquez**; Sports: **Jose Velasquez**; Scientist: **Sawyer Kibbe**; Artist: **Sawyer Kibbe**; and Compass Patch & Compass Point: **Jose Velasquez**. Bear Scout **Matthew Kimball** earned the Sports and Academic Pin in Weather. Tiger scouts were busy as well as **Pedro Cerriteno, Brian DeOliviera, Mark Kimball and Wolfie Woodward** were presented the Sports and Academic Pin in Weather. Tiger **Wolfie Woodward** also was awarded Sports and Academic Pins in Computers and Geology and Sports and Academic Belt Loops in Astronomy and Bicycling.

In preparation for the "Pow Wow", the Webelos I scouts have been working on additions to their Native American costumes, including chest armor and other embellishments. Further, our Bear scouts were busy this month preparing Pow Wow costumes and working on Bear electives for additional Arrow Points. The Wolf scouts this month were busy working on electives and Native American attire too.

Webelos II Scouts "cross over the bridge" to Boy Scouts at the April Pack Meeting.



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Service Project Recognition for Conservation & Stream Clean Up at Boiling Brook was given, by means of a patch, to all attending Cub scouts that participated in this event. The scouts and their helpers worked on Saturday, March 31st and retrieved

dozens of bags worth of trash and assorted other debris from Boiling Brook Creek. Seems like each time this event was held in the past, it rained on the day of this event but finally the scouts enjoyed nice weather this year.

Thank you to the following scouts and helpers for your efforts at this important scout event: Cub Scouts **Jonathan Romero, Nick Galkin, Jassir Begazo, Mateo Streed, Noah Reidinger, Brandon Wagner, Colin McLean, Adam Levangard, Brad Gessford and Sawyer Kibbe**; Siblings **Adrian Streed and Leydetta Streed**; and Adults **Bob Galkin, Mark Kibbe, Michelle Gessford, Liliana Romero, Erik Streed, Leyden Streed, Jack Levangard and Scott Reidinger**.

Our April meeting ended with the traditional bridging ceremony where Pack 1081 says

good-bye to our graduating Webelos II scouts. **Sawyer Kibbe, Gabe Hernandez, David Villereal and Jose Velasquez** crossed the bridge with their parents and became the newest members of Boy Scout Troop 1083. Scoutmaster Talbott and other leaders and troop members welcomed them with new insignia, Scout manuals, hearty handshakes and a follow up reception. Thanks also went out to our "graduating" Webelos II leader, **Andrea Kibbe**. A big Thank You for all your time and hard work for another great year in your leadership positions to Cubmaster **Mark Kibbe** and Committee Chair **Don Gibbons**. Cubmaster Kibbe is moving on as his son Sawyer has graduated to the Boy Scouts. So sad to see you go, Cubmaster Kibbe. Thank you for your dedication to the boys and your leadership efforts! You will be missed. And so sad to see another fun scout year coming to an end but exciting summer activities are lined up for the scouts and September will be here to kick off another thrilling scout year before you know it.

The April Pack bike ride took place in the afternoon on Sunday, April 22nd. The scouts peddled from the Veirs Mill Rec Center to Connecticut Avenue and back. In attendance were: **Wolfie Woolard, Mark Kimball, Matthew Kimball, Adam Levangard, Aidan Gibbons and Noah Reidinger**.

The annual Billy Goat Trail hike was scheduled for Saturday May 5th or Sunday May 6th where a number of our Cubs were signed up to attend the fun, but challenging, outing.

We are again looking forward to the rest of our Pack members graduating at the May Pack meeting, camping at Washington Monument State Park in Maryland (also in May), as well as many summer activities including day camp and overnight camp, a picnic, a mother/son softball game, a carwash and pro baseball games with special scout or kid promotions. We're looking for all interested 1st to 5th grade boys to come join the fun, learning and adventure of Cub Scouting! Contact us at the numbers listed in the front of this *Echo* edition for more information. Have a great summer and remember to check out our website at:
<http://www.pack1081.org/>. ■

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Troop 1083 News

by Jaime Todaro

Scouts in Troop 1083 had a busy month preparing a bridging ceremony to welcome our newest members. In April, Troop 1083 welcomed these 2nd year Webelos from Pack 1081: **Brad Gessford, Gabriel Hernandez, Sawyer Kibbe, Jose Velasquez, and David Villarreal.** The ceremony is rich with symbols, including drumming, fire, and traditional Native American dress. During the ceremony, each scout must walk across the bridge – a bridge which symbolizes the departure from cub scouts into boy scouts, and down a trail towards achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Scouts from Troop 1083 who participated in the ceremony are: **Jason Beam, Jake Blakely, Kyle Blakely, Bryan Bravo, Maxwell DeMulder, Anthony Gadbois, Gregory Gadbois, Steve Hernandez, Edward Huggins, Scott Levengard, Matthew Luong, Joshua Murtagh, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, John Pitkin, Daniel Pouridas, and David Santos.**

Scouts work on a camp improvement project as part of the Order of the Arrow.



Building the campfire at Cedarville State Park.

Leaders **Sharon Beardslee** and **Bill Blakely** accompanied these scouts from Troop 1083 to the “Order of the Arrow” (OA) induction ceremony in April: **Jason Beam, Bryan Bravo, Gregory Gadbois, Scott Levengard, Joseph Owen, Daniel Pouridas, Ray**

Turish, and Eric Uglem. The OA is recognized as Scouting’s National Honor Society. Scouts are elected to OA by fellow scouts, and inductees must be approved by the Scoutmaster. The induction ceremony is the first step toward full membership. During this ceremony, candidates maintain complete silence, receive small amounts of food, work on camp improvement projects, and are required to sleep alone, apart from other campers, which teaches significant values. Congratulations!

After becoming an “Arrowman” by completing the Order of the Arrow, a scout can apply the lessons learned through the ordeal to their life, thereby becoming a member of the “Brotherhood”. In April, Troop 1083 scout **Anthony Gadbois** became a member of the Brotherhood. Congratulations!

The April campout was at Cedarville State Park in Brandywine MD, where scouts focused on rank advancement. Leaders who attended are **Matthew DeMulder, George**

Gadbois, Mrs Luong, Brian McGahey, Ben Pitkin, Geoff Owen, and Dave Talbott. Scouts who attended are **Matthew Best, Maxwell DeMulder, Anthony Gadbois, Gregory Gadbois, Brad Gessford, Steve Hernandez, Scott Johnson, Sawyer Kibbe, Scott Levengard, Matthew Luong, Joseph Owen, Patrick Owen, John Pitkin, and Andy Wood.**

Many of our adult leaders were trained in the basics of the Boy Scouts of America structure, goals, history, and skills for operating an effective scout troop. Leaders who completed the indoor component of the Scoutmaster training are: **Matthew DeMulder, Ed Murtagh, and Ben Pitkin.**

Leaders who completed the indoor and outdoor component of the Scoutmaster training are: **Geoff Owen and Scott Talbott.** Thanks for your dedication and hard work!

Upcoming events include a weekend campout at Harpers Ferry, the Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society, a weekend campout at Assateague State Park, a week-long Lenhok'sin High Adventure experience, and a week-long campout at Olmstead-Goshen. If you are a boy who has finished the fifth grade you can join us. We meet Monday night at 7:30 at Viers Mill ES, or call Scoutmaster Dave Talbott at 301-933-0048. Check out the troop web page at www.troop1083.org. ■

Scouts use the orienteering technique to follow a mapped course through the woods.



*Comments on topics concerning
the neighborhood?*

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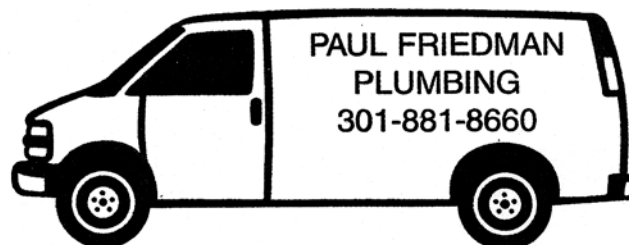
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Attention RCA-land Photographers!

Have you taken some great pictures of the neighborhood or surrounding areas? Do you have great shots of your garden, or local wildlife? Consider submitting them to the *Echo* for publication! Supply a little background info for your photo – where and when taken, and any other relevant information. You can email digital photos (eewhitedesign@comcast.net), or you can mail your prints to the Editor's address on page two. Or bring them to an RCA meeting! Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like your print returned. I can't promise to use your photo, but if I can, I will!

Photo by Aaron Brown.

Paint Giveaway Resumes

from the Montgomery County Division of Solid Waste Services

Need paint for your next project? "Shop" the selection in our Paint Giveaway area, located at the Shady Grove Transfer Station's Household Hazardous Waste drop-off. It's open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. All items are offered free of charge.

The Paint Giveaway took a winter hiatus because freezing temperatures can damage paints. With the arrival of Spring, we have restocked and reopened it, and welcome your visit!

Details: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/solidwaste > Paint Giveaway. ■

Dear Mrs. Brown



Children as well as adults are consumers of cell phones, bringing new rules of etiquette into the 21st century. Here are a few general cell phone rules:

- No one should use their cell phone at a theater or in the movies.
- In any public place, keep your voice to a normal level.
- If you absolutely have to take a call, try to go someplace private for a brief conversation.
- In a public place, if your conversation is intensely personal or dramatic, be considerate and return the call at a more appropriate time.
- Make sure you are not using your phone to make yourself look important; it may come off as a desperate attempt for attention.
- If you need to take a call, or make one, while driving, use a hands-free phone or an ear phone.

True or False?

- 1) The salt and pepper should be passed together even if someone has asked only for the salt or the pepper.
- 2) A party of eight is dining together in an elegant restaurant. The food arrives staggered and some of the people begin eating when food is placed before them. This is okay.
- 3) Elbows on the dining table is appropriate.
- 4) When introducing two people of the same age, but different sex, it doesn't matter whose name is spoken first.

Answers:

- 1) True. The salt and pepper are "married" and stay together on the table. They are always passed together even though someone may have requested one or the other.
- 2) False. Always wait to begin eating until everyone has been served. One or more person's food, for whatever reasons, may take longer. Even though that person asks that "everyone go ahead and eat, don't let your food get cold..." you should still wait. Go ahead and eat your roll, one bite at a time, if you are absolutely starving!
- 3) Trick question – it depends. It is acceptable to have elbows on the table between courses, when no food is at your place.

- 4) False. When introducing a male and female to each other, say the female's name first. Example: Debbie, this is Mark. Mark, this is my sister, Debbie."

Send your questions to DearMrsBrown@msn.com.

For more information on etiquette, contact:
The Etiquette School of Greater Washington
301.801.3134 or JBrown@EtiquetteGW.com
www.EtiquetteGW.com

The Etiquette School of Greater Washington offers classes for both children and adults. ■

Beware the Midnight Raiders!

submitted by a concerned neighbor

The night before our weekly trash pickup, the Midnight Raiders troll through the neighborhood looking to see if "goodies" have been left out as "trash." Since this is a form of "recycling," it does keep stuff out of the landfill.

The problem is when the Raiders think anything in the front yard is fair game. . . and they take whatever strikes their fancy from someone's front yard. This is a warning from someone who has had this happen – they took something that was near my front porch and nowhere near the trash cans. On Sunday evening put away anything you value that is portable (i.e., stealable) in your front yard. ■



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Note to Contributors:

The Echo is taking a break for the summer!
The deadline for the September/October issue of the Echo is Saturday, August 18.

Have you seen the RCA's Web site at
www.randolphcivic.org

Can't wait for the next Echo?
You can download the latest issue, which is usually available a week or so before the printed Echo is delivered.
Back issues are also available.



Yard Work and Grass Mowing: Here's Your Help

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

Moses (Bubba) Hart 301-230-2740

Jennifer Moy 240-672-4921

Anthony Gadbois 301-770-5386

Gregory Gadbois 301-770-5386



Important Phone Numbers



Police: Emergency ONLY	911
Police: Non-Emergency (County-wide)	301-279-8000
Police: Non-Emergency (Rockville Station)	240-773-6070
Park Police	301-949-3010
<i>(for Randolph Hills and Waverly-Schuylkill Parks)</i>	
Abandoned Cars (on private property)	240-777-3785
Abandoned Cars (on the street)	301-840-2454
Animal Control	240-773-5960
Building Permits	240-777-6200
Consumer Affairs	240-777-3636
Crisis Hotline (24 hours)	301-315-4000
Department of Natural Resources	800-442-0708
<i>(wildlife nuisance problems)</i>	
Disability Resources	240-777-1246
Fire Non-Emergency	240-777-0744
Housing Code Violations	240-777-3600
<i>(for calls about tall grass, broken windows, trash in yard, etc.)</i>	
Large Item Pick-up	240-777-6410
Libraries: Hours, etc.	240-777-0002
Telephone Reference	240-777-0001
Metrorail and Metrobus schedules & info.	202-637-7000
Montgomery County Humane Society	240-773-5960
Emergencies only	240-773-5900
Licensing Dept.	240-773-5946
Motor Vehicle Administration	1-800-950-1682
Office of Environmental Policy & Compliance	240-777-7700
<i>(noise, burning leaves, hazardous materials, spilled/leaking motor oil)</i>	
Parking Tickets	240-453-0113
Parks: Information & Permits	301-495-2525
PEPCO: Power Out	toll free 1-877-737-2662
Emergency/Life Threatening	202-872-3432
Post Office, Rollins Ave., Rockville	301-231-5973
Rat Control Unit (Health Dept.)	240-777-3986
RCA Hotline	301-881-2722
Recycling Info (www.mcrecycles.org)	240-777-6400
Recreation Information	240-777-6804
School Information	301-279-3391
Senior Citizens (Holiday Park)	240-777-4999
Street Light Out	240-777-2190
Transportation (Highway Services)	240-777-7623
<i>(to report traffic signals out, street sign damage, potholes, graffiti, etc.)</i>	
Transit Information Center (www.dtwp.com)	240-777-7433
Trash Collection	240-777-6410
Tree Maintenance (ask for county arborist)	240-777-7623
Voter Registration	240-777-8500
Water and Sewer (WSSC)	301-206-8000
Weeds/Rubbish Complaints	240-777-6400

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

<i>Address</i>	<i>List Price</i>	<i>Sold Price</i>	<i>DOM</i>	<i>Subsidy</i>	<i>Date Settled</i>
12116 Otis Drive	\$439,900	\$440,000	5	\$0	02-Mar-07
5005 Randolph Road	\$445,000	\$445,000	8	\$0	08-Mar-07
4604 Olden Road	\$459,000	\$462,000	5	\$7,000	30-Mar-07
4811 Ertter Drive	\$465,000	\$465,000	3	\$0	10-Apr-07
10903 Troy Road	\$480,000	\$470,000	30	\$0	13-Apr-07
11115 Schuylkill Road	\$489,900	\$465,000	49	\$3,000	23-Apr-07
Average	\$464,133	\$457,833	17		
Low	\$439,900	\$440,000			
High	\$489,900	\$470,000			

Call Denise for a complimentary market analysis today.

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