



The Current

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.drca.org

February 2020

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bill Richardson
bill@drca.org

Please join us at the next DRCA meeting on Wednesday, February 5. We will be returning to our usual venue, Taylor School, with our traditional social half-hour at 7 p.m., and our meeting to follow at 7:30. Note that in the event of inclement weather, DRCA follows the cancellation policies of the Arlington Public Schools.

We are looking forward to hearing from our principal speaker, Dr. Irma Becerra, who has been serving as President at Marymount University since July 2018. Dr. Becerra has adopted a new strategic plan for Marymount through 2024. We have invited her to address Marymount's current expansion plans, availability of Marymount programs and facilities to residents of events of general interest, the Marymount Farmers' Market, the university's views on the County's future use of its 26th Street/Old Dominion property adjacent to Marymount, how DRCA members can be good neighbors to the university, and any other topics of interest to the university.

Dr. Becerra received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Miami, and her Ph.D. from Florida International University (FIU), in electrical engineering. She previously served as Provost and Chief Academic Officer at St. Thomas University in Miami Gardens, and also spent three decades at FIU in a variety of positions that include

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Vice President, Vice Provost, Entrepreneurship Center Director, and tenured professor in Management Information Systems. She founded FIU's Knowledge Management Lab and led major projects as principal investigator at the National Science Foundation, NASA (Headquarters, Kennedy, Ames, and Goddard Space Flight Centers), and the Air Force Research Lab.

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The next Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting is
Wednesday, February 5 at **Taylor Elementary School** at 7:30 p.m.
A social half hour starts at 7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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We will also receive an update from County staff on the final redesign and construction schedule for the stream restoration work on Tributary B of the Donaldson Run Stream, which DRCA approved in 2005 as one of its projects in the County's Neighborhood Conservation Program.

We look forward to seeing you on February 5 and wish you all the best for 2020. If there are topics or other ideas you have for how DRCA can be more useful to you, please let me know.

HAPPY DUES YEAR!

Another year, another opportunity to become (or remain) a dues-paying member of the Donaldson Run Civic Association!

Check your mailing label to ascertain your dues status. Or, if you're receiving this newsletter electronically and want to determine if your dues are current, contact me at the email address below and I will gladly check the DRCA dues data base.

DRCA membership will enable you to vote in general membership meetings on issues that may arise throughout the year, as well as in our upcoming DRCA officer elections this spring. In addition, your dues underwrite the publication and distribution of this newsletter, which is sent to each of the 950+ households within the DRCA boundaries.

If you haven't paid your dues, make 2020 the year you become a dues-paying DRCA member. And if you're current in your dues, we thank you, as always, for your support!

Dues checks (\$15 per year per household, payable to DRCA) can be sent to DRCA c/o Maxine Nagel, 2900 North Stafford Street, Arlington 22207 or can be brought to any of our upcoming membership meetings. Questions? Contact jkolick@aol.com.

WINTER 2020 EXHIBITIONS AT ARLINGTON ARTS CENTER

Arlington Arts Center, at 3550 Wilson Boulevard, is pleased to start 2020 with three exciting exhibitions: Applied Forces, a group exhibition

The Current is distributed free of charge to all households in the Donaldson Run Civic Association area. DRCA, like all civic associations in Arlington, is a neighborhood organization, administered by elected volunteers. The DRCA promotes information sharing and discussion on neighborhood, local, and regional issues. DRCA is not affiliated with any political or religious group or with the Donaldson Run Recreation Association that operates the swimming pool on Marcey Road. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at Taylor Elementary School (2600 North Stuart Street) from September through May. Follow this newsletter for meeting dates. Only dues-paying DRCA residents are eligible to vote. DRCA boundaries are: Military Road on the east (including Marcey Road, North 26th Street, North 25th Place, and North Ridgeview Road); 26th/31st Street on the north; Lorcom Lane on the south (including North Randolph Street and 27th Streets south of Lorcom Lane); and Vernon Street on the west.

DRCA Board

President	Bill Richardson	525-5270
1st VP	Mike Green	525-9414
2 nd VP	Deirdre Dessingue	525-1351
Secretary	Jean Fisher	558-4947
Treasurer	Maxine Nagel	524-5093
Director	Anne Wilson	525-0322
Director	Liz Lord	571-331-9213
Director	Charlie Henkin	294-4002
Director	John Seggerman	403-2844
Editor	Mary Heston Cooper	407-8045

featuring eight contemporary artists; Blink Blank, a solo exhibition by AAC resident artist Jung Min Park; and an exhibition of sculptor Foon Sham's maquettes, drawings, and other materials related to his large-scale public artwork.

Applied Forces
On view: January 18 – March 28

Jung Min Park: Blink Blank
On view: January 18 – March 28

Foon Sham: Arlington Projects, 1988-2019
On view: January 18 – March 28

Opening Reception for Winter 2020 Exhibitions
Saturday / February 1 / 6-9pm

CONSTRUCTION FOR REDESIGNED MARCEY PARK TO BEGIN 4Q

2020

Bill Richardson

As noted in our recent report to drca@yahoo.com, the County staff have been soliciting neighborhood input on the redesign of the facilities at Marcey Park. Construction is now scheduled to begin sometime in the fourth quarter of 2020, with completion expected in the second quarter of next year. You may continue to follow the course of this work, see the updated design plan, and sign up for further reports, at <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/marceyroadparkrenovation/>.

At a December meeting, as previously reported, we received an update on the proposed design, the highlights of which are as follows:

1. The principal goal is to create a more permanent solution for the groundwater below the tennis and basketball courts, so as to avoid the cracks and sloping on the courts and the need for frequent resurfacing.
2. This will include a stormwater catchment behind the tennis courts and the planting of trees down the sledding hill. We discussed the possibility of placing the new trees so as not to preclude sledding (much as was done on the steeper sledding hill closer to the Nature Center).
3. The County has determined not to include a pickleball court at this time, based on concerns about competing uses of limited facilities, and pending the results of a pilot project for such shared use at Walter Reed. Pickleball advocates note possible plans for a pickleball court at Madison.
4. The County plans to take steps to preserve the large silver maple next to the tennis courts. In response to previous concerns, it has now agreed not to remove the large Norway fir down by the basketball court. However, the County arborist says the large silver maple next to this Norway fir is decaying and needs removal. Since our December meeting, we have shared with him a report from a certified arborist recommending that this analysis be confirmed by taking samples from the top of the tree. We also have emphasized the County's policy to preserve the diminishing tree canopy on its own property. We are currently awaiting a further response on this question.
5. The new design will include a path that affords disability access to the basketball court.

26th STREET-OLD DOMINION TASK FORCE REPORT DISCUSSED WITH COUNTY BOARD IN DECEMBER

Anne Wilson

On December 10, the recommendations of the 26th Street-Old Dominion Task Force was a major focus of a county board work session. The Task Force report was submitted to the Board in April, and this was the first public discussion of it. Noah Simon, the chairman of the Task Force, walked the Board through the process and recommendations. He emphasized the Task Force's conclusion that additional data should be collected around the historic use of the existing salt facility to evaluate the need for constructing a major snow removal facility on the north side of the County. One item that Noah suggested could be addressed in the short term is the recommendation that the green space at the trailhead park entrance be enhanced. The Task Force had recommended that this area be upgraded to include a walking path throughout the area, open green space, casual use seating, and a natural-style play area.

The County Board Chair at the time of the meeting, Christian Dorsey, said that the purpose of the work session was not to endorse the report, but rather to understand it. He indicated that before any major decisions were made about the site, there would be additional community meetings, and that some items could be included in the Capital Improvement Plan that is due out later this year. DRCA will be actively pursuing the recommended improvements to the trailhead area in the coming months. To see the full task force report, go to: <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/04/Final26-ODReportwithcover.pdf>.

To hear more about DRCA news, sign up for the DRCA email list. Any adult member of a household located within the DRCA boundary is eligible to be on the list. Sign up by sending your name and street address to anne@drca.org.

DRCA PARTICIPATION AS ARLINGTON CENSUS PARTNER

Bill Richardson

DRCA has joined almost 200 other civic organizations and businesses to help Arlington County ensure your prompt participation in Census 2020. These participants include 17 civic associations, as well as Dorothy Hamm Middle School, Yorktown High School, and Cherrydale Library.

The U.S. Constitution requires the conduct of the census every ten years; the first census was taken in 1790. An accurate census is critical for the establishment of federal and state legislative district boundaries, the reapportionment of the House of Representatives according to population, the development of reliable data for planning, and the distribution of over \$675 billion annually in federal funds. Arlington County, for example, receives over \$50 million each year based on census data, principally for housing, Medicaid, school lunch, and highway programs.

Sometime in mid-March, you should receive an invitation by mail from the U.S. Census Bureau asking you to answer a very short set of questions as to those living or staying at your home as of April 1, 2020. For the first time, you may complete the form online, or you may respond as in the past by mail or by phone. Participation is required by federal law. Arlington Census Partners encourage you to respond promptly in order to avoid the costs of follow-up reminders and the need for enumerators to contact you personally to complete the form.

Federal law requires protection of the confidentiality of your responses to the questions on the census form. The questions are very simple:

- How many people are living or staying at your home?
- Is your home owned or rented?
- What is the sex, age, and race of each such person?
- How many such persons are of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?
- What is the relationship of such persons?

Be aware that the U.S. Census Bureau will never ask you for your social security number, for information on behalf of any political party, or for money or bank or credit card information. If you receive any such purported requests, the Bureau

advises not to respond to them. If you have any questions about such potential scams, you may contact your local Census Bureau representative

PLAN LEE HIGHWAY KICKS OFF 2020 WITH FEBRUARY 1 COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

Bill Richardson

As we have noted in prior newsletters, Plan Lee Highway is a project aimed at establishing the first comprehensive plan for Lee Highway, designed to direct future growth and investment toward community goals. It will be continuing to look over the next couple of years at nine key factors in the Lee Highway corridor: land use, urban design and building form, housing, transportation, public spaces, historic and cultural resources, economic vitality, sustainability, and schools/community facilities/social hubs. In December 2019, the project completed its Existing Conditions Analysis Report, which is available at https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/11/191101_ECR_FINAL_reducedsize.pdf

The next major Plan Lee Highway event will be a Community Workshop, to be held on **Saturday, February 1, 2020**, at Washington-Liberty High School, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (A shorter session also will be available at Washington-Liberty the night before, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.) This workshop will provide another opportunity to learn about progress and information uncovered so far and share your own ideas.

You may also drop by the Lee Highway Alliance office, at 4620 Lee Highway, to view the latest information, meet with project planners, ask questions, and share ideas. These Plan Lee Highway Design Studio events are held every other Friday, from 12:00 to 3:30 p.m., on a drop by basis. The next such event will be on **Friday, February 14, 2020**.

For further information concerning Plan Lee Highway, and to sign up for future information, go to <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/plans-studies/land-use/lee-highway/>

PROFESSIONAL HELP AROUND the HOUSE

Email Mary@DRCA.org with recommendations or removals.

Appliance Repair

Paul Mills, Master Appliance Service, (703) 938-6910, referred by Maxine Nagel, (703) 524-5093

Computer Support Services

Pete Herbst, 703/283-6595, referred by Judy Cherrington, 703/243-6034.

Cameron Jones (571) 217-3596, referred by Rose Bannigan, (703) 524-6722

Gutter Installation or Cleaning and Repair

Northern Virginia Gutter Cleaning (571) 352-7292, www.NOVAGutters.com, referred by Maxine Nagel, 703-524-5093

Auguste Remy, The Gutterworks Company (703) 425-9595, referred by Dan Sagalyn, (703) 795-5490

Handyman Services

Chris Lamar with Arlington Home Service, (703) 362-0930 or ahservice@verizon.net, referred by Martha Shmokler, mess14@juno.com

Sam Axton, 703-569-5707 or Sam_Axton@msn.com, referred by Jeanne Svikhart (703) 851-2695

Housecleaning

Maria Vallejo, (571) 217-9494, referred by Mike and Dot Green, (703) 525-9414

Jupiter's Cleaning & Services , Barhas at (703) 981-8700 or e-mail Jupiters.2011@gmail.com, referred by Karen Hanneman, (703) 527-4604

Professional Housecleaning Services, managed by Alba Isabel, (703) 928-9089 referred by Rob Jones, (703) 276-0545

Sandra Hueco, home: (571) 277-7579 cell: (703) 338-6160, referred by Glenn Ward, (703) 527-7315

Flora Cuentas, (571) 225-2640, referred by Molly Ross, (703) 528-2731

Sonia Cerna, (571) 428-8616, referred by Zlatica and Werner Hahn, (703) 528 1982.

Cynthia Baldo, (703) 843-8272, referred by Sharon Frey, (703) 405-5674

Rocio Allyon, (703) 628-6708, referred by Nancy and Tom Rodeheaver, (703) 525-7980

Interior Decorating/Home Design:

Stefani McNair at McNair Designs, (703) 868-3489. Recommended by Alexa & James Fleming, (703) 577-3812.

Landscaping and Yardwork

Andrew Preziosi, (703) 525-6170, referred by Leslie Curley, (703) 243-9459

Lawn and Tree Services, Tu Nguyen, (703) 622-7988, referred by Barbara and Dan Taft (703) 276-1987

Painting and/or Wallpapering

Al with QV1 Painting, LLC, (703) 229-2327 or almonroe3@gmail.com, referred by Broc Perkuchin, (202) 510-4892

Ed Wilkerson of C. W. Wilkerson & Sons, 703 524-1019, referred by Liz Hayes, 202 320-0500

Jim Gullickson, (202) 549-7528, referred by Mary and Mark Connelly, (703) 527-6382, Dan Sagalyn, (703) 795-5430 and Peggy and Bob Pruszkowski, (703) 524-5399, Carol and Joe Macmanus, 703-243-6736

Pet/Dog Sitting

Tommy's Little Pet Service
Website: www.tommyslittlepetservice.com, 202-714-2819. Referred by Nan Helm, 203-2894

Dog Gone Tired, (703) 625-9746,
DOGGONETIRED@zoho.com. Referred by Cathie Roberts, (703) 527-8353

Roof and Exterior Cleaning

Smart Wash, (703) 595-4000, referred by Dug and Judy Gillies, (703) 528-3437

VIRGINIA HOSPITAL CENTER'S SENIOR HEALTH EVENTS

Virginia Hospital Center's Senior Health Department sponsors free monthly Healthy Aging Lectures in partnership with the Arlington County Central Library. Beginning in February 2020, lectures will be held at the Arlington County Central Library auditorium. Mark your calendar for the February 28th lecture from 11:00 am - noon: You're Not Alone. Recognizing & Responding to Depression by Light House Healthcare, Inc., and Allegra Joffe, 50 plus Community Ambassadors

Too cold outside? Warm up on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30-9:30 AM with Walk-Fit at Fashion Centre at Pentagon City Mall. Walkers move at their own pace and then join Virginia Hospital Center for a staff-led stretch starting at 9:15 AM. Blood pressure checks available on the first and third Thursday of the month. Walkers meet on the first floor near the Nordstrom Café.

Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group hosted by Virginia Hospital Center. This free support group meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Arlington, 601 North Vermont Street. Join us on February 19th. Call 703.558.6859 for more information.

MASTER GARDENERS OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FEBRUARY 2020 PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS

These public education events for February 2020 are open to all, but space may be limited for several of them. To reserve a spot, please register online at <https://mgnv.org/public-education-events/vce-horticulture-programs-registration/>. For all questions call 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com

How to Build Inexpensive and Effective Grow Lights

Give your plants a healthy start with grow lights to ensure your seedlings get great light indoors, even when it's freezing outside. Learn the pros and cons

of light systems and options for creating your own. Instructions and material lists provided are to help you jumpstart your garden. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Monday, February 3 and 10, 7:00-8:30 pm, Westover Library, 1644 North McKinley Road, Arlington 22205

Planning An Edible Landscape

Learn the art of edible landscaping that mixes ornamental plants, herbs, greens and vegetables. Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners will present easy and straightforward techniques for turning your yard into a delightful and delicious oasis! Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org.

Tuesday, February 18, 7:00-8:30 pm, Cherrydale Library, 2190 North Military Road, Arlington 22207

Build Healthy Soil and Manage Water in Your Yard

The healthier the soil in your yard, the more water it can potentially absorb into the ground during a deluge and the less water your plants may need when the dry times come. Learn how to build soil health by feeding your soil's biome, how to prevent or mitigate soil erosion and compaction by choosing appropriate plants, and whether certain landscaping techniques - such as terracing or a bioswale among others - might be worth your time and effort. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org.

Saturday, February 29, 10:00-11:30 am, Lee Center, 5722 Lee Highway, Arlington 22207

Spring Lawn Care

Learn what you can do now to improve and manage your lawn to make it a more environmentally friendly, less resource-intensive part of your home garden. We will discuss the best types of grasses for our area, specific springtime turf management practices, nutrient management and soil testing, and basic pest and disease management. This class is offered by Extension Master Gardeners. Free. Advance registration requested at mgnv.org. Questions? Telephone 703-228-6414 or email mgarlalex@gmail.com.

The Extension Master Gardener Help Desk operates year-round. We welcome your garden-related questions, including those related to plant and insect identification. The Help Desk is open 9:00 am to 12:00 pm (noon) weekdays at the VCE office, 3308 S. Stafford St., Arlington 22206. Contact us at 703-228-6414 or mgarlalex@gmail.com.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Please check your mailing label to see how many residents in your home are members and the latest year for which dues have been paid. Dues cover a calendar year. Contributions are not tax deductible. Note that only members whose dues have been paid 60 days in advance are allowed to vote on civic association business.

Dues: \$15 per household per calendar year. Payment for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 years (circle one)

Total dues: \$ _____ Newsletter contribution: \$ _____ Total enclosed: \$ _____

New resident: Yes _____ No _____ Email only copy of newsletter Yes _____ No _____

Name(s): _____

Phone: _____ email address: _____

Address: _____

Are you already on the DRCA email list? _____

If you are not on the list, we strongly recommend that you sign up for it so that you will be notified of issues in a timely way. Would you like to be added to this list? _____

Special Interests/Volunteer Areas/Comment

Please make check payable to Donaldson Run Civic Association.
Mail to: Maxine Nagel, Treasurer DRCA, 2900 N. Stafford Street, Arlington, VA 22207

HIRE A NEIGHBOR!

Many thanks to our neighborhood teens who are available for the jobs listed below. If you, or someone you know, are interested in providing a neighborhood service, email mary@drca.org.

Babysitting

Ryan Boehk, Red Cross certified, 12 y.o., kristinaboehk@yahoo.com or 703-861-1442
Sophia Coccozza, 17 y.o., 571-639-8785
Paula Margison, 11th grade, 703-357-8528

Dog Walking & Pet Care

Ryan Boehk, 12 y.o., kristinaboehk@yahoo.com or 703-861-1442
Quinn Cooper, 16 y.o., 703-407-8045
TJ Hutchison 16 y.o., 703-812-9697

**Thanks again to
Andy's Lawn Service
For another season of tending
to the Donaldson Run
Civic Association sign area
at Military Rd. & N. 25th Street
We appreciate your
community spirit!**

Donaldson Run Civic Association
c/o Maxine Nagel, Treasurer
2900 N. Stafford Street,
Arlington, VA 22207

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This is your neighborhood newsletter.
See page 2 for Civic Association information.

Next Donaldson Run Civic Association Meeting
Wednesday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Taylor Elementary School
2600 North Stuart Street

Agenda:

Dr. Irma Becerra, President, Marymount University

County Update on Tributary B Stream Restoration

A social half hour begins at 7:00 p.m.