



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.drca.org

September 2015

PRESIDENT’S LETTER

Anne Wilson
anne@drca.org

September 2015
I am writing this on the first school day after the Labor Day weekend. Although the number of civic meetings was decidedly reduced during the summer, it was still an active time. The County sponsored three meetings regarding the relocation of Fire Station 8, and a final meeting is scheduled in mid-September (<http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/fire-station-8/>). Since parts of Donaldson Run are served by this fire station, and the County’s preferred location is close to an entrance to our neighborhood, this is an important topic for our neighborhood.

Two other items that received a lot of Donaldson Run Civic Association attention this summer were the proposed farmers’ market at Marymount and the Stratford school addition. A use permit for the Farmer’s market has been filed with the County. If approved, the market is planned to begin next spring. It will be located in a parking lot on the front of the Marymount campus on Glebe Road. Patrons of the market will park in the parking garage next to the library.

A lot of effort has been put forth this summer to develop a successful addition at Stratford School.

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SIGN UP FOR DRCA’S LISTSERVE

The DRCA listserv is proving useful to many of our neighbors. If you’d like to give or receive recommendations or follow interesting neighborhood conversations, please send an email to anne@drca.org.

The next Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting is
Wednesday, October 7 at Taylor Elem. at 7:30 p.m.
A social half hour starts at 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(continued from page 1)

Balancing the interests of the neighbors, commuters, park users, environmentalists, and historic advocates, while planning a school that meets the needs of the students, has been a Herculean task. Several concept schemes are under consideration, as well as an Old Dominion Drive vehicle access to the school, which received unanimous support at a DRCA meeting last November. The design options are significantly over budget, and a lot of work needs to be done to reach the best design choice that is financially feasible. I hope that you will come to our October 7 meeting to get the latest information about the new middle school that will serve our neighborhood. A big thank you to DRCA resident Susan Cunningham, who has spent countless hours working on this issue as the Chair of the Building Level Planning Committee for Stratford.

Our fall meeting will be on October 7 at Taylor School. In addition to the Stratford update, we will hear about alternative transportation modes including a new initiative with cars2go. County Board member Libby Garvey also will join us as part of her listening tour around the County. This will be a great opportunity to let a board member know what Arlington issues are on your mind.

Also coming up this fall will be a community-wide charrette focusing on the future of Lee Highway. We are all invited to provide input as efforts are made to envision what we (residents and businesses) would like to see along this important corridor. The County plans to host the charrette sometime between late October and mid-November. We will email the details to you when we receive them. If you are not on the DRCA email list, send an email to anne@drca.org.

TREES IN DONALDSON RUN

Kelly Criswell

Fall is the best time for planting new trees and pruning your existing trees. American Beech, White Oak, Black Oak and Black Gum are all native Virginia trees and great choices for your yard. If you have questions, the volunteer organization TreeStewards is happy to help. The Arlington Tree Distribution will take place on October 24 and the TreeStewards can provide invaluable assistance on choosing a tree and the perfect spot. For more information go to

<https://www.evenbrite.com/e/tree-distribution-program-2015-tickets-18395588701>.

The Current is published several times a year and 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	Anne Wilson	525-0344
1 st VP	Mike Green	525-9414
2 nd VP	Kathy Richardson	525-5270
Secretary	Bill Richardson	525-5270
Treasurer	Maxine Nagel	524-5093
Director	Kelly Criswell	528-0473
Director	Deirdre Dessingue	525-1351
Director	Charlie Henkin	294-4002
Director	John Seggerman	403-2844
Editor	Mary Heston Cooper	469-2242

And for those of you lucky enough to have existing large, beautiful trees, you may want to consider if any of them qualify for Arlington County designation as a Heritage, Memorial, Specimen, or Street Tree. The County Tree Preservation Ordinance designation covers both public and private trees. For more information, go to the Arlington County website and click on "Tree Preservation Ordinance."

OCTOBER 7 IS DRCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The fall DRCA meeting will be held on October 7 in the all purpose room at Taylor Elementary School. A social half hour with refreshments begins at 7:00 and the meeting starts at 7:30. We will hear from a school official about the latest information on the Stratford expansion, learn about county transportation initiatives, and share with Board Member Libby Garvey items that are of interest and concern to our community. It should be an interesting and informative evening.

VACATION LANE PEDESTRIAN PROJECT PROGRESSING

John Seggerman

Arlington County's Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development is making progress on the pedestrian safety and street improvement project on Vacation Lane, a project which was approved by the DRCA in 2013. The project includes installation of curb extensions at the intersection of Vacation Lane at Utah Street and at Stuart Street. It also will replace the current substandard sidewalk with a 7' sidewalk on the west side of Utah Street up to the driveway apron at 4400 Vacation Lane. A stop sign will replace the existing yield sign at the corner of Stuart Street and parking will be removed within that intersection.

The County anticipates the 60 percent design plan to be completed by spring 2016, followed by a final design review meeting with the neighborhood. This meeting will give property owners a final opportunity before construction to ensure that the project has been designed as scoped and funded. At the meeting, comments, questions, and concerns will be addressed, and it may be necessary for the County engineer to update the final design. In addition, Temporary Easements and Construction Agreements (TECA) which are obtained before construction begins, will be discussed at the final design meeting, followed by a pre-construction meeting internally and with the property owners. Based on the 29-month implementation process, construction and final walk-through should be completed by March 2017.

October 2015 Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, October 7
Agenda:

Middle School Update, Transportation Alternatives, and Board Member Libby Garvey

The dates, times, locations, and topics of DRCA meetings are subject to change. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at Taylor Elementary School unless otherwise noted. A social half hour begins at 7:00 p.m.

ANNUAL DRCA DUES SALE NOW UNDERWAY

Maxine Nagel

Check the mailing label on this newsletter. If you are not current on your dues, you can take advantage of Donaldson Run Civic Association's most popular event of the year—the DRCA dues sale!

Pay now (annual dues are \$15 per household) and your membership will remain in good standing through the end of 2016—15 months of membership for the price of 12. Dues-paying members are able to vote on issues that come before the civic association, as well as in our biennial elections of officers and board members (our next election vote is scheduled for 2016.) In addition, dues support the publication and distribution of *The Current*, which is mailed or emailed to each of DRCA's 950-plus households.

If you have paid your dues, we thank you for your support. If your dues have lapsed, we hope you will renew your membership. And if you are new to the neighborhood, we hope you will consider joining your neighborhood civic association. Dues checks—made payable to DRCA—can be delivered to 2900 North Stafford Street, Arlington, VA 22207 (attn.: Maxine Nagel, DRCA Treasurer) or dropped off at any of our membership meetings.

AIRPLANE NOISE FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT (DCA) TRAFFIC

Charles J. Henkin

A longstanding issue for North Arlington residents has been the noise from airplane traffic into and out of DCA. Over the years, FAA mandates for quieter engines on commercial aircraft have been effective in reducing the noise from individual commercial airline flights. But the increase in flights of larger aircraft and jet vs. prop aircraft at DCA in recent years, the absence of any ban at all on flights using quieter engines between 10 PM and 7 AM, and economics behind carriers employing these hours has contributed to growing objections to noise from this valued local transportation hub.

These issues were aired in a June 18 meeting sponsored by Libby Garvey for the Arlington Board and attended by about 100 other county citizens, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA). Ms. Garvey noted Arlington is hardly alone in a broader regional and national trend objecting to such noise. The County recording of the meeting can be found at http://arlington.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=2935. Ms. Garvey is the County Board member on point for this issue, and will attend our 7 October DRCA meeting.

Since the June 18 meeting, Ms. Garvey has forwarded the following on steps taken by the county:

1. Arlington officially joined N.O.I.S.E. (The National Organization to Insure a Sound Controlled Environment), the preeminent advocacy organization for local communities across the country that experience aviation noise and an affiliate of the National League of Cities. More information on N.O.I.S.E. can be found on their webpage <<http://www.aviation-noise.org/>>. N.O.I.S.E. will provide Arlington County with technical expertise in the area of aviation noise and provide the opportunity for the County to coordinate nationally with other jurisdictions that are impacted by aviation noise.
2. The Board has gathered questions from Arlington residents and sent them to the FAA and MWAA for response. A copy of the letter can be found on the County's aviation noise webpage <<http://departments.arlingtonva.us/cmo/airport-noise/>>.

Some of the questions raised at the June 18 meeting illuminate the perhaps arcane or technical issues and include:

- There is a procedure for flying over the Potomac River upon departure, rather than over land, using a more precise satellite-based navigation system (called LAZIR) which reduces the noise over Arlington. The process for introducing more LAZIR use depends crucially on commercial carriers modernizing their navigation systems to benefit from LAZIR (at DCA and indeed other airports.) The LAZIR issue includes:

- to what degree the FAA can incentivize carriers to adopt LAZIR equipment

- what timelines for adoption the FAA foresees as feasible, and

- why should not LAZIR or some other "over water" procedure be adopted for arriving flights as well as departing flights?

- Why can't there be restrictions on all flights (exempting cases of emergency requiring a landing at DCA) between 10 PM and 7 AM, not just those flights in compliance with noise reduction technology?

- The MD-80 is the noisiest aircraft that is compliant with the noise reduction standard. American and Delta Airlines have been asked to remove this aircraft from operations at DCA, but the decision is up to those airlines. Why must this be the case?

- Do we believe the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) demand that no additional flight slots be permitted will be sustained in the face of increasing passenger demand and Congressional support for DCA service?

3. The Board has received a letter from Mr. Jack Potter, the President and CEO of the MWAA, informing the County Board of its establishment of a Reagan National Airport Community Working Group, which will be tasked with identifying and recommending practical noise mitigation initiatives to the FAA by the Summer of 2016. The Working Group will be comprised of two community representatives each from Arlington County, Wards 2,3, 6,7, and 8 in the District of Columbia, the City of Alexandria, and the Dranesville and Mount Vernon Supervisor Districts of Fairfax County. The Arlington County Board will select the two Arlington County representatives to serve on the Working Group.

4. Ms. Garvey has met with staff from Senator Kaine's office and plans to meet with the CEO of MWAA, Jack Potter, soon to strengthen our working relationship on airport noise issues.

5. She has also begun discussions with some of her regional counterparts about setting up a standing committee of elected officials concerned about airport issues so that we can begin to follow and address these issues from a regional perspective.

DONALDSON RUN TRIBUTARY B RESTORATION UPDATE

Since 2001, the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) has been a partner for the Donaldson Run stream restoration projects. DRCA has committed Neighborhood Conservation Program funding, as well as provided input on the design plans. When Donaldson Run's Tributary A restoration project was completed in 2006, it was known at that time that Tributary B was also an ideal restoration candidate. After several years of planning, we are nearing the construction phase for Tributary B. The restoration will span from N. Upton St to where Tributary B meets the restored Tributary A in Zachary Taylor Park. The project length is approximately 1,500 linear feet, or three tenths of a mile, and is half the length of the Tributary A project. The natural stream channel design method will be applied to Tributary B, as it was to Tributary A. The restoration of Tributary B will:

- Protect existing infrastructure - the water main and sanitary sewer and laterals
- Remove invasive plants within the project area. The area will be replanted with native plants.
- Protect the existing trail from erosion
- Improve water quality for Donaldson Run, the Potomac River, and the Chesapeake Bay by addressing erosion (thus reducing sediment and nutrient pollution).

In the spring of 2015, the County received the necessary property easements along Tributary B and submitted the construction permit request to the Army Corps of Engineers. The restoration design plans for Tributary B are nearing the final stages. Currently designers are planning elements of the construction logistics, such as construction entrances, staging and storage areas, and protection of the existing resources. The County will give an update to the Donaldson Run Civic Association in the Spring of 2016 that will include an additional opportunity to see and provide input on the restoration and planting plans. Native plant species that have been successful with Tributary A's restoration, and other native species found in Zachary Taylor Park, will comprise the planting plan. Construction bid documents are scheduled to be prepared for Tributary B in 2016. The County's remaining "to-do list" for Tributary B includes:

- Address remaining infrastructure design elements and develop planting plan for Tributary B;
- Presentation to citizens of Donaldson Run;
- Finalize design and planting plans;
- Complete technical specifications for construction bid documents;
- Obtain necessary permits;

- Accept construction bids;
- Bid awarded by County Board;
- Project goes to construction;

A history of Tributary B's design progress, including presentation documents from previous meetings, can be found at

<http://projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/donaldson-run-stream-restoration-tributary-b/>. Questions about the plan should be directed to Douglas Stephens at 703-228-3959 or DStephens@arlingtonva.us.

STOP FOR SCHOOL BUSES

Mike Green

School buses in Arlington now carry cameras to automatically catch drivers who fail to stop when required while the school bus is picking up or discharging passengers. A ticket for failing to obey the school bus law is a misdemeanor and carries a fine, six points on the offending driver's license, and even possible jail time.

Here are the rules quoted from the Virginia Driver's Manual:

"You must stop for stopped school buses with flashing red lights and an extended stop sign when you approach from any direction on a highway, private road or school driveway. Stop and remain stopped until all persons are clear and the bus moves again.

"You must also stop if the bus is loading or unloading passengers and the signals are not on.

"You do not have to stop if you are traveling in the opposite direction on a roadway with a median or barrier dividing the road and the bus is on the opposite side of the median or barrier. However, be prepared for unexpected actions by persons exiting the school bus."

Note that the law requires drivers to stop when approaching from any direction. This includes cross traffic at an intersection when the school bus is 90 degrees to the direction of travel of the cross traffic. It also includes traffic that is on the opposite side of a painted median that does not provide a physical barrier.

Now that school is in session, please be especially careful and look out for children using the roadways.

PROFESSIONAL HELP AROUND the HOUSE

Email Mary@DRCA.org with recommendations or removals.

Appliance Repair

Alan Gaitley, Old Dominion Appliance Repair, (703) 754-8500, referred by Frank and Sally Light

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

Computer Support Services

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

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

Flooring

Congressional Floors, (703) 465-1398, referred by John Millio, (202) 669-5601

Gutter Installation

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

Handyman Services

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

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

Home Improvement

Whitestone Home Improvement (703) 426-8000, referred by Sonja Elmer, (703) 527-8340

Housecleaning

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

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

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

Flora Cuentas, (703) 671-4053, referred by Molly Ross, (703) 528-2731

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

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

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

Ruth Shaw, (703) 447-6917, referred by Joe Junod, joexjunod5182@gmail.com

Maria Vallejo, (703) 448-2092, referred by Mike and Dot Green, (703) 525-9414

Interior Decorating/Home Design:

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

Landscaping and Yardwork

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

Brookstone Landscape, headed by Adon Pineda (571) 213-0970, referred by Pat Hines, (703) 875-9242

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

Masonry

4 Seasons Masonry, Glen Brumfield, (703) 378-4444
Brick and other masonry work including repairs
Referred by Barbara and Dan Taft (703) 276-1987

Painting and/or Wallpapering

Boris Gogev (Absolutely My Best), (703) 582-4029, referred by Christine Cruisinger, (703) 243-8495

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

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

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

Roof and Exterior Cleaning

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

Sash cord repairs

Colonel Josh, specializing in sash window repairs (202)-631-3376; JoshArnson@gmail.com, referred by Peter and Winnie Raven-Hansen, (703) 841-1787

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, please email mary@drca.org.

Babysitting

Lily Bernhard, 17 y.o. 703-528-0043

Dog Walking

Lily Bernhard, 17 y.o. 703-528-0043

Ned Cooper, 14 y.o. 703-469-2242

Lawn Care

Lily Bernhard, 17 y.o., 703-528-0043

Ned Cooper, 14 y.o., 703-469-2242

Tennis Lessons for Kids/Adults (Any Level)

Tate and Chase Arevalo, 16 and 14 years old, 703.371.3155

LOVE DOGS, LOVE PARKS

Susan Kalish

There is nothing better on a beautiful fall day than to walk your dog in the park. Great exercise for you; great exercise for your pup. In fact, numerous studies show that dogs can improve human health. Arlington has a variety of opportunities for you to be active with your dog. With eight parks designated as dog parks and more than a hundred human/dog parks to choose from, there really isn't any excuse not to get out.

County dog parks are the only places in Arlington where a dog does not have to be on leash. Dogs are never allowed off leash in parks or neighborhoods. You can take your pooch (on leash) pretty much anywhere except playgrounds. As much as many children love dogs and vice versa, it is not

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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 DRCA Meeting
Wednesday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m.
Taylor Elementary School
2600 North Stuart Street

Agenda:
Middle School Update, Transportation Alternatives,
and a Chat with Board Member Libby Garvey

A social half hour begins at 7 p.m.

LOVE DOGS, LOVE PARKS (continued from page 7)

wise to have them play together on a playground. Both breeds (human and dog) could behave in a manner that causes harm to the other and consequently, Arlington prohibits dogs in playgrounds, even if they are on leash.

A number of County parks have streams, and as much as your pooch may enjoy it, it is important to remember that Arlington streams receive untreated stormwater runoff from the County's streets. Stormwater washes petroleum, bacteria and other

pathogens, dirt, and litter into our streams. Bacteria and pathogens are not visible to our eye and may be present even when the water is clear. Data from the County's volunteer bacteria monitoring program can be found at

<http://environment.arlingtonva.us/streams/stream-monitoring/>. Broken glass, wire, and sharp metal also are often found along the stream bottom and cannot be easily seen. Keep these risks in mind before allowing your dog to play in our streams.

Go to parks.arlingtonva.us to find out about nearby dog parks where you and your pooch can run free and meet other two- and four-legged creatures. The website also lists parks and background information on dog health.