

The Current



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.drca.org

May 2019

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bill Richardson
bill@drca.org

Each year we invite a member of the County Board to speak at one of our meetings, to provide you with an opportunity to hear what the Board is up to, ask questions, and highlight areas of concern to you, particularly as they may affect the Donaldson Run area. At our next DRCA meeting, on **Wednesday, May 22**, we will be hearing from **County Board Member Erik Gutshall**, who is now in his second year on the Board. Erik is also the Board's liaison to the County's Task Force on 26th & Old Dominion, chaired by DRCA member Noah Simon, which is in the process of completing its recommendation to the Board. (See the article on page 3).

Also speaking at our May 22 meeting is **School Board Member Barbara Kanninen**, who is the School Board's liaison to our neighborhood. This will give you a chance to hear the latest on Arlington Public Schools issues of interest, including information on the new Dorothy Hamm Middle School at the old Stratford site, the new location of the HB Woodlawn program, and the challenges APS faces due to increasing school age populations.

As usual, the meeting will be held at Taylor Elementary School at 7:30 p.m., with our social half hour beginning at 7 p.m. I want to apologize for

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Andy's Lawn and Landscaping will be maintaining the area around the Donaldson Run Civic Association sign at Military Road and 25th Street again this year. Thank you, Andy and crew!

The next Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting is
Wednesday, May 22 at Taylor Elementary at 7:30 p.m.
A social half hour starts at 7 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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the inadequate notice of the 8 p.m. start date for our meeting on March 6 to discuss the Amazon move, which was necessary to accommodate a scheduling issue for County Board Chairman Christian Dorsey. (For a summary of his remarks, please visit our website at www.drca.org.) Because that was a special meeting, we were unable to precede it by the usual newsletter notice. While we sent the time change out to our regular e-mail list through drca@yahoogroups.com, we did not update our website, and a number of you may have gotten inaccurate information from second hand reports on Nextdoor or from our posted signs in the neighborhood (which are marked with our usual time).

To address this problem, we've redoubled our efforts to ensure adequate notice of our meetings and events of interest. Here is information about each of the channels on which you can learn about these:

DRCA's Website: <https://www.drca.org/>

Facebook: Our page can be accessed via <https://www.facebook.com/groups/295736440161/> (Donaldson Run Civic Association)

Yahoo Groups: As noted above, we post messages (as can you) by sending an e-mail to drca@yahoogroups.com. To receive these, you need to join the DRCA group. To do so, go to <https://groups.yahoo.com/group/drca>.

Newsletter: If you are not receiving the newsletter, please e-mail Maxine Nagel at Maxine@drca.org.

Nextdoor.com: One of the DRCA board members will now update periodically the "Donaldson Run" residents of this site with information about our meetings/events. To join Nextdoor, go to https://nextdoor.com/choose_address/, and opt to join the "Donaldson Run" neighborhood. Updates from us will be titled "DRCA Update" with the subject matter to follow.

E-mail: As always, feel free to e-mail questions to the DRCA board at ec@drca.org, or to me at bill@drca.org.

I look forward to seeing you on May 22.

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	Bill Richardson	525-5270
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MARYMOUNT FARMERS MARKET SEASON 4 UPDATE

Deirdre Dessingue

Donaldson Run neighbors wait with eager anticipation for the first day of the 2019 Marymount Farmers Market ("MFM") -- Saturday, May 25th. This year the MFM will run Saturdays

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26th-OLD DOMINION TASK FORCE REPORT SUBMITTED TO COUNTY BOARD

Anne Wilson

The County Board has now received the results of the 26th-Old Dominion Task Force which considered how expanded snow and leaf operations should be sited at the county-owned parcel located at one of the entrances to the Donaldson Run neighborhood. At its last meeting on April 11, the Task Force approved, by a vote of 12-2, a master plan for the site that expands the current salt storage facility into a full-service snow operations center. However, as the Task Force studied the County's reasoning for expanded snow services at 26th Street, it became clear that there was not sufficient data available to justify the need and expense of building an expanded snow operations facility. Thus, the Task Force recommends that there be additional analysis and evaluation by the County Board to examine the need for such a facility on the north side of the County.

If the Board does decide that a full-service snow removal facility should be built on the 26th Street site, the Task Force recommended a master plan that brings the salt and leaf storage facilities together on the site. The plan has many elements including a two-story building (one of which would be below grade), that would house shift change facilities, a one bay chain shop, and community meeting rooms. The plan also includes a below grade storage of equipment, parking, and four brine tanks which would be largely hidden from street view. This structure would have a green roof allowing for increased recreational space. The plan would also create separate areas for leaf and salt storage, a mulch distribution area, and a number of new park elements throughout the site including passive green space, a multi-purpose grass field, and a playground in the area adjacent to the green space at the trail head.

Of particular interest to the community is the task force recommendation that the County pursue funding in the near term to enhance the park area next to the Donaldson Run trail head. Although this green space currently looks and acts like a park, it is not officially designated as a park by Arlington County. The Task Force plans call for enhancements to the trail head, casual use seating, open green space, and a natural style play area.

The cost of the entire project is estimated to be \$30-\$40 million. As previously stated, the Task Force was not convinced that the costs, both financial and environmental, were justified to improve snow removal capabilities in weather events that occur rather infrequently. Questions were also raised about the environmental impacts of the current leaf removal/storage operations, the harmful effects of salting roads, and how technological advances could change the County's future needs for storage and equipment. Due to these concerns, the Task Force recommended further analysis of the issues involved. If the County Board determines that a full snow operation and leaf storage facility should be constructed, the Task Force provided a plan for the site that was supported by a significant majority of the stakeholders, including DRCA. The full report and plan can be seen at <https://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2019/04/Final26-ODReportwithcover.pdf>.

TRIBUTARIES A & B UPDATES

John Seggerman

Countless Donaldson Run residents enjoy our cherished walking/hiking trails along Tributaries A & B of the Donaldson Run stream. The DRCA Executive Committee (EC) has for years been in consultation with Arlington Department of Environmental Services (DES) staff on both routine maintenance of the trails as well as the Tributary B Stream Restoration Project. On April 8, several EC members met in person with both DES staff and a private consultant hired by the County to assess the previously completed design of the Tributary B project. This assessment was carried out to fine-tune the design with several additional recommendations. These recommendations will be incorporated into the final design of the project and a timeline for execution is expected soon. The project is expected to take approximately six months to complete.

Additionally, we have asked County staff to let us know of the process for citizens to report maintenance needs they may come across while walking on the Tributary A and Tributary B trails. If you see something that you believe warrants attention, please report through the County's "Report a Problem" link: <https://topics.arlingtonva.us/reportproblem/>. If, after trying, you find the "Report a Problem" process is unresponsive, please email Bill@DRCA.org.

CONSTRUCTION RESUMES AT VERNON STREET "PIT"

Bill Richardson

After over a year, construction of the house at 2513 N. Vernon Street has finally begun. This unfortunate delay, during which the neighborhood has had to endure a real eyesore, highlights some fundamental flaws in the County's processes for supervising residential construction. Although sentencing for the misdemeanor conviction for violation of the state building code has now been postponed until October, state law carries with it a fine of not more than \$2,500.

The state occupational health authority, VOSH, originally stopped construction at the site because of a finding of potential imminent safety hazards to workers arising from structural instability at the site, an excavation flanked on three sides by adjacent properties and an embankment in the rear, all three substantially higher than the hole. For reasons that remain unclear, the developer delayed for many months in responding to VOSH to cure the structural stability problem. Because of the nuisance posed to the neighborhood, DRCA repeatedly asked County staff beginning in early 2018 to take action to address the problem. County staff initially advised us they had no adequate remedies under County ordinances to do so. After considerable delay, they then referred the matter for criminal prosecution by the Commonwealth Attorney's office. Hearings were further postponed due to failure twice to serve process properly on the developer defendants, and then the defendants suffered no consequences from failing even to show up at the district court hearing on the misdemeanor charges.

Ultimately, the developer was able to satisfy VOSH and resume construction. When DRCA suggested that the building permit be conditioned on completion of construction by a date certain, enforceable by the posting of a bond, we were advised that the permit did not allow such conditions. DRCA plans to bring this matter to the attention of the County Manager, in hopes that similar incidents can be avoided in the future.

UPDATE ON REAGAN AIRPORT NOISE ISSUE

Charlie Henkin

This article summarizes developments in the District Court case brought by Maryland against

the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the final approval of a joint Arlington-Montgomery County consultant contract to develop options for quieter aircraft flight profiles into and out of Reagan National Airport (DCA).

For background refer to previous articles:

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca6605_dd838c526555422495310633f0f7ebf5.pdf

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca6605_0f8df39fb53e4ad9933a3b36d242e011.pdf

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca6605_1dd0d2d71e5746c89a278bfd7688f9d2.pdf

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/ca6605_c7ed4f45e04d4c83880997539b5de074.pdf

On January 16, 2019, the Maryland Attorney General filed his Petitioner's Opening Brief for review of the FAA's refusal to consider changes in approach flight paths to DCA that affected Maryland. The FAA had adopted these to implement its new sensor and network system called NextGen. Maryland held that FAA had violated the rules governing transparency of proposed flight path changes (which trigger a 60 day reclama period for an affected jurisdiction) and had failed to conduct its own environmental impact analysis as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Maryland presented a strong case that the FAA had failed to provide meaningful estimates of the new flight profile's environmental impact and also failed to follow up on commitments to assess alternative flight profiles in the multi-jurisdictional Community Working Group (CWG) on DCA Noise. Since the FAA had previously rejected Maryland's legal claims, this Petitioner's Opening Brief is the first step in the appeals process.

The FAA (delayed by the government shutdown in 2019) filed its "Proof Answering Brief of Respondents" on April 11. The FAA challenged each point made by Maryland and again maintained it has no obligations since the 60 day reclama period is long passed. Its argument regarding failure to comply with NEPA requirements is convoluted but they maintain they are in compliance here as well (although they could not produce it when asked by Senator Van Hollen on behalf of a constituent).

Underlying the FAA Answering Brief is a note of frustration with what they maintain was inadequate Maryland representations at the multi-jurisdictional Working Group addressing these matters.

The court will reply by May 9. Assuming they take the case, actual arguments before the court may not take place until the fall.

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DCA NOISE UPDATE

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A key underlying technical (as opposed to legal/procedural) issue in the Maryland Petition is the degree to which Maryland would be satisfied with approach paths directly over the Potomac from, say, as far north as The American Legion Bridge. Such paths would benefit Arlington since approach flights now fly west of the Potomac and over our homes. (Washington, D.C. may not welcome an eastern move of the flight paths, of course.)

In their filing, however, Maryland makes much of the fact that the FAA rerouted flights that previously went over Northern Virginia (not Arlington, but further north) to fly over Maryland-in response to "complaints" from Northern Virginia. They argue that had the FAA made the noise impact clear ab initio they certainly would have objected to the rerouting and now wish to have this rerouting changed.

If the focus of Maryland's Petition is to have flights once again approach over Virginia, this case could devolve into a contentious zero-sum game with the FAA absolved of responsibility. However, the Maryland and Montgomery County representatives at our August 2018 Courthouse meeting made it clear that they would welcome an over the river approach which would equally benefit Montgomery County and Arlington County.

Public Entity Contract (PEC)

The County Board has approved the \$250k contract for DCA noise consultation services (Arlington pays \$125k and Montgomery County the other half). The key provisions go far beyond the scope of the Maryland legal filing and include analysis of both approach and departure flight profiles, including altitude, noise generated by (NextGen/"Lazir") procedures vs. legacy procedures, the merits of "the current goal of maximizing flight time over water...relative to other alternatives" and the feasibility of re-creating dispersion along departure or arrival corridors (this being the pre-NextGen approach of the FAA).

In addition, prospects for community engagement are good. County staff says once the PEC is finalized, they will move expeditiously to have the Request for Proposal (RFP) agreed to by both counties and issued by Arlington County. Staff then expects to have both a public meeting during the RFP response period, as well as a public kick-off meeting with the consultant once they are selected and under contract. These public meetings

will be in addition to the County's regular interactions with our civic association representatives such as we have had in the past and the community at-large.

If the contract is awarded within two months of the April 23 Board approval, some analysis might be available in the fall. It is premature to speculate whether these analyses could be known before any arguments in the District Court or could lead to out of court collaboration with the FAA utilizing an approach identified in the study. It does appear the FAA generally recognizes the noise problem and parts of the FAA are already engaged in solutions for specific airports (e.g. Boston) outside the courts. Sustained political pressure, however, along with consensus among affected jurisdictions will be needed to make the FAA respond with altered procedures for DCA.

FARMER'S MARKET

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through November 23rd. Market hours are 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Some of the expected vendors include:

Catoctin Creamery: Leesburg, VA small family-owned farm producing a variety of artisan goat cheeses, as well as goat milk soaps and goat milk caramel.

Cold Country Salmon: Flash frozen salmon and other wild-caught fish from the waters of Bristol Bay, Alaska.

Elda Gardens: A family-owned farm in Midland, VA using organic standards that offers fruits, berries, vegetables, herbs, micro-greens, flowers, eggs, milk, honey, jams, jellies, juices, candles and soap.

Great Valley Farms: Family-owned Shenandoah County business implementing sustainable farming practices and specializing in freshly grown produce, canned goods, dried fruits and vegetables, and both fresh and dried herbs.

This is only a brief list of vendors that Donaldson Run residents can expect to see at the Marymount Farmers Market (see the Donaldson Run Facebook page for a complete list). Come and find baked goods, Ethiopian, Mediterranean, French, Ecuadorean, and vegan vendors. DRCA will continue its participation in the popular Adopt-A-Saturday program. Six volunteers will be needed to assist in opening and closing the market. More details to come on the DRCA listserv, Facebook, and NextDoor. Be sure to mark your calendars for the MFM Oktoberfest on Saturday, September 28!

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

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

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

AI 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

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

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

Sash cord repairs

Colonel Josh, specializing in sash window repairs (202)-631-3376; JoshArnsong@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, email mary@drca.org.

Babysitting

Ryan Boehk, Red Cross certified, 12 y.o., kristinaboehk@yahoo.com or 703-861-1442
Sophia Cocozza, 16 y.o., 571-639-8785.
Paula Margison, 10th grade, 703-357-8528

Dog Walking & Pet Care

Ryan Boehk, 12 y.o., kristinaboehk@yahoo.com or 703-861-1442
Quinn Cooper, 15 y.o., 703-407-8045
TJ Hutchison 15 y.o., 703-812-9697

Tennis Lessons for Kids/Adults (Any Level)

Chase Arevalo, 18 y.o., 703-371-3155

DRCA DUES

Many thanks to all of you who have paid 2019 DRCA dues! Your dues underwrite the publication and distribution of this newsletter, and we are grateful for your support. If you haven't paid your 2019 dues, it's not too late.

Check the label on this newsletter for your current dues status. If your membership has lapsed and you want to rejoin, send a check made out to DRCA (\$15 per household) to Maxine Nagel, 2900 North Stafford Street, Arlington 22207. If you receive this newsletter electronically, I recently sent emails to those of you whose membership has expired. If you didn't receive that email, you can assume that you're current on your dues.

Please contact me at jkolick@aol.com or 703-524-5093 with any questions. And thanks for your support of the Donaldson Run Civic Association and its mission. We exist, in large measure, because of your generosity!

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, May 22 at 7:30 p.m.
Taylor Elementary School
2600 North Stuart Street

Agenda:

County Board Manager, Erik Gutshall
and
School Board Member Barbara Kanninen

A social half hour begins at 7 p.m.