



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

[www.drca.org](http://www.drca.org)

February 2016

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

*Anne Wilson*  
[anne@drca.org](mailto:anne@drca.org)

### February 2016

2016 looks like another active year in which several initiatives in and around our neighborhood will continue. It may even be the year when the stream restoration work for Tributary B gets underway. The biennial election of all Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) officers will take place at our May meeting. If you are interested in becoming involved, let me know. We are always looking for fresh talent and energy. Remember that only those members who are up to date in their dues 60 days before the meeting will be eligible to vote. You can renew your membership by using the form in this newsletter.

DRCA continues its work with county and school staff in three areas: the expansion of Stratford School, Planning the Future of Lee Highway, and the Fire Station 8 Task Force. There are updates in this newsletter on the first two items. The Fire Station Task Force is just getting off the ground, and it will be one of the topics at our March 2 membership meeting. DRCA is represented on the task force by myself and my alternate, Scott Wilson (my neighbor, not my husband.) It occurred to me that DRCA has not yet had a conversation with its membership about the fire station. With Acting Fire Chief Joseph Reshetar, and others who have been involved in the fire station issue, we will start that conversation at our next meeting. Continuing the

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## SIGN UP FOR DRCA'S LISTSERVE

Join the DRCA listserve and give or receive recommendations and follow interesting neighborhood conversations. DRCA can also be found on Facebook under Donaldson Run Civic Association. To join the listserve, please send an email with your street address to [anne@drca.org](mailto:anne@drca.org).

The next Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting is  
Wednesday, March 2 at Taylor Elem. at 7:30 p.m.  
A social half hour starts at 7 p.m.

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER

(continued from page 1)

focus on the Old Dominion end of our neighborhood, we have also invited Father Joe Giordano, the rector of Missionhurst, to update us on programs and the sizeable facility bordering the west side of Donaldson Run. Many of us know Missionhurst for its sledding hill and playing field. This will be an opportunity to learn more about this institution.

You can also mark your calendar for a Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting on May 4. County Board member John Vihstadt will be joining us to discuss issues that are on the minds of Donaldson Run residents. If there are topics that you would like him to address, please forward them to me.

By the way, the DRCA listserve worked quite well during the blizzard. People who needed shoveling and those who were looking to make money clearing the snow found each other. You can join the DRCA email list by going to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com><<http://groups.yahoo.com>>,

and search for DRCA in the box labeled "Find a Yahoo Group". You will need to set up a yahoo account if you do not already have one. This is the best way to stay informed about DRCA news. DRCA can also be found on Facebook.

I hope to see you at one or both of our upcoming meetings.

## COUNTY BOARD TO REVIEW USE PERMIT FOR SPRINT ANTENNAS IN ONE YEAR

**Anne Wilson**

You may not be aware that the antennas belonging to Sprint located on the water tower behind N. Vernon Street are subject to a use permit that requires that emissions testing be conducted annually, and that the results of the tests be sent to the adjacent civic associations. Getting these reports on a regular basis has always been challenging, bordering on impossible. After failing to receive a report in 2014, a compliance report was sent to DRCA last fall in advance of the County Board's review of the use permit for the antennas. The report concludes, "...this site is in compliance with

**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 26<sup>th</sup> Street, North 25<sup>th</sup> Place, and North Ridgeview Road); 26<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> Street on the north; Lorcom Lane on the south (including North Randolph Street and 27<sup>th</sup> Streets south of Lorcom Lane); and Vernon Street on the west.

### DRCA Board

President	Anne Wilson	525-0344
1 <sup>st</sup> VP	Mike Green	525-9414
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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

FCC regulations for RF exposure." Due to the documented lack of cooperation in getting the annual emissions test, the County Board agreed to DRCA's request last November to review the use permit in one year's time. This should ensure that the next emissions test will be done on schedule. Thanks to Stefan Fink for his continued interest in this, and to Peter Fallon who represented DRCA at the November County Board meeting.

# **UPDATE ON LEE HIGHWAY COMMUNITY VISIONING CHARRETTE**

***Deirdre Dessingue***

Culminating almost three years of planning by the Lee Highway Alliance (LHA), the Lee Highway community visioning charrette was held over a four-day period beginning Friday evening, November 6, and concluding Monday evening, November 9. Dover, Kohl & Partners, the consulting team selected by the County, conducted the charrette. Community interest in the entire charrette process was high. The Saturday morning interactive session attracted over 170 participants who were encouraged to illustrate their concepts for future street designs, building designs, bike and pedestrian facilities, open spaces, and neighborhood scale. In collaboration with the consulting team and County staff, these visions were refined over the course of the Sunday and Monday sessions.

The consultants unveiled their draft report to the community on Saturday, February 6. This meeting afforded another opportunity for community feedback before the final Lee Highway visioning report and recommendations are presented to the County Board in March. To obtain more information on the Lee Highway visioning effort, please consult the County website at <http://projects.arlingtonva.us/plans-studies/land-use/lee-highway/> and the LHA website at <http://www.leehighwayalliance.com/>.

## **HABITAT RESTORATION- VOLUNTEER!**

Want to increase native species diversity right here in Arlington? On Saturday, March 12, from 2:00 - 4:30 p.m., adults, teens, and families with children ages 8 and up are welcome to volunteer. Work parties are held on the second Saturday of every month and are making a real difference, with the return of ferns and wildflowers, and the animals that depend on them, in areas once covered in destructive invasive plants. Help make it happen! For information and to register, call 703-228-3403. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center. Free.

## **Winter/Spring 2016 Meeting Schedule**

### **Wednesday, March 2**

Agenda:  
Fire Station 8 Task Force  
Father Joe Giordano of Missionhurst

### **Wednesday, May 4**

Agenda:  
John Vihstadt

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.

## **RATIFYING AND REPUBLISHING THE DRCA CONSTITUTION**

***Mike Green***

In preparing for the upcoming election, we have noticed that the version of the DRCA constitution that is published on the website does not make clear in Article III Section 1 what is accurately reflected in Article III Section 2: that, pursuant to the unanimous vote of the membership at its February 2000 meeting, the terms of the DRCA officers were extended from one to two years. In order to ensure that the correct version is available to all, we propose that the membership ratify and republish the constitution, which will then appear on the DRCA website.

Accordingly, copies of the proposed republished constitution will be available at the March 2 meeting and will be voted on at the May 4 meeting. There are only two proposed changes. The first is to remove the word "annually" in Article III Section 1 to conform to Article III Section 2: "The terms of the officers . . . shall continue for two years...." The second is to clarify that in Article III Section 2 the two-year terms were intended to extend to all members of the DRCA Board (including directors as well as officers), by changing the word "officers" to "officers and directors" in all three places (and in the section title) used in that section.

# **MARYMOUNT 5K IS APRIL 16**

Marymount University's Department of Physical Therapy is excited to announce the second annual running of the Marymount 5k on Saturday, April 16 at 9 a.m.

Last year over 500 runners and walkers hit the streets and conquered the hills while raising money for the Physical Therapy mission trip to Costa Rica. We celebrated their efforts with a great post-race party on campus. It was a wildly successful day and we raised \$19,000 for medical equipment and supplies for long-term care facilities in Costa Rica.

Please consider joining us for this year's race, either to run, walk, or cheer from your front yard. Information can be found at [www.marymount.edu/5k](http://www.marymount.edu/5k). We will continue to update this race website leading up to race day.

We are grateful to our neighbors in Donaldson Run for allowing us to showcase your community by using your streets. Road closures are minimal and we will update you through our website, the DRCA listserv, and by posting flyers at homes and intersections along the racecourse.

We hope that you mark your calendars and consider joining us for this great event. If you have any questions or concerns, please email our race coordinators at [mu5k@marymount.edu](mailto:mu5k@marymount.edu) or call 703-284-5978."

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

***Mike Green***

DRCA is managed by a group of volunteers who are elected by the membership of the association every two years. If you would like to help with the operation of your civic association, please consider running for one of our leadership positions.

The next election for the DRCA board will be at the May 4, 2016, membership meeting. The process to be elected is very simple. You must be nominated (self nominations are allowed) and then elected at the meeting.

The process for nomination is set out in the DRCA Constitution:

## **ARTICLE V Conduct of Elections**

Section 2. Nominations. Prior to the annual meeting, the Board shall appoint a nominating committee of at least three members to provide nominations for officers and directors. This committee shall provide the list of nominations to the newsletter editor prior to the newsletter deadline for the newsletter that will announce the annual meeting. No one shall be nominated unless he/she is an adult (over eighteen) full-time resident of a fully paid-up member household of the Association and her/his consent has been obtained. Whenever possible the committee shall present more than one nomination for each office and position on the Board. Any member may nominate additional persons by providing the names of those so-nominated to the newsletter editor prior to the newsletter deadline for the newsletter that will announce the annual meeting. The newsletter that announces the annual meeting must be mailed, or emailed, so that its anticipated delivery date will be no more than 30 days and no fewer than five days before the meeting. Only those persons whose names appear in the newsletter as nominees are eligible for election. The Board or any of its members may endorse one or more nominees for elective office in the Association.

If you are interested in being nominated by the nominating committee, please contact the committee members, Anne Wilson ([Anne@drca.org](mailto:Anne@drca.org)), Charlie Henkin ([charlie@drca.org](mailto:charlie@drca.org)), or Mike Green ([Mike@drca.org](mailto:Mike@drca.org)) by email or in person at the March 2 membership meeting. You may also self nominate (or nominate a willing neighbor) by submitting the person's name and any additional information that would be relevant to the newsletter editor ([Mary@drca.org](mailto:Mary@drca.org)) by the deadline for the next newsletter, which is April 6, 2016.

## **ARLINGTON TRIP PLANNER**

The County has posted a new multi-modal trip planning and comparison tool on the web at:

<http://www.carfreeatoz.com/planner>

The planner shows how to compare trips on foot, bicycle, transit or car. It provides options, time estimates and other information.

# **SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN MARCH**

The spring yard waste (SYW) collection program will start on March 14, 2016. The program will transition into the new year-round yard waste collection program on April 1, 2016. The only change to the SYW program is that now, collection will occur on your regular collection day. Residents who have received their yard waste carts by the start of the SYW collection program are free to use them at that time.

To ensure all our curbside collection customers are ready to participate in our convenient year-round yard waste program, cart deliveries will begin next week. In order to ensure all of our customers receive their cart prior to April 1, we need six to eight weeks to deliver carts to the entire County. This means some residents may receive a cart as early as February 8. While it will be tempting for residents receiving carts in February to immediately use their cart, please do not place yard waste carts at the curb for collection until March 14, 2016. Delivery of carts will be provided by American Disposal Services and we expect them to finish by late March.

When the cart is delivered, an educational brochure contained in a brown envelope describing the new program in detail will be attached to the lid of each yard waste cart. The back page of the brochure will contain a short summary of the program and is designed to be torn out and utilized for easy reference. Residents who opted out of a yard waste cart will not receive a yard waste cart, but the educational brochure will be delivered following the start of the program.

We are looking forward to providing year-round yard waste to your civic association. If there are any questions or concerns regarding cart delivery, please contact the department at 703-228-6570.

## **UPDATE ON STRATFORD ADDITION**

*Anne Wilson*

In November, the School Board approved the recommendation of the Stratford Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) to locate the addition to Stratford on the west end (Old Dominion Drive side) of the school. This will preserve the view of the existing historic façade that faces Old Dominion

Drive. The new building will be built on an existing parking lot, and the parking area at the end of the soccer field will be expanded to make up for the lost parking. The addition will house an auxiliary gym that will be available to the community for use after school hours. The ball field and tennis courts will also be upgraded as a separate parks project that was in the works before the decision was made to expand the school.

Transportation planning continues to be a challenge. Although the School Board voted to support an access road to Old Dominion Drive that would allow traffic to flow through the site one way and exit onto Old Dominion Drive, county staff does not support this option. So far, no consensus has emerged on how to manage the increased numbers of cars, walkers, and cyclists who will be going to the new school. This is of great concern to parents and neighbors. Unless and until the County can demonstrate how other approaches could work in this area, DRCA will continue to advocate for the importance of including the Old Dominion Drive access road in the plans for the new school. The APS web site for the Stratford Project can be found at: [www.apsva.us/Page/29586](http://www.apsva.us/Page/29586).



## **ARLINGTON'S FORESTS AND STREAMS: STATUS OF OUR LOCAL ECOSYSTEM**

On March 3, Jen McDonnell of the Arlington County Department of Environmental Services and Vincent Verweij of the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation will address the status of our local forests and streams and the challenges facing our natural areas. The event is free and open to the public and will run from 7 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. at Arlington Central Library (1015 N. Quincy Street).

The event is hosted by Arlington Regional Master Naturalists, and the Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria.

# **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 Cuentes, (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 Crutsinger, (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:

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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](mailto:mary@drca.org).

### **Babysitting**

Toby Heidrich, 15 y.o., 703-517-5449

### **Dog Walking**

Ned Cooper, 15 y.o., 703-469-2242

### **Lawn Care**

Ned Cooper, 15 y.o., 703-469-2242

### **Tennis Lessons for Kids/Adults (Any Level)**

Tate and Chase Arevalo, 16 and 14 years old,  
703-371-3155

## **DRCA DUES ARE DUE!**

Current on your dues? Check the mailing label on this newsletter to find out. Or, if you received this newsletter electronically, check your email (coming soon!) for an update on your DRCA membership status (we will email you only if your membership has expired.)

If you are a current dues-paying DRCA member, we thank you. If your membership has expired, we invite you to renew for 2016.

Dues are still a bargain—\$15 annually per household—and can be delivered to DRCA treasurer Maxine Nagel at 2900 North Stafford Street (checks made out to DRCA) or brought to our upcoming general membership meeting on March 2 at Taylor Elementary School.

Questions? Just email ([mknagel@gmail.com](mailto:mknagel@gmail.com)) or call (703-524-5093.) And as always, we appreciate your support!

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

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Permit No. 2863**

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

**Next DRCA Meeting  
Wednesday, March 2 at 7:30 p.m.  
Taylor Elementary School  
2600 North Stuart Street**

**Agenda:  
Fire Station 8 Task Force  
Father Joe Giordano, Rector of Missionhurst**

**A social half hour begins at 7 p.m.**

## **GULF BRANCH NATURE CENTER ACTIVITIES**

### **Spring Explorers Camp at Gulf Branch Nature Center**

Monday, March 21 9:00 a.m. - Friday, March 25 3:00 p.m., ages 7 to 10.

Camp meets Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM daily, and 9:00 AM – Noon on Friday with an evening campfire program from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Explore Gulf Branch and other regional parks for signs of spring. Look for amphibians emerging from their winter slumber, wildflowers blooming on the forest floor and birds returning on their spring migration. Every day will have opportunities to

explore nature through crafts, outdoor activities and hands-on encounters with animals. For information call 703-228-3403.

Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center. \$200 fee due upon registration. Registration deadline: March 4, 2016. Program #632826-C

**Tweet! Birdsongs Campfire!** Saturday, March 26, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. All ages. The whole family is invited to join us at the Gulf Branch fire ring for lots of old-fashioned fun, including s'mores, as we learn about spring songsters. Register adults and children; children must be accompanied by a registered adult. For information, call 703-228-3403. Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center. There is a \$5 fee due upon registration. Program #632856-C