



Neighbor News

Message from the President

by Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Neighbors, over the holidays our family welcomed a new addition: Declan Mars Jordan Tomaszewski. I am happy to share baby Declan is happy and healthy. We are looking forward to raising our son in Douglas Park, and sincerely appreciate all of the love and support we have received so far from neighbors! This is a wonderful neighborhood to raise a family, with lots of interesting things to do and wonderful people. Please stop by and say hello if you see us walking around the neighborhood with the newest Douglas Parker!



Cheers, Steve

Understanding the Needs of Veterans and Service Members in Arlington

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Arlington County's Military and Veterans Advisory Committee (MVAC) is [interested in hearing from](#) members of the military, veterans, and their families who live and/or work in Arlington about types of programs, services, and resources that could be helpful. Click here to participate so that we can explore programs and services that may better serve our Veteran and Active Military Community. The Civic Association encourages all Douglas Park veterans to participate in the survey and provide input to the County on how we can improve the lives of veterans in our community.

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Election Day Bake Sale Success

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Thank you very much for the hard work and effort making this year's Election Day Bake Sale a success! A special thank you to the organizer Enid Dunbar, the volunteers who baked goods, and the volunteers who supported transactions throughout the day. We are happy to report we raised over \$1,700 dollars because of all of the generous baking donations, set-up and tear down efforts, and staffing the tent. A special thank you to local favorite Acme Pie Company who generously donated several pies for us to sell at this event! This is a major help financially for the Douglas Park Civic Association, and helps us produce events that bring our neighborhood together and give back to our neighbors who are less fortunate. I especially loved the beautiful flowers this year which spruced up the cloudy day!



DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA
 MEMBERSHIP FORM—FY2025
 MARCH 2024 — FEBRUARY 2025

ENCLOSED ARE MY ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD DUES OF \$25.00
 I'M/WE'RE DONATING THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$ _____
 A CHECK FOR \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED

PLEASE PRINT
 Name _____
 Street Address (incl Apt No) _____

 Arlington, VA 22204
 Home Phone (incl Area Code) _____
 Email _____

I'D LIKE TO HELP WITH:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fourth of July Picnic and Parade	<input type="checkbox"/> Election Day Bake Sale
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Fund Drive	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing newsletter articles
<input type="checkbox"/> Hallowe'en Trail of Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute/deliver newsletters
<input type="checkbox"/> Call me anytime; I'll see if I can help	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter advertising

MAIL YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO 'DPCA', ALONG WITH THIS FORM TO:
 Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association
 1716 South Pollard Street
 Arlington, VA 22204-5050

Or, join/renew with PayPal at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>
Thank you!

✂

Matching Contributions up to \$750

by Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Thanks to an extremely generous anonymous donation from one of our Douglas Park neighbors, this year if families financially contribute to the Douglas Park Civic Association their contributions will be matched up to \$750! Either any new member dues, or any additional monetary donation above annual dues, whether provided by check, PayPal/website, or Venmo (@DPCA_Arl), will be matched this year. The past few years have been difficult financially for the Douglas Park Civic Association which has made it difficult to provide support for events connecting neighbors together. With this generous donation, neighbors are encouraged to give to the Civic Association and their contributions will make even more of an impact. We also hope this incentivizes new families to officially join the Civic Association and show their support. If you are in the position to give, and support all of the great work we are doing in the Civic Association, please consider giving in addition to your dues this year, it will make a big difference!

STAY IN TOUCH!

- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/douglasparkarlington/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DouglasParkArlington>
- Website: <https://www.douglasparkca.org/>
- Email ListServ using Groups.io: Email "Subscribe" to dPCA-listserv+subscribe@groups.io
- Google Calendar: <https://bit.ly/DPCAcal>

Playground Still Closed

by Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

The Twin Towers Terrace Rope Climber, a key feature in the Barcroft Park playground, is still broken without any expected date of repair. The Civic Association has been complaining about this broken equipment to Arlington County since August 2023, and so far the County has not provided a solution or fixed the climber. It is disappointing that Douglas Park kids are unable to safely use the equipment at this park.



Barcroft Park Cleanup and Champion Tree Mulching

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

We had 55 volunteers join us for a cleanup of Barcroft Park on February 10th, and then spread mulch around some of Virginia's largest trees in the park. A special thank you to EcoAction Arlington who provided the cleanup equipment, Arlington County for the mulch and tools, and the Tree Stewards of Arlington/Alexandria for guiding the mulch project. We could not have gotten the six tons of mulch moved without help from the George Washington University baseball team - go Revolutionaries! Be sure to [visit them at Tucker Field](#) for home games this spring!



DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA
 FORMULARIO DE MEMBRESÍA—AÑO FISCAL 2025
 MARZO 2024 — FEBRERO 2025

- SE ADJUNTAN MIS CUOTAS FAMILIARES ANUALES DE \$25.00
- ESTOY/ESTAMOS DONANDO LA CANTIDAD ADICIONAL DE \$ _____
- SE ADJUNTA UN CHEQUE POR \$ _____

POR FAVOR IMPRIMA

Nombre _____
 Dirección de la calle (incluyendo el número de apartamento) _____

 Arlington, VA 22204
 Teléfono de casa (incluyendo el código de área) _____
 Correo electrónico _____

ME GUSTARÍA AYUDAR CON:

- Picnic y desfile del cuatro de julio
- Venta de pasteles para del día de las elecciones
- Colecto de fondos para festividades
- Escribir artículos para boletines
- El Camino del Terror de Hallowe'en
- Distribuir/entregar boletines
- Llámame en cualquier momento, y veré si puedo ayudar
- Publicidad en boletín

ENVÍE POR CORREO SU CHEQUE, PAGABLE A 'DPCA', JUNTO CON ESTE FORMULARIO A:

Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association
 1716 South Pollard Street
 Arlington, VA 22204-5050

O únase/renueve con PayPal en <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>
 ¡Gracias!

DOUGLAS PARK IS A COMPETITIVE MARKET

(Lucky for you, the best real estate team happens to live in your neighborhood.)



\$725K

AVG. PRICE OF ORIGINAL HOMES

Homes without improvements, remodeling, or renovation



\$1M

AVG. PRICE OF UPGRADED HOMES

Homes with improvements, remodeling, or renovation



\$1.675M

AVG. PRICE OF NEW CONSTRUCTION HOMES

Brand new homes that have never been lived in.

4 DAYS

AVG. DAYS ON MARKET

2024 Q1 Data

\$1M

MEDIAN SALE PRICE

2024 Q1 Data

100%

KF TEAM LIST-TO-SOLD STATS

Other agents = 97.8%



WHAT'S YOUR HOME WORTH?



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dcnovarealty.com

Barcroft Apartments

by Linda Dye

Built in sections between 1939 and 1952, Barcroft Apartments on Columbia Pike, George Mason and Four Mile Run Drives in our Douglas Park neighborhood was for years the largest market-rate affordable apartment complex in Arlington with 1,334 units. The Columbia Pike community has long known that Barcroft Apartments could be suddenly sold by its owners, the DeLashmutt family, and without protections in place, a new owner could raze every apartment building and build nothing but townhouses.

As a result, Barcroft Apartments was very much on the minds of the community and Arlington County planners when we began the Columbia Pike Neighborhoods Plan adopted by the Arlington County Board in 2012. One of our major goals was to figure out how to save 6,200 units of affordable housing along the Columbia Pike corridor and Barcroft Apartments was a key focus of the Neighborhoods Form Based Code, adopted by the County Board in 2013, that was developed from the Neighborhoods Plan. Now protections were in place.

When Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners purchased Barcroft Apartments in late 2021, they committed to preserve all 1,334 units as Committed Affordable Units (CAFs) for 99 years at 60% of the Area Median Income (AMI). In 2023, 60% of the AMI for a family of four was \$90,420.

Jair Lynch intends to rehab and update all apartments in phases, having divided the entire complex into sections. Last year, Jair Lynch presented their plans for buildings at the northwest corner of George Mason and Four Mile Run Drives and for buildings in the easternmost "triangle" on Four Mile Run Drive to the Form Based Code Advisory Working Group (FBC AWG). (Every civic association along the Columbia Pike corridor has a representative at the AWG.) Their plans include installing washer/dryer units in every apartment, constructing "bump outs" on some two bedroom apartments to create three and four bedroom units, converting several units to Americans with Disabilities Act accessible apartments with accessible parking spaces, and, since building laundry rooms will no longer be needed, possibly repurposing them for indoor bicycle storage. While each building is being rehabbed, residents will be able to move into vacant apartments within the complex in an effort to keep the disruption to people's lives as low and as short as possible.

Under the Neighborhoods Form Based Code, Jair Lynch will be able to build new mixed-income developments on some edges of the property - for example, the SE corner of Columbia Pike and George Mason Drive. They want to have businesses and services that are appealing to current and new residents and spaces that will welcome the larger Columbia Pike community.

All of this is a multi-year endeavor. If you wish to see the proposals to date, go to the county's FBC AWG" page at <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Commissions-and-Advisory-Groups/Form-Based-Code-Advisory-Working-Group>, select "Past Meetings" then "2023" and scroll through the meeting dates.

Backyard Concert Series on South Pollard St Resumes in 2024

By Henry Dunbar

As long-time Douglas Park residents, my wife Debbie Hill and I have hosted concerts in our Pollard Street home and yard for years, but 2021 presented a unique opportunity: Two groups of musicians we knew separately approached us because each of them had the same problem. Each had just formed as a new group in early 2020 right as the pandemic broke, and while they had been writing and rehearsing with their "bubble" group, they hadn't been able to perform much before a real audience and could they please play a socially distanced set or two in our backyard. "Of course," we said, and we'll invite a few friends. Those two shows in 2021 grew to seven monthly shows in 2022, and eight in 2023. The family-friendly audiences have grown as well from about 25 in the beginning, to as many as 90 for the more popular groups.



We are pleased to announce we'll be back with seven shows again in 2024, running from April to November. Bring your own chairs, blankets, and coolers. No admission fees but tips for the band are welcome. All shows (except November) start at 6pm and last about 90 minutes.

The 2024 lineup includes:

- April 13, Veronneau
- May 18, No Better Off
- June 8, Ardmore
- July 13, Palmyra
- Sept 21, Crooked Sparrow
- Oct 5, DEMZ
- Nov 11, Good Times String Band

Heavy Rescue with Fire Station #9

by Captain Bill Bennett

Fire Station #9, the only Fire Station in the Douglas Park neighborhood, has one of only two Heavy Rescue Squads in Arlington. This unit has many responsibilities, one of which is vehicle stabilization and extrication. For probably over a decade this station has had vehicles come and go for the firefighters assigned here to train and practice on. Part of the training involves vehicles on their sides and roofs to simulate what is experienced in the field. All fluids are drained from the vehicles before they are turned over to minimize the environmental impact.



AREA 2 FARMS

SPRING FARM SHARES OPEN NOW



ROOT VEGETABLES

YOUR FARM

TRY SOMETHING NEW

SCAN ME!

MICROGREENS





ORGANIC

LOCAL

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SEASONAL EATING

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 hello@area2farms.com
 (202) 507-9282
  2600 S Oxford St. Arlington VA
  www.area2farms.com

 www.facebook.com/DouglasParkArlington
 www.douglasparkca.org
 www.instagram.com/DouglasParkArlington

Holiday Fund Drive Success

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the 2023 Douglas Park Civic Association Holiday Fund Drive. We exceeded fundraising for our ambitious goal and we were able to raise over \$4,000 for families in need at Randolph Elementary School. The funding allowed us to provide gifts and gift cards for 44 children, and we were also able to contribute some extra gift cards for those



students who may have forgotten to turn in their "angel list" request form to the school guidance counselor. A special thank you to our neighbor Rita Wiggins who did a wonderful job organizing the event, including multiple volunteers who donated their time to purchase requested toys and gift cards. From Rita: "This year's gift buying was the smoothest effort I can remember, and I've been doing this since 2004! Thanks for your willingness to adapt to changes, your thoroughness, patience and timeliness." Thank you again to everyone who contributed, and let's make next year's event even better.

Thank You Ingrid and Reid!

By Josue Bastidas

Ingrid Morroy has been a long-time Arlington and Douglas Park resident. She has served as the Arlington Commissioner of Revenue since 2003. Over the years she has participated in Douglas Park community events, including playing with her band during the Douglas Park Fourth of July Parade and Picnic in 2008. She has stepped down from her role in Arlington Government and we look forward to having her as a great community supporter in Douglas Park.



photo courtesy Alex Sakes Photography

Reid Goldstein has been an Arlington resident for nearly 40 years and recently served on the Arlington School Board for the past 8 years. His service has included the APS Advisory Council on Instruction, Superintendent's Strategic Planning Committee, County Council of PTAs, Arlington Civic Federation Schools Committee, Board member of the Arlington Sister City Association, President of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization Board of Directors, and President of our very own Douglas Park Civic Association, among many others. We wish Reid the best in his retirement and hope to continue having him as an avid community supporter.



photo courtesy Alex Sakes Photography

Neighbor Profile: Allegra Jabo

Allegra and her not-yet-husband bought their Douglas Park home over 25 years ago because it had an easy commute to the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum where they both worked at the time. They quickly began to love the convenience to everything that was not work, as well. First came the house, then came marriage, and then came the babies in the baby carriage. Stepping away from her career at the museum to be home with her girls, Allegra joined and soon led as President the MOMS Club of South Arlington, followed by being on the board and eventually President of her daughters' preschool's parent association. During the preschool years, Allegra started a business called The Science Seed teaching science to preschoolers in Arlington, Alexandria & Fairfax Co. Although schools weren't on their radar when they bought their home, Allegra knew that Randolph was the school for their kids. Allegra co-founded Friends of Randolph Neighborhood School as an organization dedicated to informing their neighbors of the benefits of attending Randolph ES, and later went on to be President of the PTA. Once her girls moved on to TJMS, she stopped with the parenting organizations and began volunteering in other capacities...as a newsletter delivery person for DP and on the board of the Fort Myer Swim Team. As her kids grew, The Science Seed continued to grow and over the years expanded to parks & rec programs, elementary after school, and now full-day camps. In her spare time she fits in her art hobbies of glass painting and ceramics, and tries to keep the Douglas Park Puzzle Library, which she started during the pandemic, organized. With their youngest graduating from Wakefield in just a few months, the Jabos are on their way to being empty-nesters with no intentions to move (ever) and are looking forward to many more years here in Douglas Park!

