

Neighbor News



October–November–December 2004

DPCA presenta “Una beca para plantar árboles”—Los residentes de Douglas Park pueden obtener hasta \$50 de la Asociación Cívica de Douglas Park para plantar un árbol en su jardín. www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com y escoja “Tree Grants.”

Opciones en educación elemental, 9 de noviembre, 7-9pm, Biblioteca de la Escuela Elemental de Randolph—Para ayudarle a hacer la mejor selección, la DPCA ha invitado a miembros de la Junta de Escuelas del Condado de Arlington para hablar de las opciones para la educación pública de los niños de DP.

La iniciativa “regalos de Navidad” de 2004: Ayude a sus vecinos aquí en Douglas Park—Por casi 20 años, los residentes de Douglas Park han ayudado a hacer de Navidad un día de felicidad para las familias necesitadas de nuestro vecindario. Para ayudar, por favor use la carta incluida en este boletín para mandar contribuciones al Holiday Fund Drive, c/o C. Dunbar, 1707 S. Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22204. Escriba el cheque a nombre de “Douglas Park Civic Association.” Por favor mándelo por correo antes del 24 de diciembre.

Fogata y villancicos tradicionales—La sexta ‘noche de villancicos con fogata’ tendrá lugar en Douglas Park el 10 de diciembre. Se fijará también una cartel en el parque, en la esquina de las calles 16 y Quincy.

Centro de Cuidado Urgente de Arlington, una opción conveniente —El centro de cuidado urgente en frente de Costco en la calle Fern South acepta muchos seguros médicos (pero no MAMSI). 1311 S Fern St., 703-418-8900.

3-5 de Diciembre, “The Nutcracker”—El grupo de baile “Center Dance Company” de Arlington realiza este clásico de Navidad para toda la familia en el Teatro Thomas Jefferson. 703-522-2414. Noticias del CPRO: Por Tim Lynch, Director Ejecutivo de CPRO, 703-892-2776—El otoño es la estación de cosecha y Columbia Pike ha beneficiado de mucho trabajo de muchos miembros de la comunidad dedicados a mejorar el vecindario. La Iniciativa Tránsito de Columbia Pike sigue trabajando en la próxima fase de tránsito en Columbia Pike. El 8 de noviembre, desde las 6:00 hasta las 8:00 p.m., la comunidad puede examinar la descripción de estas alternativas y la coordinación del sistema de tránsito en el Centro de Carreras de Arlington (Arlington Career Center), 816 Walter Reed al Sur. www.piketranst.com.

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Election Day Sale Tops Record

Thanks to the help of dozens of volunteers and enthusiastic bakers, the civic association had record sales on Nov. 2. All proceeds benefit next year’s neighborhood 4th of July event. Thanks to all who helped organize and run this very impressive community effort! And thanks to Imed Hammami and Rappahannock Coffee & Roasting for their support and help.

Annual Holiday Gift Drive in Douglas Park Help the Needy

For nearly 20 years, Douglas Park residents have helped make the holidays happy for struggling neighborhood families. To help, please use the envelope in this newsletter and mail contributions to **Holiday Fund Drive, c/o Christine Dunbar, 1707 S Oakland St., Arlington, VA 22204.** Make checks payable to Douglas Park Civic Association. **Please mail by Dec. 24!**

As in past years, staff from Randolph Elementary School > 2



DPCA Announces The Tree Grant Program

DP residents can receive up to \$50 from DPCA to plant a tree in your yard. This pilot program will cover up to \$50 of the cost of a new tree. See www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com, and click on “Tree Grants.” The DP executive committee has allocated \$500 for this project. After that amount has been spent, the program will be assessed. If it is deemed successful at that point and more funds are available, it may be extended. One grant per family, per year.

What kind of trees are eligible for a grant? Just about any shade tree that you plant in your yard, and many ornamentals, such as the dogwood, Virginia’s state tree. Certain brittle varieties, such as Bradford pears, are not eligible. See the DP Web site for details, and for information on trees native to our area, which do well in our particular climate conditions.

Thanks to the Arlington Forest Civic Association for this wonderful idea, and to Marty Nielsen for designing the program. Marty is a DP resident who has completed Arlington’s Tree Steward training and Master Gardener program. He’s also the chairman of our parks committee.

Fall is a great time to plant trees in our area. If you’ve been thinking about planting a tree, this may be just the extra help you need. —Rebecca Krafft, president, DPCA

Sign up for YOUR neighborhood— Douglas Park online: <http://www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com>

Douglas Park Civic Association, Arlington, VA

• • • Volunteer! Contact Rebecca Krafft • • •

Meeting Calendar: The DPCA executive committee has scheduled regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm.

Dec. 9: general membership Feb. 15: general membership

Jan. 18: executive committee

Douglas Park Executive Committee (All area codes 703)—

President: Rebecca Krafft, 553-4140, rebecca_krafft@hotmail.com

Vice president: Mitch Opalski, 553-1942, mopalski@aol.com

Treasurer: Linda Dye, 979-6276, wwwcdyels@starpower.net

Secretary: John Roman, 892-2225, roman3606@comcast.net

At Large: Bardie Romano, 920-0769, bardie_1@netzero.com

Bob Cowan, 979-3081, bcowan@earthlink.net

Lane Nemirow, 271-1111, lane@pop.net

Randolph liaison: Rita Wiggins, 521-4725, rmwiggins@aol.com

Parks committee: Marty Nielsen, 979-8777, mnielsen@erols.com

Traffic committee: vacant (Bob Cowan, acting chair)

Parking liaison: Lane Nemirow, 271-1111, lane@pop.net

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Commission Delegates:

John Snyder, 892-2887, jvsnyder54@comcast.net;

Bardie Romano, 920-0769, bardie_1@netzero.com

Civic Federation Delegates—

Linda Dye, 979-6276, wwwcdyels@starpower.net

Rebecca Krafft, 553-4140, rebecca_krafft@hotmail.com

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Advertising rates and information

1/8 page (card) \$25

Full page, \$250

1/4 page, \$60

Sponsorships and discounts available

1/2 page, \$100

—call Mitch for information.

SEND check, payable to DPCA, and ad information to Mitch Opalski, 3129 12th St S., Arlington, VA 22204. He will provide information on preparing and submitting your ads.

AROUND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

I < have provided us with names and information about needy children at the school and their families. With your contributions, volunteer elves will shop for toys and winter clothing for these children and their siblings. Any leftover funds will go toward small household items and food certificates for the families. Every penny of your contributions go directly to the holiday fund—nothing goes to overhead. Please give what you can. Every gift makes a difference!

December 9 DPCA Meeting: Options in Arlington Elementary Education

Dec. 9, 7– 9pm. Randolph E.S. Library.

Refreshments and childcare provided.

Deciding where to send your child to kindergarten is often a confusing and stressful decision. To help you make the best-informed choice for your children, the DPCA has invited members of the Arlington County School Board to discuss the public education options for kids in DP. We have also invited representatives of the many public schools that DP elementary students attend, including Randolph, Patrick Henry, Hoffman-Boston, Campbell, Claremont, Key and Arlington Traditional School. Parents of prospective students can learn about all the options, quiz school board members, and make the best choice for their children.

Holiday Events



Old Fashioned Bonfire and Caroling

The Sixth Annual Bonfire and Caroling evening will take place on Friday, Dec. 10, in Douglas Park, the corner of 16th and Quincy Streets, from 7-9pm. Bring loud voices and good cheer, especially cider (hot and cold), cookies, marshmallows and hot dogs, plus flashlights, music, and instruments. Thanks to John Roman for organizing the fun!

December 2, Greenbrier Holiday Auction

The First Annual Greenbrier Holiday Auction, sponsored by the Greenbrier Learning Center, will take place on Thurs., Dec. 2, at the George Mason Univ. Law Center. Artwork, memorabilia, and sculptures will be auctioned and proceeds will benefit youth scholarships for after-school programs. > 3

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Douglas Park Civic Association

___ YES! Count me in!

___ Enclosed is my payment of \$10.00.

[Dues year runs from March to February.]

___ YES, I'm donating the additional amount of \$ ____

A CHECK FOR THE TOTAL IS ENCLOSED, \$ ____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name _____

Street address _____

Apt. # ____ Arlington, VA 22204

Home phone, 703- _____

E-mail _____

___ YES, I'd like to volunteer for:

___ the 4th of July picnic ___ election day bake sale


___ holiday fund drive ___ write articles for newsletter

___ call me any time and I'll see if I can help

MAIL CHECK payable to DPCA, with this FORM to:

Treasurer, DPCA, 3621 S. 14th St., Arlington, VA 22204

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Preview: 6:30–7:30 p.m. Auction: 7:30 p.m. \$30 each, \$50 per couple. Tickets and info: 703-379-6488.

December 3- 5, The Nutcracker

Arlington's own The Center Dance Company performs this holiday classic at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre on Fri., Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m., Sat., Dec. 4, at 2 and 7:30 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 5, at 3 pm. The Sugar Plum Fairy will be danced by award-winning Emma Misner, winner of *The Washington Post* 2004 Dance Award and student of Arlington Center for Dance. See the full length *Nutcracker* with a 1940's party scene, a sparkling snow scene, and a lush kingdom of the sweets with exotic dancing from different countries. It's a family-friendly hour and 45 minutes (with intermission). Advance ticket prices: Adults, \$20; seniors, \$17; under 12, \$15. 703-522-2414, www.ArlDance.org. Group rates available.

December 12, Dessert with Dickens

To celebrate its 60th anniversary, the Arlington Symphony is presenting a special performance of "A Christmas Carol," on Sun., Dec. 12, 3 p.m., at the Hilton at Ballston, with Gerald Charles Dickens, great-great grandson of writer Charles Dickens. Proceeds will benefit the symphony. Tickets: \$80. Reserva.: arlingtonsymphony@yahoo.com; symphony office, 703-528-1817. Support your symphony and celebrate with champagne and dessert. Books, gifts, and more by Jackson Enterprises will be for sale. www.jackprizes.com.

December 15, Students Perform Christmas Program

Our Savior Lutheran School invites its neighbors to the school's annual Christmas program. Students from kindergarten through 8th grade will be performing "Welcome King." Let their smiling faces put you in the holiday spirit! Two free performances: Wed. Dec. 15, 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. 825 S. Taylor St 703-892-4846.

December 19, Columbia Pike Community Chorus

Come and sing with the newly-formed Columbia Pike Community Chorus, is now rehearsing. The first performance of choral and instrumental music is from the U.S. and around the world will be on Sun., Dec. 19, at 4 pm. The performance benefits the Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington/No. Virginia. *Rehearsals*: Mondays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; Dec. 6, 13; 7 to 9pm. *Brunch, dress rehearsal*: Sat., Dec. 18, 10am–12:30pm. All are welcome! Formal voice training not required. Sign up: 703-920-7077. The chorus meets at Trinity Episcopal Church, 2217 Columbia Pike, Arlington.

SCHOOLS AND CHILDREN

Borders Supports Schools Nov. 13-14

Borders Bookstore at Bailey's Crossroads is donating 15% of total purchases made on November 13– 14 to the Wakefield High School. For the coupon: www.arlington.k12.va.us/schools/wakefield/administration/borders_coupon2.png

New Mother and Baby Support Groups

PACE (Parent and Community Education)—a support group for new mothers and their babies between birth and six months of age—will be forming groups starting after the New Year. PACE offers 8 weekly sessions led by mothers who are professionally trained in infant development and group leadership. Mothers share their experiences. Joining a PACE group is a great way to make new friends and to get the support new mothers need as they face the challenges of first-time parenthood. And, many PACE groups continue to meet on their own after the workshops end. Douglas Park resident Tara Nielson recently completed the PACE workshops and found the program to be invaluable. She would be glad to talk with interested moms or moms-to-be. She can be reached at tnielson@onebox.com or 703-979-3134.

Groups fill quickly, so sign up early! For more information visit www.pacemoms.org or call 703-550-4094.

Don't Forget the MOMS Club

The MOMS Club of South Arlington is a nonprofit, international group supporting stay-at-home mothers. The club has meetings, playgroups, babysitting coop, and activity groups—moms night out, book club. For more info, please call 703-920-6232. —TNTBAYER@peoplepc.com

School Options Information on the Web

Arlington Public Schools has posted a Web page that explains the many different school choices available —neighborhood schools, magnets, transfers, and more. The DP civic association will also be cosponsoring a program, Options in Arlington Public Schools, with Randolph Elementary on Dec. 9. Meanwhile, see the information on this site: www.arlington.k12.va.us/options/school_choices.html.

Students' Calendar of Historic Arlington Architecture for Sale

Fifty-two Drew Model Elementary School 5th graders, including DP resident Elena Morrissey, drew the pictures, researched, and wrote the historical facts about the sites featured in this 2005 calendar of historic homes and buildings in Arlington. The project brought art and social studies together, and builds on Drew School's partnership with the Kennedy Center Changing Education Through the Arts (CETA) Program.

The proceeds of the calendar sale will benefit Drew's Art Program as well as other programs at the public school. The cost is \$10. www.arlington.k12.va.us/schools/drew; from the Commuter Stores; or at Drew School, 3500 S. 23rd St., 703-228-5825.

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AROUND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, CONT'D.

CPRO Update: Columbia Pike Development

Fall is harvest time and Columbia Pike is reaping the benefits of a lot of hard work by dedicated members of the community.

The *Columbia Pike Transit Initiative* continues its work on the next phase of transit for the Pike. Choices have been narrowed to bus rapid transit and trolley. The community was invited to review alternatives and the proposed transit alignment. Check www.piketranst.com for more information.

With transit ramping up on Columbia Pike what of development? Projects continue to move forward with the hope of submitting to the Columbia Pike Form Based Code process. Property owners in all four of the Pike revitalization districts, Town Center, Village Center, Neighborhood Center and Western Gateway are working on concepts. The Georgelas Group's Columbia Center (formerly Columbia Station) project, approved in June (see June 2004 Update at www.columbiapikepartnership.com), went to closing in August. Work on architectural and engineering plans continue. Look for a marketing center opening on Columbia Pike near the end of the year. Construction should begin in early 2005. Gosnell, the developers of Columbia Place (formerly Capstone) submitted their Form Based Code plans in the second week of October (see illustration).

The project, located between S. Walter Reed Dr., S. Edgewood St., S. 11th St., and S. 12th St. also hopes for construction to begin in early 2005. Trammell Crow Residential (TCR) has signed a contract to develop a 10-story condominium at the intersection of Columbia Pike and S. Greenbrier St. in the Western Gateway Revitalization District. TCR is working on their concept with an expected early 2005 submission to the Columbia Pike Special Exception Use Permit

process. Watch for announcements of the community presentation.

What is a Super Stop? It's a transit stop that looks and acts more like a transit station than a bus stop. Arlington Transit is identifying stops along Columbia Pike to be equipped with state-of-the-art shelters providing more information on routes and arrival times for the next bus, and ultimately the ability to purchase a fare before boarding. Over the next two years these stations will appear. A design meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17, 7-9 p.m., at the Career Center, 816 S. Walter Reed Dr. Contact: Lynn Rivers, Metrobus Service Coord., 703-228-7929, lrivers@arlingtonva.us.



Gosnell, the developers of Columbia Place (formerly Capstone) submitted their Form Based Code plans, as shown in this drawing of the proposed construction between S. Walter Reed Dr., S. Edgewood St., S. 11th St., and S. 12th St.

Bus and Transit Questions?

Additional information and a calendar of upcoming transit-related events is available at www.CommuterPage.com/forum, or contact Bobbi Greenberg, Transit Marketing Manager, Arlington County Commuter Services, 703-228-4787; bgreenberg@arlingtonva.us.

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AROUND THE COUNTY

Donate Cell Phones to the Victim/Witness Program

Give your old cell phones to a good cause. They will be refurbished and distributed to victims of domestic violence, senior citizens, school crossing guards, and others who may need to call 911 in an emergency. Put your phone and charger in a bag and drop it into a special collection box at your nearest Arlington library, fire station, recreation center, middle school, or high school.

Volunteers also are needed for the program a few hours a month—Pick up phones from collection sites, identify new donors, and distribute phones. Contact Tim Cross, Victim/Witness Program, Commonwealth Attorney's Ofc., 571-338-3423.

Web Site for Reporting Suspected Drug Activity

The Vice/Narcotics Section of the Arlington County Police Department has launched a Web-based service that enables residents to submit drug activity information on the Internet. The tip page provides yet another way to work with the police to ensure community safety. It's designed to collect information about drug use, dealing, or trafficking. See www.arlingtonva.us, type "drug tips" in the search engine in the upper left corner, and click on the top link in the search results. Or contact Lt. Robert Medeiros at 703-228-4102.

Used Household Items Needed AND for Sale at New Habitat for Humanity Resource

Spread the word about a new resource for nonprofits opened by Habitat for Humanity that provides a way to purchase building materials and home improvement items at modest prices for your agency or clients. Habitat ReStore is a resale business that sells new and used building materials and home improvement items to the general public. All materials are donated by local retail businesses, building contractors, suppliers and individuals, and are made available for sale to the public at 50% to 90% below retail prices.

Our warehouse is filled with hundreds of brand-new and almost-new refrigerators, dishwashers, and other appliances; top-of-the line carpet and tile; hundreds of gallons of paint; never-used cabinets, windows, and doors; and much, much more. The ReStore is a bargain-hunter's dream! Are you renovating your home? They accept gently-used materials

for resale. Convenient pickup service is available.

All ReStore proceeds go to Habitat for Humanity of No. Virginia to build decent, affordable homes for families in need. Can you volunteer to collect donations, run the cash register, or stock shelves? To learn more about Habitat ReStore, or to get a complete list of acceptable items for donation, see www.restorenova.org.

Habitat ReStore of Northern Virginia, 7770-A Richmond Highway (behind Gold's Gym), Alexandria, VA, 703-360-6700.

Arlington Urgent Care: Convenient Option

The Urgent Care facility across S. Fern St. from Costco accepts a large number of insurances (not MAMSI).

The facility needs 58 visits per day to break even. At this point it is only getting 52 per day. Although it is not an emergency room, it does many things in a relatively efficient time, so it should be considered an option when you need the services it provides. Arlington Urgent Care Center, 1311 S Fern St., Arlington VA 22202, 703-418-8900.

Say it here!

You can share your kids' accomplishments, announce special milestones, or share other news. dpcanews@hotmail.com

Want to advertise?
See p.2

Dear Neighbors,

Winter is fast approaching and that means so are the cold temperatures. To help counter the rising heating costs this winter please visit the US Department of Energy's website for some energy saving tips: (http://www.eere.energy.gov/consumerinfo/energy_savers/).

The September 2004 average home prices in Arlington County have increased approximately 17% compared to homes prices in September 2003. David Lereah, the National Association of Realtor's (NAR) chief economist, said "In the first quarter of 2005, the trend will be a gradual ease in the sales pace with the housing market coasting at historically high levels as mortgage interest rates rise," he said. "At this point we project next year will be the second-best overall year for the housing market." Lereah expects the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage to rise to 6.3 percent in the first quarter of 2005, after averaging 5.9 percent this year. "Even with a modest rise in mortgage interest rates, we still have to go back to the mid 1960s to see comparable rates," he said.

I am a resident of the Douglas Park Community and specialize in this market. I hope that you will think of me when you consider selling your home. I am dedicated to providing outstanding professional service and I am committed to putting my clients' needs first.

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Thank you!



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