



# Neighbor News

October-November-December 2006

## County Board Responds to Walking Town Meeting

We have received responses to the issues we raised at the walking town meeting with the county board in August. The responses are on the Douglas Park website, [www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com](http://www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com). Here is a summary:

### CODE ENFORCEMENT

We are inviting the code enforcement office to a future civic association meeting so that we can discuss how the office operates, and particular concerns in our neighborhood. The contact person is Gary Green at 703-228-3233 or Malcolm Avant of the Code Enforcement Office 703-228-3236.

### JUNK IN THE PARK AT FT. BARNARD WATER TOWER

The area adjacent to the water tower at Ft. Barnard (not already part of the dog park or the community gardens, is managed as park area by the water department. It is, however, water department property and could be needed for eventual expansion of the water tower in years to come. The equipment and junk is likely to remain until completion of work at the Trades Center in Shirlington in the spring of 2007.

### DOCTORS RUN LIGHTING

The neighborhood has for several years been pursuing lighting along the path through Doctor's Run Park to Quincy St. at 12th, and to Randolph School. The response from the county indicates that coordination among all the stakeholders is needed to progress the project, so that is what we are going to do. One issue for the neighborhood is whether lighting should be installed on the branch of the path from the park to the end of Randolph Street—Randolph residents, please contact John Snyder at [jvsnyder54@comcast.net](mailto:jvsnyder54@comcast.net) with your views on this question. Other issues will be cut-off times for the lights (so folks are not encouraged to be in the park late at night) and ensuring support of Arlington Public Schools for installation on the areas on Randolph School property.

### PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS— GLEBE ROAD AND WALTER REED

The Virginia Department of Transportation has formally approved a pedestrian crossing light across Glebe Road at 12th by the Post Office. Final design is being reviewed and construction could start by the end of the year. Data collection will start in the spring of 2007 regarding potential pedestrian crosswalks across Glebe at 14th St. and 16th St. The county will be collecting information on traffic and



*Randolph Fall Festival: Proceeds from the indoor yard sale will go toward the Randolph Fifth Grade Class Trip.*

pedestrian activity across Walter Reed Drive in the vicinity of the new community center to study the need and best location for a pedestrian crosswalk.

### LIGHTING—POLLARD AND 19TH ST., AND 12TH STREET BETWEEN MONROE AND QUINCY.

Lighting can be sought through the Neighborhood Conservation petition process. However, due to a large backlog of projects, it will take many years from petition (at least 60% of the property owners in the affected area) to approval of the project for installation. Lights on existing utility poles can be requested with 51% approval. These lights are generally not as effective, but can help. The contact at the county is Ram Sharma, 703-228-3726.

### POOR UPKEEP—ROSENTHAL BODY SHOP AND POST OFFICE

The Post Office has promised to start landscaping maintenance and other steps to improve appearance, but has been restrained by budget issues (which should be solved with the new federal fiscal year October 1). Rosenthal took steps to correct overgrown conditions. The property owner is aware that the lot across from the Post Office is not to be used as a parking lot but experience suggests that continuous monitoring will be needed.

*continued on page 6*

**DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION, ARLINGTON, VA**

**Meeting Calendar:** The DPCA executive committee has scheduled regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm at Fire Station #9, 1900 S. Walter Reed Dr.:

November 21: general meeting

**Douglas Park Executive Committee**

*All area codes 703 unless otherwise noted.*

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

**Vice president:** (vacant)

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

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

**At Large:** Bob Cowan, 979-3081, bcowan@rlcjr.com

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

**Randolph liaison:** Rita Wiggins, 521-4725,

roserita\_wiggins@apsva.us

**Parks committee:** Marty Nielsen, 979-8777,

mrtynlsn@gmail.com

**Traffic committee:** Bob Cowan, chair, 979-3081,

bcowan@rlcjr.com

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

**Neighborhood Conservation****Advisory Commission Delegates**

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

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

Debbie Falco, 919-5131, dfalco@speakeasy.net

**Civic Federation Delegates**

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

Rebecca Krafft, 553-4140, rebecca\_krafft@hotmail.com

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

**Neighbor News**

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**ADVERTISING RATES AND INFORMATION**

1/8 page (card) \$25 Full page, \$250

1/4 page, \$60 Sponsorships and discounts avail.

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.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Articles/Ads	Due	Distribution
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Issue #1:	Jan. 15	Jan. 30
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## President's Message

**GET RID OF GRAFFITI**

Some graffiti has been spotted in Monroe Park and Douglas Park. The best way to get rid of it is to call the police non-emergency number, 703-558-2222 to report it. It is helpful for the police to see if there is any pattern to the locations of the graffiti before it is removed.

**PARKS CLOSE AT DARK**

Once again, please keep an eye (or ear) open around our parks at night. They are closed at night, so if you see or hear people in them, call the police non-emergency number, 703-558-2222. As always, if there is an emergency, call 911.

**CPRO AND PIKE ANNIVERSARIES**

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, "CPRO," turns 20 this year. Watch for more information on 20th anniversary festivities. CPRO's role is to promote revitalization, business activity (small and large), development consistent with the community vision, and quality of life for the Columbia Pike area. The Sunday Farmers' Market, and the annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival are sponsored by CPRO. Read more at [www.columbiapikepartnership.com](http://www.columbiapikepartnership.com). Also, the Pike itself turns 200 this coming year. A celebration of its history is being planned.

**NEW POLICE DISTRICT COMMANDER**

Captain Paul Larson, our Third District Police Commander for the last few years, is moving on to take command of the Special Operations Section, which is responsible for everything from special events (like the Marine Corps Marathon) to the SWAT team, to crossing guards and parking enforcement. We wish him well. Captain Michelle Nuneville will be taking over as the Third District Commander. She has been with the police

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## 8th Annual Douglas Park Bonfire and Caroling Event!

Please come join us at the 8th Annual Douglas Park Bonfire and Caroling Event!

This year's event will be held on Friday, December 8th from 7:00 – 9:00 PM in Douglas Park near the corner of S. Quincy St and S. 16th St. Please come with loud voices and good cheer!

We ask that you bring hot chocolate, cookies and marshmallows to share! We have music from previous years, but please bring flashlights so you can see the music!

Remember to dress appropriately for the weather. This event has been great for kids and adults alike.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

## How Should Walter Reed Park Be Landscaped?

Pete Jones of the Columbia Heights Civic Association says he is forming a landscape advisory committee for the new Walter Reed Community Center to meet this month with the Arlington Parks Division.

“Several people are willing to donate special type trees to help give us a park that we can be proud of,” Pete says, “a well landscaped park with unique and rare trees, conifers and evergreen.”

Now that the playground at Walter Reed Center is complete, Jamie Bartalon, the landscape and forestry section supervisor for the Arlington parks department, wants to gather people together again to plan uses for the demonstration garden area.

In addition to what goes into the garden, the group will need to discuss maintenance responsibilities/agreements for participating groups, and how to link the garden to programs and program participants at the center.

A meeting will be held Tuesday, November 21, at 7 pm at Walter Reed Center. Contact Jamie at 703-228-7747 or e-mail: [jbartalon@arlingtonva.us](mailto:jbartalon@arlingtonva.us)

People interested in landscape advisory committee or the Display gardens can email Peter Jones at [pcjones01@comcast.net](mailto:pcjones01@comcast.net) or Ike Sneed, director of Walter Reed Community Center at [isneed@arlingtonva.us](mailto:isneed@arlingtonva.us)

## \$50 Tree Grants

Douglas Park will reimburse you up to \$50 of the cost of planting a shade tree in your yard. A shade tree is defined as a large tree that will shade your home and therefore the neighborhood. (Shade trees should not be planted under utility wires.)

For details or questions about this program email Marty Nielsen at [mrtynlns@gmail.com](mailto:mrtynlns@gmail.com)

## Tree Planting and Pruning Workshop

Join Marty as he demonstrates proper planting and pruning technique right in Douglas Park! Workshop scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9, at 11 am at the playground area. A real containerized tree will be planted and recently planted trees will be examined for possible light pruning.



### Why of Homesellers Don't Get the Price They Want for Their Home.

A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 step system that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of homesellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most homesellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, there is a free special report entitled “*The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar*”. Call my toll-free House Hunter hotline today at 1-800-895-1307 and enter ID# 9071. This is a 24 hour recorded message, call anytime.

### How to Buy a Home with Zero Down Payment.

There are home ownership programs that allow qualified buyers to buy a home with absolutely no downpayment.

You may have owned a home before and are presently renting, or maybe you are a first time buyer and need a way to break into the housing market but are holding back because you think you need \$10,000, \$20,000 or more for a downpayment.

Well regardless of your present situation, if you want to get into, or re-enter the housing market without having to make a cash downpayment, then this program may be just what you are looking for. Why pay your landlord's mortgage when you can be building your own equity.

Industry insiders have prepared a new special report entitled, “*How to Buy a Home With Zero Down*” which reveals how this new and innovative program can get you into the housing market immediately and with absolutely no down payment.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call my toll-free House Hunter hotline at 1-800-895-1307 and enter ID# 9043. Call anytime, 24 hours day, 7 days a week.

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Randolph Fall Festival: Gladys Guittierrez makes her famous pupusas.

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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 your check, payable to DPCA, with this form to:  
Treasurer, DPCA, 3621 S. 14th St., Arlington, VA 22204

**THANK YOU!**

**Recycling as an Art Form**

Did you ever want to throw your homework into a blender and spin it on high? Then join us at this session as we create beautiful handmade paper from old recycled scraps.

This handmade paper eco-adventure will be Tuesday, December 5 from 6:45 to 7:45 p.m. for ages 10-12. For information call 703-228-3403.

\$3 fee collected at the park on the day of the program.

Registration required. Register on-line: Program #623103B

Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., in Arlington.

**Pola Negri Movie Night**

Gulf Branch's most exciting (human) resident, Pola Negri lived in the Nature Center when it was still a private home. We'll discuss the life and times of this screen siren and then enjoy a big-screen viewing of the 1927 silent classic, "Barbed Wire." Sunday, December 10, from 7 to 9 pm. Adults. Popcorn and soda will be served.

For information call 703-228-3403. \$5 fee collected at the park on the day of the program. Registration required, register on-line: Program #623105B

Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., in Arlington

**Think Hustle...8-track...Disco**

That's the theme of a "Retro" Family Dance set for Friday, Nov. 17, from 7 to 9 pm at Drew Model Elementary School.

Bring a canned good, to benefit the Arlington Food Assistance Center, for admission.

There'll be a DJ, dancing, games for all ages. Pizza and drinks will be sold for \$1 each.

Parents must accompany children.

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*President's Message from page 2*

department for over 20 years and has a wealth of experience. She is currently in command of the Emergency Communications Center. We welcome Captain Nuneville.

**PENROSE SQUARE GIANT FOOD REDEVELOPMENT.**

The county board has approved a project for a new, much larger Giant Food store, other retail stores, a public square, and 299 apartments at Penrose Square on Columbia Pike at Adams, Barton and Cleveland Streets (site of the current Giant Food on the Pike). This project is a big leap forward for revitalization of the Pike, and will include a public square on the Pike, in the area by the current trolley restaurant in the existing surface parking lot.

The developer (a long time property owner on the Pike) has made substantial improvements as plans have evolved, and has taken steps to mitigate the impact of trucks loading to the grocery store. Expect several months of detailed design work to follow, and about two years of construction once started.

One of the conditions of project approval is reduced cost or free delivery or shuttle service to another Giant store for

nearby residents without transportation. The county board also approved redevelopment of the old Safeway Food store site (next to Penrose Square, across Columbia Pike from Bob & Edith's) for apartments over ground floor retail.

These two new projects will add substantial new retail space on the Pike, in addition to the retail space that is part of the Halstead at Arlington project now under construction on the Pike at Walter Reed Drive (old Arlington Hardware site).

**RESTAURANT REVIEWS.**

You may have noticed that one of our local restaurants was noted in the Washington Post magazine section. Want to write reviews of our other local favorites? Who has the best pad thai, papusas, saltenas, or cheese steaks? Have a favorite dish? (The fried whiting with vinegar hot sauce and collard greens from Dave's Seafood and Subs is stellar.) All you need to do is submit your review to the Douglas Park Neighbor News! It's no longer eating out—it's research!

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*Walking Town Meeting from page 1*

### TAYLOR STREET TRAFFIC CALMING

Staff will collect traffic data on volumes and speed on Taylor Street to see if it qualifies for traffic calming (must have 85% speed of 30 mph).

### STREET REPAIRS


You can call 703-228-6485 to report pot holes and other such problems, or go to Dept. of Environmental Service page on the county website, at “report a problem.”

## Holiday Charity Fund Drive

It is time again for the annual Douglas Park Holiday Fund Drive. This year we will turn our attention back to needs right here in the neighborhood, to help families of students of Randolph Elementary or other local schools in our community. Many of us are fortunate, lucky, blessed—describe as you choose—to be able to help out these families. Our neighborhood showed tremendous generosity last year, raising over \$2,700 to help out victims of Hurricane Katrina in Biloxi Mississippi, over and above previous donations for Katrina. Folks in Biloxi and the Gulf Coast still need help, but so do kids here in Douglas Park. We ask for your support again. Please be generous.



703-920-5660 [www.arlingtonpresbyterian.org](http://www.arlingtonpresbyterian.org)  
3507 Columbia Pike at Lincoln Street



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## Randolph Fall Festival Our Most Festive Yet

We all had a blast at the Randolph Fall Festival, Saturday October 28 even though cloudy skies sent us inside for the first time ever. Many people commented that we saw more old friends and neighbors and met more new ones in the indoor space—it was a great neighborhood mixer. We ate pupusas (thick corn tortillas filled with cheese or meat and topped with a spicy coleslaw); empanadas (savory pastry with cheese); and salteñas (chicken or beef stew in a pastry); brownies, cookies and drank hot chocolate. Kids watched the gymnastics demonstration and The Jazzy Juggler (who juggled a bowling ball, a sauce pan, AND an apple—out of which he took a bite each time).

Children crafted robots out of recycled materials, bounced on the Moon Bounce and/or played several games including the ever popular “Needle in [a] Hay[stack.] And the 5th Grade had their best yard sale ever, raising \$950 for their annual field trip to Philadelphia to see the historical sights.

None of this would have been possible without a lot of help. *Thank you* to all of you who donated items to the yard sale, as well as tennis balls and cardboard tubes (especially David and Dana Frields and Megan Allwine). And thank you to everyone who came and ate and bought and *helped*. Special thanks to the newsletter carriers who carried Fall

Festival flyers throughout the neighborhood:

Nancy Brooks	Diana Dean
Corinne DeJesus	Carol Freysinger
Gus Guthrie	Debbie Hill
Elizabeth Kang	Rebecca Krafft
Laurel Bartalon	Drie Krudener
Natalie Nash	Ingrid Patton
Traci Pietra	Nora Rodas

We are also grateful to several area businesses who sponsored the festival and made contributions to the PTA Field Trip Assistance Fund:

George Mason Dental  
Food Star Supermarket  
Quebec Apartments  
Westmont Gardens and Oakland Apartments  
Rosenthal Automotive  
Strategic Analysis, Inc.  
Courtland Homes  
Happy Hounds  
B.M. Smith & Associates  
Litman Law

We are very fortunate to have so many civic-minded, locally-owned businesses along Columbia Pike who support our neighborhood school. *Thank you!*

—Heather McPhail, PTA President, Randolph Elementary School

## Investor Education at Your Public Library

Don't pass up an opportunity to gain valuable investor survival skills in a three-hour seminar sponsored by the American Library Association and the Investor Protection Trust on Saturday, December 9 at 9:30 AM in the Central Library auditorium.

The seminar, developed by the Evelyn Brust Foundation, will include an optional one-on-one counseling session. The seminar includes material provided by the Investor Protection Trust (IPT), U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, CPAs and the PBS television series "Moneytrack."

Participants will each receive a copy of "5 Keys to Investing Success" from IPT and Kiplinger. Space is limited. Please call 703-228-6321 or email [dcross@arlingtonva.us](mailto:dcross@arlingtonva.us) or [mdecker@arlingtonva.us](mailto:mdecker@arlingtonva.us)

## Music for the Holidays

The U.S. Army Blues Jazz Ensemble will present "A Stan Kenton Christmas" and the "Duke Ellington Nutcracker" Sunday, December 3 at 3 pm, in the new auditorium at Kenmore Middle School (200 S. Carlin Springs Road at Rt. 50). Admission is free and no tickets are required. Visit [www.usarmyband.com](http://www.usarmyband.com) for directions and for more U.S. Army Band event information.

A Holiday Festival, The U.S. Army Band's annual holiday concert, will be presented with special guest Clint Holmes — the engaging headliner from Harrah's Las Vegas — Friday, December 8 at 8pm, Saturday, December 9 at 3pm and 8pm, and Sunday, December 10 at 3pm at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, DC. Starting Wednesday, Free general admission tickets can be picked up in person (on a first-come, first-serve basis) at

Brucker Hall on Fort Myer in Arlington, Monday through Friday from 9am to 4pm, or at DAR Constitution Hall Box Office on November 4, 9, 14 and 18 from 10am to 3:30pm. Visit [www.usarmyband.com](http://www.usarmyband.com) for directions to pick-up locations and for more U.S. Army Band events.

## Columbia Pike Community Chorus Concert

The Columbia Pike Community Chorus will present its sixth concert, "The World Sings Gloria," Sunday, Dec. 17 at 4 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church, at Columbia Pike and S. Wayne St.

The chorus was established in late 2004 with the hope of strengthening community along the Columbia Pike Corridor, and most of the singers live in the area.

This concert, which includes holiday music from around the world, will feature Douglas Park resident Sharon Scott as a soloist.

Under the direction of Barbara Stefan, the chorus has been asked to headline a Christmas Festival program Sunday, Dec. 10 at the Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse.

For more information call 703-920-7077 or e-mail [musicmin@tecarl.org](mailto:musicmin@tecarl.org). The website is [www.trinitychurcharlington.org](http://www.trinitychurcharlington.org)

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# Thank you!



The Douglas Park Civic Association thanks the Mike Webb Team for their generous gift to defray the cost of printing *Neighbor News*.

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