



# Neighbor News

April–May 2007

## News from the DPCA

### ELECTIONS

Elections were held at the most recent civic association meeting on March 20. The new officers (all carrying over) are:

President: John Snyder

Vice President: David Meistrich

Treasurer: Linda Dye

Secretary: John Roman

### THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!

Please renew your membership or join up, using the sign-up slip and envelope included in the newsletter. The civic association is the primary voice for our neighborhood with the county government, on everything from use permits for businesses in our neighborhood to revitalization of Columbia Pike. We also throw some pretty good parties, like the Fourth of July Parade and Picnic and the Winter Dance Fest. We need your participation through our very reasonable dues (\$10) to support the organization financially. Please rejoin, join and contribute.

### HIGHLAND STREET REALIGNMENT

Re-Alignment of Highland Street at the corner of Columbia Pike (currently between Dunkin Donuts and the Days Inn (Rincome) is part of the Form Based Code adopted several years ago with the active support of Douglas Park. The realignment would move the intersection to line up with Highland Street on the north side of the Pike. This would require displacing the frame shop business in that spot currently.

The reason for the realignment is to make the intersection safer for both pedestrians and cars, to be a standard street grid. The current intersection is chaotic. We also need to look into the future to the six story buildings that will some day occupy these spots. We want the traffic from these buildings to move directly to and from the Pike, rather than through the residential streets of Douglas Park (12th Street or the planned 11th Street). Moving a street is a major endeavor, and likely to be expensive, as it would require either a developer or the county to acquire the sites where the street would run. But in the long run (50 years or more), it is the right thing to do.

Efforts are gearing up to determine how to proceed with this intersection. We will bring you more news on this issue as it develops.

### JEFFERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL AUTHORIZED BY INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE ORGANIZATION

Jefferson Middle School, which serves the Douglas Park neighborhood, has been authorized for the Middle Years Program by the prestigious International Baccalaureate Organization. This organization applies rigorous standards to ensure the quality of instruction in the IB program, which concentrates on inquiry based learning, and understanding of our place in the world. Students not only learn, they learn skills of inquiry and analysis—how to learn. The focus on our place in the international community is especially important as our world becomes smaller, and is particularly appropriate for our diverse community. (Randolph Elementary (right in the heart of Douglas Park, is Arlington's only Primary Years IB school.) Congratulations to the Jefferson faculty, administrators and students!

### SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATES DEBATE—APRIL 23

Douglas Park Civic Association is among the sponsors of a debate between Mark Dorfman and Abby Raphael, who are running for School Board. The debate will be from 7pm to 8:30 pm in Room 110 of Wakefield High School. The debate format will feature questions from the audience. Our schools are vitally important to our families and neighborhood, and these folks are running to be in charge. It is important for you to come, both to hear what they have to say, and so they can hear about your concerns.

### CPRO 20TH ANNIVERSARY

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization celebrated its 20th Anniversary with a celebration at the Arlington Cinema and Drafthouse. Douglas Park residents Linda Dye, Reid Goldstein, Rebecca Krafft and Chris Zimmerman were honored for their years of service and leadership in revitalizing the Pike. Many thanks to each, as we start to see new developments coming off the drawing table and coming out of the ground.

### FOUR MILE RUN DRIVE IMPROVEMENTS.

At the most recent civic association meeting, the county transportation staff showed us preliminary designs for improvements to Four Mile Run Drive between Columbia Pike and George Mason Drive. The sidewalk along the west side of the main artery would be improved (the side by the condo's), with marked cross walks added in three spots to ease crossing to the bike path and to the other spur of Four Mile Run Drive (for commuters catching buses on the

*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.:

May 15, 2007: general meeting

**Douglas Park Executive Committee**

*All area codes 703 unless otherwise noted.*

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

**Vice president:** David Meistrich, 703-920-4001, meistrichd@yahoo.com

**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, mrtylnsn@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
Issue #3:	May 10	May 26/27 weekend

**DPCA ON THE WEB**

www.arlingtondpca.homestead.com

**Douglas Park Civic Association  
Financial Statement**

3/1/06 – 2/28/07

Beginning Balance ..... \$9,071.75

Income

Membership Dues .....	\$1,710.00
Contributions .....	\$1,355.00
Newsletter Ads .....	\$1,098.00
Newsletter Printing Underwriting .....	\$625.00
Bake Sale .....	\$815.55
Holiday Fund Drive .....	\$2,860.00
<u>Total</u> .....	<u>\$8,463.55</u>

Expenditures

Newsletter Printing .....	\$3,402.00
July 4 .....	\$3,141.53
Holiday Fund Drive .....	\$1,508.75
Holiday Fund Drive Materials .....	\$132.48
Holiday Fund Drive Excess to Randolph ..	\$1,351.25
Dues .....	\$100.00
Wakefield PTA – Senior Graduation .....	\$300.00
Bake Sale .....	\$38.61
DPCA Winter Dance Underwriting .....	\$500.00
DPCA Tree Grants .....	\$50.00
Neighborhood Day Picnic .....	\$95.16
Membership Dues Drive Materials .....	\$129.84
Shipping Donations to Afghanistan .....	\$124.52
Website Hosting Annual Fee .....	\$159.99
<u>Total</u> .....	<u>11,034.13</u>

Ending Balance ..... \$6,501.17

Prepared by Linda S. Dye, DPCA Treasurer 3/28/07

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## Arbor Day

Celebrate Arbor Day Wednesday April 25, 11:30 am, at Randolph Elementary School, 1306 S. Quincy Street. Randolph Elementary students and County Board Chair Paul Ferguson will read Arlington's 2007 Arbor Day Proclamation. Eleven Arlington residents will receive Notable Tree Awards from Arlington's Beautification Committee. Trees are selected for this honor depending on their size, species, history and impact on the community. Finally, Arlington will be presented with its 11th "Tree City USA Award" and 5th "Growth Award" by the Virginia Department of Forestry.

Both awards are sponsored by National Arbor Day Foundation, and given to localities that have demonstrated an ongoing commitment to the preservation and enhancement of their forests.

Arbor Day festivities are sponsored by the Arlington County Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, Arlington Public Schools, the Arlington Urban Forestry Commission, and Arlington's Beautification Committee. For more information go to [www.arlingtonva.us/prcr](http://www.arlingtonva.us/prcr) and click on All About Trees, or call Jamie Bartalon at 703-228-7747 or Susan Kalish at 703-228-3330.

## Neighborhood Day

Arlington will observe its 11th Annual Neighborhood Day on Saturday, May 12th. This year's theme is: "Neighborhoods Green and Fit" and the county invites residents to join in celebrating the vitality and diversity of our neighborhoods.

Several annual Neighborhood Day events have already been planned, including the James B. Hunter III Community Hero Awards, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington's Walk for Animals, and, of course, the annual Neighborhood Day Parade.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. and travel down Wilson Boulevard from the Clarendon Metro Station to the Courthouse area. We hope that you will join us again this year in the parade. You will find the registration form at [www.arlingtonva.us/portals/Topics/NeighborhoodDayMain.aspx](http://www.arlingtonva.us/portals/Topics/NeighborhoodDayMain.aspx).

Please remember that all parade participants must be registered by Sunday, April 29th in order for you to be guaranteed a spot in the parade.

### 7 Things You Must Know Weeks Before Putting Your Home Up For Sale

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

This industry 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 home sellers don't get what they want for their homes and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their homes on the market.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make 7 critical 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, industry insiders have prepared a free special report

entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your copy of this FREE report, call 1-800-895-1307 and enter ID# 8200. Call anytime, 27 hours day, 7 days a week.



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## Take the Green Living Challenge

Do you think you have the greenest house on the block? Would you like to save money, have fun, and make your neighborhood a healthier place to live? Enter the Green Living Challenge and start making changes today to benefit yourself and the environment.

The Green Living Challenge encourages residents to take environmental actions to make Arlington a healthier, more sustainable community. The contest, part of the County's Fresh AIRE initiative, lists actions that individuals can accomplish with relative ease that will make a big difference in protecting our air, water, and natural resources.

"It is my hope that many Arlingtonians will participate in this Challenge," said County Board Chairman Paul Ferguson. "This is a fun, easy way for Arlingtonians to make a difference. Each of us can take steps every day that cost little or no money, but can help reduce waste, save energy, cut costs and make our County a better place to live."

Residents of Arlington are challenged to complete as many of the actions as they can before October 31, 2007 and earn "green points" for themselves and their neighborhood. Participants who earn one hundred points will get certification as a green household. Participants who complete any actions and submit a challenge form by the October 31 deadline will be eligible for prizes, with a drawing to be held in November. There will also be a neighborhood challenge, modeled after the successful 2005 Wildlife Habitat Challenge, which focused on creating wildlife habitats. The contest organizers will tally points for Green Living Challenge

actions completed by residents in each neighborhood to identify Arlington's greenest neighborhoods.

Arlington County and Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) are jointly hosting the Challenge. For more information and to register, visit [www.arlingtonenvironment.org/greenchallenge](http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org/greenchallenge) or call 703-228-6427.

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## What's Going On

### E-CARE ENVIRONMENTAL COLLECTION AND

**RECYCLING EVENT:** Saturday, April 21, 8:30am to 3:00pm (Rain or Shine) Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Rd. One Block East of Glebe Rd. and One Block South of Rt. 50. Bring your household hazardous waste, bicycles, shoes, books and computers. Compost bins will be available for sale for \$10 on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information call 703 228-6570 or go to [www.arlingtonva.us/des](http://www.arlingtonva.us/des)

**INTERNATIONAL DINNER & SILENT AUCTION:** Friday April 26th, 6:30 PM at Patrick Henry Elementary. Join us for a culinary world tour featuring dishes from our local community and restaurants. Silent auction items include an IPOD shuffle, Movie Night, and Game Night baskets. For information contact Kiersten Kukawa Stadler at [kkstadler@gmail.com](mailto:kkstadler@gmail.com)

### DREW ACTIVITIES:

April 16, 6 pm: Drew Communications Committee Meeting  
 April 16, 7 pm: Drew Enrichment Committee Meeting  
 April 17, 6:30 pm: Drew Parent Association Meeting  
 April 18, 6:30 pm: Drew Math and Science Night  
 April 27, 6:30 pm Drew Poetry Night  
 April 30, 6:30 pm Brownie Troop Meeting

### RANDOLPH ACTIVITIES:

Friday, April 20: PTA Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction  
 Saturday, April 21; Plant Swap/Sale and Grounds Clean-Up,  
 9 am –noon at Randolph Elementary  
 Wednesday, April 25; Arbor Day Celebration  
 Monday-Friday, April 30-May 4: National Teacher  
 Appreciation Week  
 Thursday, May 3: Spring Concert  
 Wednesday, May 3: Safety Fair  
 May 21 - June 1: SOL Testing  
 Monday, May 28: Memorial Day, No School  
 Friday, June 15: Dancing Under the Stars

## Summer Job Opportunities

**CAMP COUNSELORS:** Arlington needs more than 250 counselors for summer camps where kids play their favorite sport, learn Shakespeare, paint a portrait, build a robot, nurture animals, run a business, and yes, sit around the campfire and sing. Some counselors teach painting, ceramics or photography. Others work in camps that promote sports, nature, early childhood education, working with people with disabilities, theater and outdoor recreation.

Depending on the applicant's skill level the salary ranges from \$10 to \$17 an hour. Candidates must have a high school diploma and experience working with kids. The jobs begin in June. You can apply now by going to [www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/volunteer/ParksRecreationScriptsVolunteerSeasonalJobs.aspx](http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/volunteer/ParksRecreationScriptsVolunteerSeasonalJobs.aspx) or calling 703-228-6589.

**SUMMER JOBS AT EPA:** The Environmental Protection Agency's Summer Opportunities Website provides a central Web portal through which students may enter to learn about EPA offices and summer employment opportunities. The central portal makes it easier for students to find information about specific areas in which they would like to work. They also will be able to submit a job application directly to the EPA location that has a vacancy.

The EPA Jobs Website is located at [www.epa.gov/careers](http://www.epa.gov/careers). The direct link to the Summer Student Employment Opportunities Website is [www.epa.gov/careers/stuopp.html](http://www.epa.gov/careers/stuopp.html) and will be available until May 18. For questions about the summer hiring program, call JoAnn Brant at (202) 564-0375 or [brant.joann@epa.gov](mailto:brant.joann@epa.gov)

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*DPCA News from page 1*

Pike). Sidewalks would be expanded at the George Mason intersection for additional pedestrian safety. Parking lanes would be dedicated along Four Mile Run Drive (away from the intersections) to provide precious on-street parking, and to slow traffic. The civic association pointed out that streetlights along the sidewalks on both spurs of Four Mile Run Drive are needed, and expressed the hope that pedestrian-only crossing could be worked into the signals at George Mason and the Pike for the bike path. The path becomes a major thoroughfare on weekends. Plans are preliminary and the civic association will be following this project with great interest.

**SMALL PARKS GRANT**

Douglas Park will be the beneficiary of a Small Parks Grant to be used to locate, mark and erect an historical marker for the graveyards in Douglas Park. You did not know there are graveyards in Douglas Park? That is exactly why we are undertaking this effort. Thanks to the county, the Parks Commissioners and our resident historian, Andy Johnson, and to our parks committee leader, Marty Nielson.

**HIGHLAND STREET TRAFFIC CIRCLE**

Thanks to Kiersten Stadler for taking the lead in getting plantings for the traffic circle at Highland St. and 13th St. This forlorn circle is in need of some hardy but attractive plantings, and the county is now moving toward getting them planted.

**WALTER REED CROSSING**

Thanks to Allison Rosa for taking the lead on trying to get a pedestrian crossing of Walter Reed Drive in the vicinity of the Fire Station (so we can walk to Nauck and Drew School). We don't have anything on the drawing board yet, but Allison is making progress.

**SPEAKING OF CROSSINGS...**

Implementation of the light for a pedestrian crossing of Glebe at 12th Street is underway. We hope to see construction in the next few months.

Crossings of Glebe at 14th and 16th are being studied by the traffic engineers. A crossing of Walter Reed at 12th Street is part of the bikeway planned to be parallel to the Pike, and with construction of the Halstead at Arlington (Walter Reed and the Pike, where the big hole is now) there will be a traffic signal at the new 11th Street (next to BB&T bank). It is going to be easier and safer to walk around the neighborhood.

**Coming Events****TREE GIVE-AWAY—MAY 12**

Douglas Park will have a tree give-away as part of Neighborhood Day on Saturday May 12th. Shade trees are provided by the county—thank you county!—and will be made available in the park.

**FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND PICNIC—JULY 4**

Start planning your patriotic parade float. The Fourth of July Parade and Picnic is coming once again. We will march (OK, stroll) from Monroe Park to Douglas Park and then enjoy amusements, music, pot-luck food, hot-dogs and drinks provided by the civic association (assuming folks pay their dues) and each other! This is one of the don't miss events of the year. Event planners and helpers are very welcome. Contact John Snyder at [jvsnyder54@comcast.net](mailto:jvsnyder54@comcast.net) or 703-892-2887.

**DOUGLAS PARK DAY AT RFK—AUGUST 5TH**

The Civic Association has acquired a block of seats to make a neighborhood outing to the ballpark on Sunday August 5th, to cheer on our Nationals against the Cardinals—for only \$5 per person. What a deal! Get your tickets now! Contact John Roman at [roman3606@comcast.net](mailto:roman3606@comcast.net).

**Mark Your Calendars****ARLINGTON HOME SHOW AND EXPO—APRIL 21**

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) and Arlington County Housing Division are sponsoring the Arlington Home Show and Expo on April 21 at the Walter Reed Community Center, 10 AM to 5 PM. The event will be free, and feature over 50 exhibitors on everything you want to know about home buying, renovation, finance and more. For more information look on the CPRO website at [www.columbiapikepartnership.com](http://www.columbiapikepartnership.com).

**PIKE BIKE AND HIKE MAY 5TH**

Enjoy biking and walking along the Pike neighborhoods. Look to the CPRO website for more details as the event draws near: [www.columbiapikepartnership.com](http://www.columbiapikepartnership.com)

**FARMER'S MARKET STARTS MAY 6TH****COLUMBIA PIKE BLUES FESTIVAL JUNE 17TH**

Come on out for great food, great music and a great time at the Columbia Pike Blues Festival on Sunday June 17.



## Fort Barnard Dog Park Lighting Update

Since December 2005, members of Douglas Dogs have worked with Arlington County Parks and Recreation Department to acquire lights for the Fort Barnard Dog Park. Last summer, a community-wide survey was conducted which showed overwhelming support for the seasonal lighting and for the dog park in general. 241 surveys were received with 96 percent supporting the lighting project.

Douglas Dogs conducted private fundraising efforts by selling T-shirts and hooded sweatshirts, collecting direct contributions, and holding a community BBQ in October 2006. Douglas Dogs also received a \$12,000 Parks Enhancement Grant from Arlington County. All our hard work has paid off since the Ft Barnard lighting project was approved by Arlington County Board on February 24, 2007.

Low-cost, efficient lights will be installed this summer. The lights will be used during the winter months when natural lighting is not available in the late afternoon and evening. The lights will be on a timer with an auto-shut off controlled by Arlington County Parks and Recreation Department.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

In September 2006, Douglas Dogs formed a team and raised money for the Humane Society Walk for the Animals as the DP Peeps. In December 2006, thanks to members and friends, Douglas Elves delivered over \$500 in toys and funds to Arlington County Fire Station 9 on Walter Reed Drive for the Toys for Tots campaign. The toys nearly filled up the front entry.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

On May 12, 2007, Douglas Dogs will participate in the 12th Annual Walk for the Animals to help raise money for The Animal Welfare League of Arlington. Come join Douglas Dogs on the walk and help us collect pledges. A registration fee of \$25 is required for each pre-registered walker. All pre-registered walkers will receive a free t-shirt and bandanna.

To join our team Douglas Dogs – Doing Our Part, and for more information on Douglas Dogs, please see our website [www.douglasdogs.org](http://www.douglasdogs.org)  
*Douglas Dogs is the sponsoring organization for the Arlington County Virginia Department of Parks and Recreation Ft. Barnard Canine Community Area (CCA) Dog Park.*

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

THROUGH 2/08

DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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Home phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

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- 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

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

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