



Neighbor News

August–September–October 2007

News Roundup

HELP WANTED FOR THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Secretary. We are in search of a Secretary for the DPCA, as our former Secretary, John Roman, has moved out of the neighborhood. The primary duty of the Secretary is to keep track of the civic association membership.

Community Representative. Pike Village Center, a portion of Douglas Park, needs a representative on the Arlington County Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee. CDCAC advises the county on community development issues, and on how to distribute federal community development grants for the county, particularly Neighborhood Strategy Areas like Pike Village Center. CDCAC meets monthly during the year and weekly for a short period in the fall during review of grant applications by Arlington non-profit organizations.

Civic Federation Alternate Delegates. The Civic Federation has representatives from each civic association and community group. Linda Dye, Rebecca Krafft, Reid Goldstein and John Snyder are our delegates. Would you like to be an alternate for Douglas Park?

Bake Sale Coordinator. The election day bake sale is our primary fund-raising event. We need your help!

July Fourth Volunteer Coordinator. We need someone to help ensure we have volunteers for our amusements and other tasks for the parade and picnic.

If you are interested, please contact John Snyder at jvsnyder54@comcast.net or 703-892-2887.

12TH & GLEBE TRAFFIC SIGNAL UNDER CONSTRUCTION

The traffic signal at 12th & Glebe will soon be completed, increasing pedestrian safety crossing Glebe at the Post Office. We are grateful to the County Board and staff for pushing this project through the state Department of Transportation approvals, and for all the Douglas Park residents who have given them encouragement along the way. We will continue to advocate installation of prominently marked pedestrian crossings of Glebe at 14th and 16th, and will also advocate for a safer crossing of Walter Reed Drive at the Walter Reed Community Center.

HIGHLAND STREET REALIGNMENT

Under the Columbia Pike Form Based Code, Highland Street is to be realigned between the Pike and 12th Street (between the Cherry Blossom Inn/Rincome and Dunkin Donuts). The purpose of the realignment was to line up with Highland Street on the north side of the Pike to make for a regular intersection with safer pedestrian crossing. The alignment was set so that developers of the adjacent site



Fourth of July parade & picnic photos throughout this issue taken by Heather McPhail.

would know the location for the new street and plan accordingly. On review, it was determined that the chosen path would not aid development, as it would pass through several properties. A new path was chosen to minimize this impact. It was discussed with the Civic Association and with the Columbia Pike Streetscape Implementation Task Force (CPIT) on which the Civic Association is represented. The new path would be directly across the Pike from current Highland Street on the north side, through the current frame shop next to Dunkin Donuts, to intersect with the new 11th Street (which will extend to Walter Reed Drive with construction of the Halstead Building at the corner of Walter Reed and the Pike.) This new route would align with Highland Street on the north side of the Pike, and intersect 11th Street at a "T" intersection. Drivers could turn west on 11th (which will eventually pass through to Glebe Road, or to the east toward Walter Reed. There would be a "jog" (left turn then right turn within ? block) to continue on Highland, to prevent a straight shot through (thus slowing traffic). Images of this new route are on the Douglas Park website: www.arlingtondpc.homestead.com

There are no immediate plans to build this street in the new alignment. The change will be the subject of an amendment to the Pike Form Based Code. The hope is that as these properties develop, the property owners would build the streets (and the current Highland Street would become part of the developed properties. This action would put the street in the best location for the neighborhood to provide access while limiting cut-through traffic. It would also be the best alignment to provide access to the properties on and near the Pike, and thus promote the kind of development we would like to see.

continued on page 5

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 Drive.

Next meeting: October 18

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: open

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

Reid Goldstein, 697-4941, rgoldstein@stratsight.com

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

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ADVERTISING RATES AND INFORMATION

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

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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 #4: Oct. 22 Nov. 3-4

DPCA ON THE WEB

www.arlingtondPCA.homestead.com

President's Column

The Fourth of July Parade and Picnic was a huge success! We had floats, decorated bikes, costumes, hundreds in attendance, amusements, great music, great food and great fun with the neighbors.

The Civic Association thanks everyone who pitched in to help:

- Paul and Sharon Timpane, Annette Pigott, Katie Kampmann and everyone else who helped get Monroe Park ready. It looked great, and made us all proud of our neighborhood. Joni Gallegos, Rita Wiggins, Gladys Reyes, and everyone else who got Douglas Park ready for the picnic. It also looked great, and made for a great welcome for the paraders.
 - Del. Adam Ebbin, for judging the floats, bikes and costumes along with Rev. Leonard Tuozzolo (a.k.a. Fr. Tuz).
 - Capt. Nuneville and our Police Honor Guard, and the firefighters from Firehouse No. 9 who fill up the dunk tank. All the county staff who are so helpful in getting all the permits, toilets, recycling bins and everything else.
 - Stan Kang for MC'ing the judging and the parade kick-off. David Meistrich who bought all the hot dogs, buns and sodas, and all the paper plates and napkins and stuff, and served up hot dogs. Katie Kampmann for bringing 400 pounds of ice. Tom, who helped with the ice and sodas.
 - Tom Amshey, who cooked 600 hot dogs (did you notice his Culinary Institute of America shirt—everything in Douglas Park is top shelf) along with assistant cook Will Jones.
 - No Better Off, featuring Gus Guthrie, The Constituents, featuring Jamie Daly and Ingrid Morroy, The Outpatients, with Rick Franklin sitting in, and all the different combinations of each band, providing fantastic music for the event. We are so lucky to have had not one, but three excellent bands for our event.
 - The Voldals, who provide the power for the bands.
 - Annette Pigott, who keeps the banner and other stuff safe all year, and helped with set up and clean up everywhere. Reid Goldstein, for lending us his truck. Katherine Smith, Rachel Reynolds, Rita Wiggins, Jennifer Downey and everyone else who kept order around the dunk tank, super slide and moonbounce.
 - The Sno-Cone Ladies, Melanie Wiggins, Laurel Bartelone, Tess Guthrie and Emma McPhail-Snyder, who produced a record number of sno-cones at an amazing pace.
 - Rita Wiggins and all the other bake sale volunteers whose fundraising pays for the picnic and parade. Linda Dye, who keeps our finances for the event and cleans up Monroe Park.
 - Lisa Twedt, Carol Freysinger, Rita Wiggins, and the rest of the cleanup crew and everyone who came, who kept our park so clean that clean up was a breeze.
- And thanks to anyone and everyone who I did not thank by name, and for all those who came with food for the neighbors. It all makes for such a great day.

Fall Personal Finance Seminar Series

Learn about retirement planning, making money last in retirement, starting a small business, and much more through this free seminar series at the Arlington Central Library. All seminars are taught by professionals in the respective fields. All presenters pledge not to sell their own services during their seminars.

The seminars, a joint program of Virginia Cooperative Extension and the Arlington County Department of Libraries, will be held from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Arlington Central Library auditorium, 1015 N Quincy Street. Call 703-228-6417 for more information. Pre-registration is not necessary but does help us know how many copies of handouts to bring.

September 26: Controlling paper clutter: Knowing what to keep and what to throw away

October 3: Starting a small business

October 10: Tales from the IRA: A regular guy's trip to early retirement

October 17: Investing in real estate

October 24: Maximizing tax deductions and reducing tax liability

October 30: Converting wealth into income in retirement

Think About It

Doctors have long warned us that if we don't use our muscles we lose their strength. Boomers know this and have turned the fitness industry into big business. Research also confirms that if we don't use our brain "muscles" we lose those too.

Arlington Learning in Retirement (ALRI) is the "Gold's Gym" for the minds. Offering folks age 50 and over in the Washington area the chance to share their interests, learn something new and socialize, ALRI develops non-credit courses and lecture series that keep our synapses snapping.

Interest groups also attend films, gather at ethnic restaurants, hold book discussions, play bridge, go abroad, and exchange ideas on engaging topics.

Offering classroom sessions at nominal cost on some 30 subjects each fall and spring at convenient Arlington locations such as the GMU Virginia Square campus, ALRI is an economic way to stay mentally fit and interact with others of like mind. ALRI welcomes volunteer instructors who need only know and love their subjects and be willing to share their interests with others. And no such opportunity can exist without those of us who just want to sit back and "think about it."

Plan to join others in this engaging mental workout. For more information, contact ALRI by telephone at 703-228-2144; by email at: ALRI@ArlingtonLRI.org or go online to www.ArlingtonLRI.org

Seller Subsidies: Financial Incentives Help To Sell Homes Faster

In the sellers' market during the past, seller subsidies totaled about 2% of the sales. As the Northern Virginia housing market has returned to a more balanced market, seller concessions have been used in an increasing share of transactions. In the last nine months, seller-subsidized sales have made up 60% of the sales.

Seller subsidies can include help with closing costs, decorator allowances, and other up front cash offered from the seller to the buyer upon settlement. In most situations it is assumed that a buyer may include subsidy in their offer. Sometimes sellers offer subsidies to attract buyers and reduce the time their property sits on the market without reducing the list price. **A \$10,000 subsidy might mean more to a buyer than a \$20,000 price reduction.**

Sellers should realize that seller contributions have typically accompanied about a third of home sales regionally throughout all phases of the market. Second, the location, condition and

the asking price range of the home all influence whether a home sells with or without a seller subsidy.

Order our Free special report entitled "The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar".

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STREET ALIGNMENT FOR RE-DEVELOPMENT OF ROSENTHAL SITES.

The Civic Association confirmed in recent discussions with county staff that no change to the alignment of future 12th Street or 11th Street are desired on the west side of Glebe Road near Monroe Street. Under the Form Based Code, 12th Street would extend next to the Post Office, but not go through to Monroe Street, except for bicycle and pedestrian access. 11th Street would extend through to Monroe. (The location of future 11th Street is visible on street signs on Glebe by the Rosenthal lots.)

The locations of these future streets is becoming of greater interest as the Rosenthal property is reportedly on the market. The property is on both sides of Glebe Road on the south side of Columbia Pike. Under the Form Based Code, a new building could be up to six stories on the Columbia Pike frontage, and three-story townhouses along Monroe, and along 12th St. across from the Post Office. It could also have "live/work" townhouse units on Monroe or 12th, which would have businesses on the ground floor with residences above.



MISSING LINK FOUND!

Thanks to Wendy Bloch Stanford, who has pushed through an application to fill in the missing link of sidewalk between Randolph St. and Four Mile Run Dr. at the intersection with Walter Reed Dr. (The evidence of this missing link could be found in the path worn on the grass through the years.) Work is going to start soon, according to County staff, so we will have a safer and more pleasant walk at this corner of the neighborhood.

NEIGHBORHOOD INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY

The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (which oversees funding for projects like curb and gutter, sidewalks and streetlights) is assisting the county in conduct-

ing an inventory of all the spots in the county where we need to complete sidewalks, curb and gutter (sometimes necessary so the street can be repaved) or streetlights. The goal is to have a complete inventory of the county, from which we can get some idea of the magnitude of the cost, and develop plans to complete the infrastructure. Everyone recognizes that the list will far exceed the county's ability to fund construction. It is a list to be worked off over many years.

Lisa Twedt, Debbie Falco and John Snyder are compiling all the needs within Douglas Park and along our borders (Four Mile Run Drive, Columbia Pike and Glebe Road). We are working under the assumption that someday we would like to have curb and gutter on every street, sidewalk on at least one side of each street, and streetlights sufficient for nighttime visibility for pedestrians on each street. If you are certain that you do not want these things on your street, please let us know by contacting John Snyder at 703-892-2887 or jvsnyder54@comcast.net. I would not worry about an unwanted project appearing on your street as there is a long wait for projects. The project list is posted on the DPCA website: www.arlingtondPCA.homestead.com

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Join Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia on Saturday, September 22, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., for a tour of the Organic Vegetable Demonstration Garden at Potomac Overlook Regional Park, and taste samples of seasonal dishes prepared from vegetables in the garden: pesto sauce, bruschetta, grilled veggies, and more. Learn about organic gardening techniques, including how to turn kitchen scraps and yard waste into rich compost for your garden. Presented in cooperation with the staff of Potomac Overlook Regional Park. The park is located at 2845 Marcey Road, Arlington, off North Military Road. Free and open to the public.

DIRECTIONS TO POTOMAC OVERLOOK REGIONAL PARK:

Via GW Parkway: go north past Rosslyn. Exit left onto Spout Run Pkwy, then first right-Lorcom Lane. Go over hill and right onto Nellie Custis Drive, which becomes Military Road. Exit right at traffic light onto Marcey Road. Follow Marcey to end, and into Park.

Via Lee Hwy: follow Lee into Cherrydale and turn onto Military Road (only goes in one direction); after crossing Lorcom Lane turn left at stop sign onto Military, follow road to traffic light at Marcey Road and continue as above.

Via North Glebe Road (or N. Old Glebe Road): turn on Military Road to left at traffic light at Marcey Road and continue as above.

From the Park parking lot, walk down the curving park road. The MGNV organic vegetable garden is on the left — just past the Nature Center.

Arts Alliance Activities

September 28–29: The Arlington Artists Alliance will host “The Arts at Overlee” fall show and sale featuring works in oil, water-media, and pastels, ceramics, and wood-turning. Overlee Clubhouse, 6030 Lee Highway, Arlington. Opening reception, September 28, 6:30 – 9:30pm. Show and sale continues, September 29, 12:00 noon – 5:00pm. Free and open to the public.

October 13: The Arlington Artists Alliance will sponsor its first “Barcroft Art Fest” show and sale, 11:00am – 6:00pm, at the Barcroft Community Center, 800 South Buchanan Street, featuring paintings in oil, water media, and pastels, as well as ceramics and pottery by members. Free and open to the public.

Community Emergency Response Training (CERT)

If you'd like to join the growing ranks of Arlington residents who are better prepared for and able to respond to emergencies, CERT (Community Emergency Response

Team) training may be for you. To date, over 350 County residents — almost 20 of whom reside in Douglas Park and Columbia Heights — have completed this eight-session training program and many have continued on to be active members of neighborhood teams. The training takes place over a

six-to-eight week period on six weeknights (Tuesdays or Thursdays) and two Saturday mornings. Topics covered include disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations (triage and treatment), light search and rescue, fire suppression and utility shutoff, terrorism, disaster psychology and team organization.

All classes meet at the Arlington County Fire Department (ACFD) Training Academy at 2800 S. Taylor St. in Shirlington and are taught by ACFD or Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department personnel, members of the Arlington County Office of Emergency Management, or CERT members themselves. The training is free, but participants are expected to acquire certain supplies themselves, many of which most residents already have on hand (e.g., flashlight and leather gloves). The training is open to Arlington residents who are at least 18 years of age (16 if accompanied by at least one parent) and able to participate in all aspects of the training, some of which requires lifting and carrying.

For more information send an e-mail to ArlingtonCERT@aol.com

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En Español

4 de Julio

El desfile y la fiesta del 4 de Julio fueron todo un éxito. Celebramos con buena música, rica comida, y un gran sentido de comunidad. Gracias a todos los voluntarios quienes hicieron el día posible, especialmente Paul and Sharon



Timpane, Annette Pigott, Katie Kampmann, Joni Gallegos, Rita Wiggins, Gladys Reyes, Del. Adam Ebbin, Rev. Leonard Tuozzolo (a.k.a. Fr. Tuz), Capt. Nuneville y el guardia del honor del policía, los bomberos del Firehouse No. 9, empleados del condado, Stan Kang, David Meistrich, Katie Kampmann, Tom Amshey, Will Jones, la banda No Better Off, con Gus Guthrie, The Constituents, con Jamie Daly y Ingrid Morroy, The Outpatients, con Rick Franklin, la familia Voldal, Annette Pigott, Reid Goldstein, Katherine Smith, Rachel Reynolds, Jennifer Downey, Melanie Wiggins, Laurel Bartelone, Tess Guthrie, Emma McPhail-Snyder, Linda Dye, Lisa Twedt, y Carol Freysinger

Necesitamos Ayuda para la Asociación Cívica

Si tienes interés en ayudar a la asociación cívica por favor contactar a John Snyder, jvsnyder54@comcast.net o 703-892-2887.

Buscamos Secretario (Secretary), Representante Comunitario (Community Representative), Delegado Alternativo a la Federación Cívica (Civic Federation Alternate Delegates), Coordinadora de la Venta de Postres (Bake Sale Coordinator), Coordinadora de Voluntarios para El 4 de Julio (July Fourth Volunteer Coordinator).

Mejoras de Infraestructura

La terminación de la obra de construcción del semáforo a la intersección de Glebe y 12th destaca las muchas obras de infraestructura en el vecindario. También estamos en comunicación con varias agencias gubernamentales a cerca de alineación de calles. Bajo el Columbia Pike Form Based Code, Calle Highland (entre Cherry Blossom Inn y Dunkin Donuts) sería cambiado para alinear mejor con Highland al norte del Columbia Pike y hacer una intersección mejor. La asociación ha sugerido unos cambios para minimizar el impacto a los locales comerciales. Para ver dibujos de la propuesta nueva ruta visita <http://www.arlingtondpc.com>.

Funcionarios del condado han confirmado a la asociación que no existen propuestas de cambio para las calles 11 y 12 al oeste de Glebe. Bajo el Columbia Pike Form Based Code, calle 12 extenderá al lado de la oficina de correo, hasta calle Monroe, pero solamente para tráfico peatonal o de bicicleta. Calle 11 extenderá desde Glebe hasta Monroe (la ruta esta indicado en el lote Rosenthal). Esta es de interés como existe la posibilidad de que venden los lotes de Rosenthal para nueva inversiones y construcción.

Inventario de la Infraestructura del Vecindario

El Comité Asesora del Conservación del Vecindario (Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee) esta ayudando al condado en preparar un inventario de infraestructura faltante, como luces, banquetas o drenaje y las calles en que faltan. Este inventario ayudara al condado en preparar un presupuesto para las mejoras necesarias. Lisa Twedt, Debbie Falco y John Snyder estan preparando el inventario de mejoras necesarias para Douglas Park. Por favor contactarse con John Snyder a 703-892-2887 o jvsnyder54@comcast.net si no se quiere esas mejoras en su calle.

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

THROUGH 2/08

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- I'm donating the additional amount of \$ _____

A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please print

Name _____

Street address _____

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Home phone (_____) _____

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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

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Call or stop by for more information!

Arlington E-CARE, A Community Recycling Event

The Department of Environmental Services will hold an Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) Saturday, Oct. 6 from 8:30 am to 3 pm at Jefferson Middle School, 125 S. Old Glebe Rd. At the event, Arlington County will accept household hazardous materials for safe disposal, computer and electronics for recycling, shoes and

eyeglasses for programs in developing countries, and bicycles for collection by Bikes for the World.

There is a \$15 handling fee for computer monitors; \$20 for televisions. A donation of \$10 per bike is requested.

Questions regarding household hazardous materials or computer and electronics recycling call (703) 228-6832. For questions regarding bicycle collection, call (703) 525-0931. Additional information is available in the E-CARE section of the Arlington County Web site.

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Kill-A-Watt Meters Available for Free

Libraries in Arlington County have Kill-A-Watt meters that you can check out. Plug the meter into a wall outlet, plug an appliance into the meter, and it tells you how many watts the device is using. It's the essential tool for an energy audit, but you don't have to own one.

Big surprises: TV sets that take 5 watts or more when "off," clock radios whose wattage can differ by large amounts, heaters with a half-burned-out coil, older refrigerators that use much more energy than newer ones. Energy Star says 40 percent of consumer electronics energy is used when the devices are off. Adding a small switch at the plug or just unplugging the device can save electricity and money.

See your local library branch or Central to check out a meter. The system has 20 of them.

Donate Used Furniture

The Furniture Bank (a project of AMEN—Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs) accepts good used furniture and household furnishings and passes them on, at no charge to the recipient, who might be coming out of a shelter, a safe house, starting a whole new life.

"It is a very satisfying moment for everyone when we enter a nearly empty apartment and leave it filled with donated items, making it look more like a home," says Barbara Smucker, a Furniture Bank volunteer and an AMEN board member. Some clients are referred from the CAB (Crisis Assistance Bureau) in Arlington County, some of whom have been victims of fire, or other disasters, or just bad breaks.

The bank welcomes all donations of furniture that is in good condition, clean and not too old. The warehouse is small so volunteers try to pass things on quickly. The bank is in need of kitchen items such as silverware, pots and pans, utensils. Towels and other linens are also in short supply.

The Furniture Bank is a 501(c)(3) charity and donations are tax deductible. The telephone number is 703-237-5118. The bank is located in the back of the Westover Baptist Church, 1125 Patrick Henry Drive in Westover.

Ms. Smucker says it would be helpful if any small items would be given to one central location in the neighborhood so that the group can pick them up in one truck trip.

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