



Neighbor News

May–June–July 2008

Douglas Park Day at Nationals Park

Sunday, August 17, will be Douglas Park Day at Nationals Park. Our beloved Nationals will be playing the Colorado Rockies at 1:35 pm. The civic association has purchased a block of seats and you can have some for yourself, friends and family for just \$10 each. It is a great opportunity to take in a game with your friends and neighbors. If you would like to attend, please contact John Snyder at 703-892-2887 or jvsnyder54@comcast.net

El día de Douglas Park en el parque Nationals

El domingo, 17 de agosto va a ser el día de Douglas Park en el parque Nationals. Los Nationals van a jugar contra los Colorado Rockies a la 1:35 p.m. La asociación cívica compra un bloque de sillas y se puede comprar los boletos por 10 dólares. Si se quiere asistir, llama a John Snyder 703-892-2887 o jvsnyder54@comcast.net

Personal Appeal— Help Fight Cancer

Last month, we lost another friend and neighbor to cancer. Like others before her, Carol Morrissey was a beloved friend, neighbor and family member, and we will miss her terribly. We also have many cancer survivors in our community and we are grateful for every day we have with them. Cancer has hit us close to home, or in our homes. Let's hit back. Please give generously to the American Cancer Society and every other organization fighting cancer and supporting individuals with cancer.

Ayuda en la lucha contra cáncer

El mes pasado, perdimos al cancer Carol Morrissey, una buena vecina y amiga. Hay muchas personas en nuestro vecindario que han sobrevivido el cáncer. Por favor, ayuda en la lucha contra cáncer con una donación a American Cancer Society.

FOUR MILE RUN RESTORATION PROJECT OPEN HOUSE MEETING

Arlington County and the City of Alexandria have been working to create Design Guidelines that will guide the visual and physical character of future improvements in the Four Mile Run Corridor.

Please join us to review the initial Design Guidelines and to provide your input!

The meeting is Wednesday, June 18, 2008 from 6:30 to 9pm at the Park Operations Building Conference Room, 2nd Floor, 2700 S. Taylor Street. (Shirlington area, just off S. Arlington Mill Drive.) Free car parking will be available in the lot between the building and the school bus parking lot. The parking area will be marked with an "Event Parking" sign.

The County will provide reasonable accommodations and translation services for individuals with disabilities upon request. For additional information, please visit the project web site at www.novaregion.org/index.asp?NID=214 or contact Aileen Winquist at awinquist@arlingtonva.us or 703-228-3610.

FOUR MILE RUN PROYECTO DE RESTAURACIÓN REUNION ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO

El Condado de Arlington y la Ciudad de Alexandria están trabajando juntos en un novedoso proceso para crear las Guías de Diseño que orientarán el carácter del diseño visual y físico de las mejoras que se llevarán acabo en el Corredor de Four Mile Run. ¡Venga y aprenda sobre las Guías de Diseño y dénos su opinión!

Para información adicional, por favor visite el sitio web del proyecto en:

www.novaregion.org/index.asp?NID=214 o comuníquese con Marshall Popkins al 703-642-4641 El Condado/Ciudad proporcionará servicios razonables de alojamiento y traducción para individuos con discapacidades si esta es solicitada. Llame a Marshall Popkins al 703-642-4641

Four Mile Run Proyecto de Restauración REUNION ABIERTA AL PÚBLICO Miércoles, 18 de Junio de 2008, 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM Arlington County Park Operations Building, Sala de Conferencia, 2gundo piso 2700 S. Taylor Street, Arlington, VA.

ESTACIONAMIENTO: Habrá estacionamiento gratuito en el lote que se encuentra entre el edificio y el estacionamiento de buses escolares. El área de estacionamiento estará marcada con un aviso que dice "Event Parking."

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: July 15. All are welcome.

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: Annette Pigott, Annette.Pigott@verizon.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, falcodl@verizon.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

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 #4: August 15 September 5

DPCA ON THE WEB

www.arlingtondPCA.homestead.com

July 4th Help

We need your help for the 4th of July Parade and Picnic! Can you help cook hotdogs or watch over the moon-bounce? Decorate the park? Please contact John Snyder at 703-892-2887 or jvsnyder43@comcast.net

Grocery Store Programs Benefit Schools

Help support your neighborhood school's efforts to enrich our children's educational experience by providing needed school supplies, books, field trips and after school activities. No need to donate money—just sign up for Randolph Elementary's grocery store program this summer. Every dollar spent on our children makes a huge difference to our school and the result is that we live in a neighborhood known for its community support. You don't need to have a child enrolled at Randolph to give back to our neighborhood and help our children become better citizens.

Randolph participates in grocery store education programs sponsored by Safeway, Giant, and Harris Teeter. You can help earn money by registering with these local grocery stores to have purchases credited to Randolph's account.

To sign up for the programs, you can register your grocery cards online, at the customer service desks in the stores, or by calling a toll-free number for Harris Teeter.

Giant's program will not take registration till August 2008. Cards need to be re-registered every year. Please use the following information to sign up for these valuable programs:

Harris Teeter - Together in Education (www.harristeeter.com/default.aspx?pageId=32) or 1-800-432-6111, option 3 ~ Our school code is 6929

Safeway - Safeway Club for Education (<http://www.escrip.com>) ~ Our school code is 6609549

If you have any questions please contact Traci Pietra at petertraci@verizon.net

Money Talk: A Financial Course for Women

Registration is now open. This course will provide you with information to take charge of your financial future.

The course includes five classes:

July 9 Financial Basics

July 16 Insurance Basics

July 23 Investing Basics

July 30 Investing for Retirement

August 6 Planning for Future Life Events

All classes will be held 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Arlington Central Library (1015 N Quincy Street). Cost: \$20 (for the accompanying textbook). To register call (703) 228-6400 or go to <http://offices.ext.vt.edu/arlington>, select Local Programs, and then click on Money Talk. This is a program of Virginia Cooperative Extension and Arlington Public Libraries.

Blues Festival Coming

The 13th annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival will be Saturday, June 21, rain or shine, from 1 to 8 pm. Several blocks of S. Walter Reed Drive, just north of Columbia Pike, will be closed off for one of the area's favorite events. The annual festival is presented by the non-profit Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) with the support of numerous sponsors including local pet services company Dog Paws University, Yuengling Beer, Arlington County Commuter Services' PikeRide, and the Washington Forrest Foundation.

Over the years, the Columbia Pike Blues Festival has brought a wide array of traditional and contemporary blues talent to local fans. This year, the tradition continues as Columbia Pike welcomes the legendary band ROOMFUL OF BLUES as headliner. Local talents DANNY BLEW & THE BLUES CREW will kick things off on the main stage at 1 pm, followed by KARL STOLL & THE DANGER ZONE. The exciting MELANIE MASON BAND takes the stage next, followed by regional favorite TOM PRINCIPATO. Next, returning after last year's popular performance will be the MEMPHIS GOLD BAND, and then ROOMFUL OF BLUES will bring it on home.

The street will be lined with vendors of mouth watering foods including the authentic "Big Daddy's Barbecue," American favorites from Bob & Edith's Diner, and tasty

Thai cuisine by Rincome restaurant, as well as ice cream and other treats. Three types of Yuengling Beer will be available along with wine, soda, and other cold beverages. There will also be plenty of arts and crafts, community resources and civic information, activities for kids, and more.

This, CPRO's premier event, brings the local community together for a rousing celebration, and helps to highlight the good things that are happening on the Pike for folks coming from elsewhere in the region.

Limited parking is available at Columbia Pike Branch Library/Arlington Career Center at 816 S. Walter Reed Dr., plus some street parking. Please walk, bike, or take public transportation if possible.



Historic Photos of Arlington County by Matthew Gilmore

Available at Borders, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, and local independent retailers.



www.turnerpublishing.com

Virginia Grantors Tax Increase Repealed

Sellers in Virginia were recently given a nice gift! Actually a reversion back to the way it was in 2007, reducing the Grantor's tax back to 1%. The Supreme Court of Virginia ruled recently that the legislation creating the Northern Virginia Regional Transportation Authority and giving it the power to collect taxes was unconstitutional.

The related fee of interest in real estate was is the Congestion Relief Fee that charged the seller \$4.00 per thousand of the sales price or assessed value whichever was the higher amount, together with the existing Grantor's tax of 1%.

With the new tax increase to 5%, a property owner selling a \$500,000 home would pay a tax of \$2,500 in 2008 instead of \$500 prior to 1/1/08.

The Grantor's tax is now at 1% again, although watch out for paying tax on the assessed value if it's higher than the sales price. The Northern Virginia market is experiencing many transactions where the sales price is lower than assessed value.

Affordable Home Solutions!

Low down payments from to 1% to 3% are possible the new FHA loan program which finances up to \$729,750. Home buyers with little or no cash for down payments can use programs like Ameridream (www.Ameridream.com) and the Nehemiah Program (www.getdownpayment.com), which offer gift funds up to 6% of the contract sales towards down payment and closing costs.

These two companies charge a nominal processing fee that may be paid by the seller, homebuyer, or lender. Gift funds can be used for both new construction and resale homes. There is no repayment of gift money required, no limits on income or assets, and no geographical restrictions.

If you are a buyer seeking attractive financing options, or a home owner looking for increased exposure to a larger pool of buyers, call me for information on how to optimize your situation!

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The Importance of Trees in the Urban Environment

Many times we wonder what benefits trees have for the community. Trees play a vital role in environmental conservation, especially in urban areas surrounded by concrete and asphalt. Trees keep the balance of gases in the atmosphere, absorbing carbon dioxide (a major cause of global warming), producing oxygen (gas we breathe) and have the ability to absorb poisonous substances floating in the air, because the crown of trees is designed to let air pass through the leaves, filtering dust, ash, smoke, spores, pollen and other impurities carried by the wind in this way purify the air we breathe.



When trees are well placed around the house they keep the temperature in balance. The shade of trees, placed on the south side of a house, can significantly cool a house in the summer with estimates of up to 30% lower air-conditioning bills compared to an un-shaded house. In the summer, the temperature under a tree can be 9°F lower than an adjacent area and up to 25°F lower than air above nearby blacktop.

Trees also reduce storm water run-off, reduce erosion, improve water quality and provide food and habitat for wildlife.

In addition to the environmental and economic benefits listed above, trees also make our lives more enjoyable. Trees help provide a sense of well-being, and in their presence we feel more serene, calm and rested. When we plant trees or preserve the ones we have, we are not only helping to improve the appearance of our community, we are making a contribution to future generations.



It is important to ensure that your tree receive the best care possible. If you are considering removing a tree, get several opinions from professional arborists before you decide. Don't agree to tree work from someone who knocks at your door, offering to remove your tree. Verify that the person evaluating your tree is a Certified Arborist (through the International Society of Arboriculture) and that they are licensed, bonded and insured. Visit www.goodtreecare.com to check for Certified Arborists and tree care companies in your area.

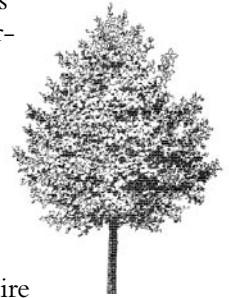
To discuss concerns about your trees and plants—how to care for them, diseases and pests contact the Extension Master Gardener Help Desk," a service of Virginia Cooperative Extension's Arlington Office, at 703-228-6414. Consult the Extension Service's website for additional gardening info: www.ext.vt.edu/resources.

Ernesto Martinez, Urban Forester
Arlington County Parks and Natural Resources Division

Importancia de los árboles en ambiente urbano

Muchas veces nos preguntamos ¿qué beneficios tienen los árboles para la comunidad? Los árboles desempeñan un papel vital en la conservación del medio ambiente, especialmente en las zonas urbanas rodeadas de concreto y asfalto. Árboles mantienen el equilibrio de los gases en la atmósfera, la absorben dióxido de carbono (una de las principales causas del calentamiento global), producen oxígeno (el gas que respiramos) y tienen la capacidad de absorber sustancias tóxicas que flotan en el aire, ya que la copa de los árboles está diseñada para dejar que el aire pase a través de las hojas, la filtrando el polvo, cenizas, humo, esporas, polen y otras impurezas arrastradas por el viento, de esta manera purifican el aire que respiramos.

Cuando los árboles están bien situados alrededor de la casa mantienen la temperatura en equilibrio. La sombra de los árboles situados en el lado sur de una casa, puede enfriar una casa en el verano con ahorros estimado de hasta un 30% en aire acondicionado. En el verano, la temperatura debajo de un árbol puede ser 9°F más baja que una zona adyacente y hasta 25°F inferior a la del aire por encima de un área asfaltada.



Los árboles también reducen las escorrentías de agua durante tormentas, reducen la erosión, mejoran la calidad del agua y sirven de alimento y hábitat para la fauna.

Además de los beneficios ambientales y económicos antes mencionados, los árboles también hacen nuestras vidas más agradables. Los árboles proporcionan un sentido de bienestar, y en su presencia nos sentimos más serenos, calmados y descansados. Al plantar árboles o conservar los que tenemos, no sólo contribuimos a mejorar la apariencia de nuestra comunidad, estamos haciendo una contribución a las generaciones de futuras.



Es importante asegurarse de que su árbol reciba la mejor atención posible. Si usted está considerando remover un árbol, obtenga varias opiniones de profesionales arborista antes de decidir. No esté de acuerdo con alguien que llama a su puerta ofreciendo la remover su árbol. Verifique que la persona que evalúe su árbol es un Arborista Certificado (a través de la Sociedad Internacional de Arboricultura) y que posee una licencia, la servidumbre y esta asegurado. Visite www.goodtreecare.com para comprobar las credenciales del Arborista o Compañías en su área.

“Para discutir sus preocupaciones acerca de los árboles y plantas, la forma de cuidar de ellos, las enfermedades y las plagas, contacte el “Puesto de Información de Master en Jardinería”, un servicio de la Oficina de Extensión Cooperativa de Virginia, Arlington, llamando al número 703-228-6414. O para información adicional consulte el sitio Web: www.ext.vt.edu”

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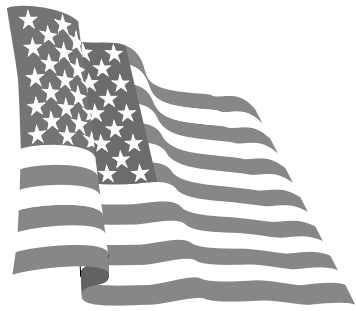
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Bring a side dish or dessert to share**

El Desfile y Merienda para el 4 de Julio

Nos juntamos a las 10 a.m. el 4 de Julio en el parque Monroe Premios para el mejor disfraz, adornos para bicicletas y flota. El desfile al parque Douglas empieza a las 10:30 a.m. La merienda es de 10:30 a.m. a 2 p.m. con música, helados, brincas brinca y un resbaladero de agua. Habrán perros calientes y bebidas. Lleven un postre o una comida para compartir.

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MEMBERSHIP FORM

THROUGH 2/09

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

A check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please print

Name _____

Street address _____

Apt. # _____ Arlington, VA 22204

Home phone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

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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

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

THANK YOU!



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Mary Klapmust

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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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