



Neighbor News

Helping our Neighbors Through Covid-19

by Adam Henderson

In early March, a group of Douglas Park residents self-organized on our listserv to create a network to assist fellow Douglas Park residents weather the Covid-19 pandemic, specifically in response to the County advice to ‘make sure you have a buddy’. Later that month, I was asked to help launch Arlington Community Corps (ACC), a similar initiative county-wide. ACC also began in early March as a grassroots community response. From that start, ACC has grown in three months to almost 500 volunteers across Arlington, including over sixty here in Douglas Park. And as our volunteer base has grown, so has our mission. Besides providing buddies to check in on vulnerable residents, ACC volunteers are helping many families—especially those without transportation and with young children at home—with

- picking up and delivering Arlington Public Schools meals if a family is unable
- picking up and delivering from Arlington Food Assistance Center [AFAC] if a family is unable
- shop for groceries at supermarkets and deliver them if a family is unable to shop (family reimburses the shopper)
- providing diapers and formula until families are connected to longer term resources

In many cases, ACC acts as a first line of assistance to families in need from the fallout of Covid-19, providing a bridge of support while county and APS social workers connect residents with longer-term resources.

As the school year comes to an end and the effects of economic stimulus wane, it is our belief that need in Arlington will only increase as 2020 wears on. We encourage residents to volunteer or contribute to our storehouse of baby items through our Amazon list as they are able. Information on all this and more is available on our website at <http://arlingtoncommunitycorps.org/>. Or reach out to your ACC neighborhood captains, Ruth Garvey (garveyruth@hotmail.com) and me (president@douglasparkca.org).



38th Annual Douglas Park Fourth of July Parade and Picnic

by Adam Henderson

It is with sadness that the Board of the Douglas Park Civic Association has cancelled this year's Fourth of July Parade and Picnic due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and associated gathering rules. The Board remains open to the possibility of an event later in 2020 should conditions and rules permit. Fortunately, we have not incurred any expenditures as an Association as our vendors agreed to roll our deposits forward to 2021.

NEXT DPCA MEETING

MONDAY 29 JUNE 2020 AT 6.15P VIA ZOOM

Please see the 'President's Corner' on page two for more information. All are welcome to attend.

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DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA

MEETING CALENDAR

The Association conducts general membership meetings in February, April, June, September and November. Meeting dates and locations are subject to change; up-to-date information is available at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/> or in the *Douglas Park Neighbor News*.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Monday evening, 29 June 2020 at 6.15p via Zoom. Please see the President's Corner article for more details. All are welcome.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT

Adam Henderson, 703.608.8615, president@douglasparkca.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Megan Lynch, vicepresident@douglasparkca.org

TREASURER

Al Fox, treasurer@douglasparkca.org

SECRETARY

Rick Reed, rickreed@kw.com

AT LARGE

Linda Dye, 703.979.6276, wwwcdyels@starpower.net

John Snyder, 703.892.2887, jvsnyder54@comcast.net

Eric Berkey, berkeyeric@gmail.com

Annette Pigott, secretary@douglasparkca.org

OTHER COMMITTEES

PARKS COMMITTEE

Marty Nielsen, 703.979.8777, mrtynlsn@gmail.com

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMISSION DELEGATES

Megan Lynch, vicepresident@douglasparkca.org

WE ARE SEEKING A NEW NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION ALTERNATE

REP If interested, contact Adam Henderson at president@douglasparkca.org

CIVIC FEDERATION DELEGATES

Linda Dye, 703.979.6276, wwwcdyels@starpower.net

Adam Henderson, 703.608.8615, president@douglasparkca.org

Annette Pigott, 703-521-6214, secretary@douglasparkca.org

WE ARE SEEKING A NEW CIVIC FEDERATION DELEGATES If interested, contact

Adam Henderson at president@douglasparkca.org

DOUGLAS PARK NEIGHBOR NEWS

EDITORIAL, DESIGN AND LAYOUT

Adam Henderson, 703.608.8615, douglaspark.news@gmail.com

ADVERTISING SALES

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DISTRIBUTION

Bethany Zecher Sutton, bethanyzechersutton@gmail.com

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ADVERTISING RATES AND INFORMATION

1/8 page (business card)—\$35 1/2 page—\$115

1/4 page—\$65 Full page—\$210

Multi-issue prepayment discounts and inserts are available.

Email douglaspark.news@gmail.com for more information.

UPCOMING DOUGLAS PARK NEIGHBOR NEWS DEADLINES

	Articles and Adverts Due	Distribution
Issue 94.03:	Fri 30 Nov 2020	Sat/Sun 14/15 Nov 2020
Issue 95.01:	Fri 29 Jan 2021	Sat/Sun 13/14 Febr 2021

DOUGLAS PARK ON THE WEB

WEBSITE <http://www.douglasparkca.org/>

LISTSERV <https://groups.io/g/dpca-listserv> Join by email at dpca-listserv+subscribe@groups.io

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/DouglasParkArlington/>

President's Corner

by Adam Henderson

The next Civic Association meeting will be held at 6.15pm on Monday 29 June 2020 via Zoom. This will be an open forum for questions. The Zoom link will be announced a few days before on the Douglas Park listserv. If you are not a member to the listserv, please join by sending an email to dpca-listserv+subscribe@groups.io with your name, street, and block number.

- **PRIOR MEETING.** On Monday, 24 February 2020, we held our annual election of officers. Re-elected were: Adam Henderson, President; Megan Lynch, Vice-President; and Al Fox, Treasurer. Our long-serving secretary, Annette Pigott, declined to stand for re-election and Rick Reed was elected as the new secretary of the association. We also began a dialogue of ideas on ways the Association can support the community through thoughtful contributions. We will continue that dialogue at the June meeting.

Around Douglas Park and South Arlington

by Adam Henderson

Some other things of interest in our and nearby neighborhoods:

- **Bethany Zecher Sutton is now our newsletter distribution co-ordinator.** Welcome Bethany!
- **We're still looking for your membership.** Especially in these times of social distancing, our online dues payment portal through PayPal at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/> is a safe and easy way to start or renew your membership and is used by many of your neighbors. If you prefer, you can still cut out the form at right and mail it in with your dues.
- **2020 CENSUS UPDATE.** As of Friday 5 June, the estimated response rate to the 2020 Federal Census stands at 69.7%. There is, however, a wide disparity in response across the county, with response rates in the census tracts comprising Douglas

Park ranging from 52.0 to 74.1%. The US Census counts every resident in the nation, including right here in Arlington County. As mandated by the US Constitution, America gets just one chance each decade to count its population. The collected data helps to determine things like the number of seats Virginia has in the House of Representatives, and how to distribute federal funds to local communities like ours. Please continue to encourage your neighbors to respond if they have not already. Learn more about the importance of an accurate census to Arlington and the confidentiality of your data here: <https://topics.arlingtonva.us/census-2020/>.

DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA
MEMBERSHIP FORM—FY 2021
MARCH 2020 — FEBRUARY 2021

ENCLOSED ARE MY ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD DUES OF \$15.00
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 Email _____

I'D LIKE TO HELP WITH:

<input type="checkbox"/> Fourth of July Picnic and Parade	<input type="checkbox"/> Election Day Bake Sale
<input type="checkbox"/> Holiday Fund Drive	<input type="checkbox"/> Writing newsletter articles
<input type="checkbox"/> Hallowe'en Trail of Terror	<input type="checkbox"/> Distribute/deliver newsletters
<input type="checkbox"/> Call me anytime; I'll see if I can help	<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter advertising

MAIL YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO 'DPCA', ALONG WITH THIS FORM TO:
 Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association
 1609 South Quincy Street
 Arlington, VA 22204-5051

Or, join/renew with PayPal at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>

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The Douglas Park Little Free Puzzle Library

by Allegra M Jabo

My house is blessed with an enclosed entryway that has always made package delivery, free trade, and dry entry to my home easy. My business, The Science Seed™, wouldn't run nearly as smoothly without the entryway as a contactless pick up and drop off spot for lessons. At the end of April, after driving around to friends' houses and rotating puzzles, I thought there must be a better way... my entryway! With The Science Seed™ out of commission, our entryway wasn't being used to its full potential, and the Douglas Park Little Free Puzzle Library began.



Over the course of the last six weeks, over 350 puzzles have been donated to the library. Thank you! We have receive puzzles from eight to two thousand pieces, in all levels of difficulty, with cute animals, beautiful landscapes, Disney Princesses, snarling dinosaurs, and complex collages (candy, stamps, movies, etc.). Some puzzles have 3D images, others are 3D structures turning puzzling into a feat of engineering! There are puzzles with extra challenges such as double sided

puzzles, teeny tiny pieces, or gradient puzzles (no objects, just color!). We have puzzles where all pieces are square, but getting the images to fit together is the challenge. Christmas puzzles, Halloween puzzles, religious puzzles, giant floor puzzles and petite little puzzles where the box fits in the palm of your hand. If you haven't tried puzzling, now is your chance!

The puzzle library has been running at a steady speed with several visitors a day coming to find a puzzle from all over Arlington and beyond, including puzzlers from Fairfax County and as far as Warrenton inquiring and visiting. We plan to keep the library running throughout the summer, at least. Once the pandemic has truly passed, we hope to find a new home for the collection in a public spot so that puzzling can continue!



Location: 1706 South Lowell Street

How the library works:

- **Puzzles are donated or dropped back off on the left-hand side of the entryway.** They are brought in throughout the day and kept quarantined for 3 days.
- **Puzzles are put out on the right-hand side of the entryway after quarantine and are ready for pick up.**
- **You do not need to drop off a puzzle to pick one up, but please bring it back for others to enjoy.**

NOTE: We may also have games in our entryway for picking up and keeping. We are no longer accepting game donations since they don't 'move' as quickly as the puzzles and we don't have room.





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Randolph Update

by Beth Fiencke

As those on the Douglas Park listserv may have heard, the Randolph Elementary PTA has sponsored a weekly outdoor food pantry since Arlington Public Schools closed in March. We're incredibly grateful to the Douglas Park neighbors and our partners around the county who have made this work possible.

The Randolph community includes many families who qualify for free and reduced meals and may experience food insecurity. The global pandemic has intensified economic insecurity for many in our community, and we hope that providing a weekly bag of nonperishable groceries (and more recently, fruit and prepared meals) can help alleviate some of the stress. As of June 5th, we've reached more than 260 unique Randolph families, with 150-170 families served most weeks. In addition to the food, we've also leveraged the pantry to distribute books, school and art supplies, cleaning products and masks.



The PTA has committed to continue this effort over the summer and will keep Douglas Park up to date on our plans. We would like to thank the many members of our community who have donated food and other items including

tables and garage space, supported the work financially, and especially those who have given so generously of their time to make this effort possible.

We would also like to acknowledge Bethany Zecher Sutton, our outgoing Vice-President of School Relations, who has worked tirelessly to bring this project to fruition—and who has agreed to continue the work even as her nine-year tenure as a Randolph parent comes to an end! Bethany was recently awarded the Distinguished County Service Award from Volunteer Arlington in recognition of her work with the Randolph PTA and particularly the Food Pantry.



To learn more about the Randolph PTA and how to support the food pantry, visit <http://randolphelementarypta.org> or email bethanyzechersutton@gmail.com.

RANDOLPH PTA FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

updated 7 June 2020

DROP OFF LOCATION: 3815 14th St S

Fill a bag or donate items:

- a one or two pound bag of white or brown rice
 - a one or two pound bag of dry beans or two cans of beans
 - a box of cereal (preferably low in sugar and without nuts)
 - a box of dry pasta
 - a can or plastic jar of pasta sauce
 - two boxes of macaroni & cheese
 - a box of hard taco shells or packet of soft tacos and a packet of taco seasoning
 - a small bottle of vegetable oil
 - a six-cup or small plastic jar of applesauce
 - 2 cans of vegetables or fruit
 - a small box of granola bars or other healthy snack item
- **At this time, we could use an extra push for our inventory.** With the exception of cans of beans, we are starting to run low across all categories. It's continually difficult to get smaller bags of rice, dry beans, taco shells, cereal, and small bottles of oil. We deeply appreciate your donations of pre-filled bags of groceries and loose grocery items—keep them coming!
 - **Donate grocery store gift cards.** We're told Giant is most desirable; Harris Teeter also helpful. You can put them in the mailbox at 3815 14th St S; please email Bethany at bethanyzechersutton@gmail.com to let her know that you've done so.
 - **Donate a container of disinfecting wipes or a spray bottle of disinfecting cleaner.** We did a large distribution on 15 May, but can continue to provide cleaning supplies to families as we're able.
 - **Make a monetary donation.** You can donate via PayPal by clicking the button on the Randolph PTA web site (<https://randolphelementarypta.org/>) or by sending a check to Randolph PTA, c/o Meredith Krug, 1719 S Pollard St, Arlington 22204.
 - **We need bags!** Please drop your brown paper grocery bags with handles and your plastic grocery bags at the donation drop off location (3815 14th St S)



PLEASE NOTE: Items that we cannot distribute will be passed on to AFAC. We prefer 1-2 lb bags of rice and beans, if possible. Plastic jars or containers or metal cans are preferable to glass.

Douglas Park Composting Program

by Rachel Berkey

We are currently surveying Douglas Park neighbors to determine if we should organize a neighborhood composting program. The program would be run by a private company, Compost Crew (compostcrew.com) based in Rockville.

As a rule of thumb, anything that grows or is made from the Earth can be composted including meat, dairy, vegetable and fruit scraps, coffee grounds and filters, tea and tea bags, eggshells, breads and other grains, napkins, paper towels, pizza boxes, dryer lint, etc. By diverting the compostable portion of our solid waste away from the landfill and returning nutrients to our soil and food system, we significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, while conserving valuable nutrients and improving the health of our local soil.

Compost Crew will provide you with a compost bin that they will service on a weekly basis. The bin is airtight to hold in any odors. Each week, you'll place food waste and other compostable trash in your composting bin and leave it at the curb during our designated pick up day. Each household can also request finished compost twice per year to use for your gardens and plants.

The rate per Douglas Park household will be based on how many neighbors sign up:

- 10-14 households: \$25.00/month
- 15-24 households: \$22.50/month
- 25-34 households: \$20.00/month
- 35-49 households: \$18.00/month
- 50+ households: \$16.00/month

If you are interested in participating in a Douglas Park composting program, please let Rachel Berkey know by email at berkeyrachel@gmail.com or text at 571-969-2824. Once we have a better idea of how many neighbors are interested in joining, Compost Crew will make a coupon code specific to Douglas Park so we can sign-up for the composting service.

If you have questions about composting or how the service works, please contact Compost Crew directly at info@compostcrew.com or (301) 202-4450.

DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA		
FY2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENT		
	FY2019	FY2020
OPENING BALANCE	\$16,970.16	\$16,145.53
INCOME		
Membership Dues	\$2,640.00	\$1,620.00
Contributions	1,465.00	1,275.00
Newsletter Ads	1,735.25	1,226.50
Election Day Bake Sale	1,663.00	1,655.50
Holiday Fund Drive	3,577.00	3,165.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,080.25	\$8,942.00
EXPENDITURES		
Newsletter Printing	\$2,386.06	\$1,895.28
Membership Dues Drive Materials	9.00	42.36
Fourth of July Community Parade and Picnic	3,170.73	3,533.69
Hallowe'en Trail of Terror	52.95	73.10
Holiday Fund Drive	3,600.49	3,178.59
School & PTA Donations	766.00	423.00
Memorial Donations	700.00	0.00
Phoenix Bikes Sponsorships	0.00	1,515.00
Columbia Pike Blues Festival Contributions	75.00	0.00
Dues	170.00	175.00
Meeting Expenses	294.14	485.86
Website Expenses	411.15	853.79
Bank Fees	80.90	102.86
Miscellaneous	188.46	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$11,904.88	\$12,278.53
ENDING BALANCE	\$16,145.53	\$12,809.00

/s/ Al Fox; Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association

Be a part
of your
neighborhood.

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Or look for the member form on page 3.



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Covid-19 Food Assistance www.arlingtonva.us/covid-19/food-assistance/	703.228.1300
Abandoned Vehicles on the Street police.arlingtonva.us/parking	703.228.4141
Adult Protective Svcs (VA Hotline) www.dss.virginia.gov/family/as/aps.cgi	888.832.3858
Are Schools Open? www.apsva.us/emergency-alerts	866.322.4277
Are Parks/Community Centers Open? emergency.arlingtonva.us/closings-delays-cancellations	703.228.4715
Auto Registration, County taxes.arlingtonva.us/vehicles/vehicle-taxes	703.228.3135
Automated Taxpayer Service taxes.arlingtonva.us	703.228.3090
Emergency Mental Health Svcs (24 hr) health.arlingtonva.us/behavioral-healthcare/mental-health	703.228.4256
Permit (Zone) Parking transportation.arlingtonva.us/parking	703.228.3344
Police Non-Emergency police.arlingtonva.us	703.558.2222
Pollard & 19th St Site (WSS Operations Center)	703.228.6555

Schools: Alice West Fleet ES fleet.apsva.us	703.228.5820
Schools: Charles R Drew ES drew.apsva.us	703.228.5825
Schools: Peyton Randolph ES randolph.apsva.us	703.228.5830
Schools: Thomas Jefferson MS jefferson.apsva.us	703.228.5900
Schools: Wakefield HS wakefield.apsva.us	703.228.6700
Snow Removal and Updates (Streets) emergency.arlingtonva.us/weather/snow-ice/snow-removal-phases	703.228.6485
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Utilities, Verizon FiOS fios.verizon.com	800.837.4966
Utilities, Washington Gas www.washingtongas.com	844.927.4427

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