

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

[www.drca.org](http://www.drca.org)

March 2003

## Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance Amended

- Larry Finch

On February 8, the County Board approved amendments to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance. This ordinance establishes land use planning and management practices to improve water quality in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. It also contributes to cleaner, healthier neighborhood streams. The original ordinance was adopted in 1992 to bring Arlington into compliance with state legislation adopted in 1989.

The amended ordinance applies to construction activities anywhere in Arlington if they involve the disturbance of more than 2500 square feet of land. For such projects, a Landscape Conservation Plan must be prepared by a landscape architect or a licensed arborist before clearing or grading activities are initiated. The plan serves as a tool for preserving existing trees and ensuring that future tree canopy will meet established criteria. For projects on this scale, plans for stormwater management and for erosion and sediment control are also required.

More stringent restrictions apply to properties near open streams and extending into the so-called Resource Protection Area (RPA). Except along the Potomac Palisades, where even stricter criteria apply, the RPA includes all open streams as well as a buffer that extends one hundred feet from the edge of the stream channel and beyond this distance when grades are 25 percent or greater. In the Donaldson Run neighborhood, many properties extend into the RPA. Because these properties are part of this stream buffer, a Water Quality Impact Assessment (WQIA) is a minimum requirement for most activities within the RPA, including removal of trees or other vegetation, which could lead to increased stream pollution. These rules are triggered even when the area to be disturbed or the amount of vegetation to be removed within the RPA is small.

An additional requirement for owners of properties extending into the RPA is the approval of an 'exception' for construction activities such as those listed below. Except for the first example shown, a public hearing on the water quality impacts and mitigation measures proposed (as described in the WQIA) is also required.

- Expansion of an existing structure already in the RPA (such as building an addition, deck or garage)
- Expansion of an existing structure located outside the RPA so that it extends into the RPA (such as building an addition, deck or garage)
- Replacing an existing structure located partially or entirely in the RPA with a new structure that extends farther into the RPA or has a larger footprint in the RPA
- Replacing an existing structure located outside the RPA with a new structure that extends into the RPA
- New development that encroaches into the RPA (except when this limitation would result in a loss of buildable area)

There is no requirement for a WQIA or exception for activities in the RPA such as home gardens, landscaping, repairs, or maintenance work provided they do not involve the creation of impervious cover, the disturbance

(See Chesapeake Bay Ordinance on page 2)

## Hello Neighbors:

As spring approaches, it's time to start thinking about what lays ahead for the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA). Mark your calendars for our March and April DRCA meetings. At our March 26 meeting, we will vote on whether to approve a project for Donaldson Run to forward for Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) Funds (see article on page three). At our April 23 meeting, we will have a chance to ask our State Legislators, House Delegate Bob Brink and State Senator Mary Margaret Whipple, to sum up what happened this session in Richmond. We are also busy planning events for this year's Neighborhood Day on May 10, and look forward to your involvement.

As always, we invite you to give us feedback on any of the issues addressed in this newsletter and appreciate suggestions you might have on how to make this publication more responsive to the needs of the neighborhood.

Sincerely,  
Peter Fallon, DRCA President

P.S. A big thank you to all Donaldson Run residents who shoveled the snow from their sidewalks! Your neighbors appreciated all your effort.

## Chesapeake Bay Ordinance

(continued from front page)

of more than 2500 square feet of land, or the removal of trees with a diameter of three inches or more. Residents should also be aware that modifying or covering over any stream is prohibited, except under special circumstances (e.g., to prevent property damage) and only with prior county approval.

Anyone planning a construction project, tree removal, or any activity that may be covered by provisions of the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance should contact the county's Department of Environmental Services (703-228-3613) before initiating these activities.

*The Current* is published several times a year and is distributed free of charge to all households in the Donaldson Run Civic Association area. DRCA, like all civic associations in Arlington, is a neighborhood organization, administered by elected volunteers. The DRCA promotes information sharing and discussion on neighborhood, local, and regional issues. DRCA is not affiliated with any political or religious group or with the Donaldson Run Recreation Association that operates the swimming pool on Marcey Road. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. at Taylor Elementary School (2600 North Stuart Street) from September through May. Follow this newsletter for meeting dates. Only dues paying DRCA residents are eligible to vote. DRCA boundaries are: Military Road on the east (including Marcey Road, North 26th Street, North 25th Place, and North Ridgeview Road); 26th/31st Street on the north; Lorcom Lane on the south (including North Randolph and 27th Streets, south of Lorcom Lane); and Vernon Street on the west.

### DRCA Board

President	Peter Fallon	522-5368
1st VP	Anne Wilson	525-0344
2nd VP	Laura Peralta-Schulte	812-8580
Secretary	Helen Lane	524-3417
Treasurer	Ned Rhodes	741-0881
Director	Theresa Fallon	522-5368
Director	Mike Green	525-8414
Director	Stephen Grand	807-5188
Director	Sherwin Landfield	525-0095
Editor	Mary Heston Cooper	489-2242

## Neighborhood Day Planning

On May 10, Donaldson Run will again be joining other neighborhoods in celebrating Neighborhood Day in Arlington. This year the theme is "All Neighborhoods, All Walks of Life." DRCA is in the process of developing our activities for this event and welcomes your input and assistance. This is a great way to meet new neighbors and to help promote community spirit. If you would like to be a part of the effort, please contact Anne Wilson at [anne@drca.org](mailto:anne@drca.org) or call 525-0344.

## **Proposed Fire Station Relocation and Improvements**

- Anne Wilson

You may be aware that the county's long standing plans to build a new fire station in the Cherrydale neighborhood have met with considerable controversy that has been widely reported in the local press. In an effort to resolve the areas of disagreement among the various interests, the county is establishing a task force of the various stakeholder groups including DRCA. Peter Fallor has agreed to represent DRCA.

In the course of attending meetings about the Cherrydale fire station, it was learned that a plan has been developed that makes recommendations to enhance and/or relocate existing fire stations throughout the county to meet future needs. Of particular interest to DRCA is a recommendation that fire station number eight, which is presently located on Lee Highway at North Culpeper Street, be moved to county-owned land at the corner of 26th Street and Old Dominion Drive, adjacent to the mulch pile/salt dome site. (It should be noted that although the county owns several lots in this area, there is one large lot that is still privately owned.) By moving fire station number eight, the county's emergency response time to the northernmost part of Arlington, which the county states is unacceptably slow, would be improved. Since 1990, there have been several studies conducted by private consultants analyzing the growth patterns and the future need of fire and rescue capacity throughout Arlington. At least one of these studies included a recommendation to move fire station eight to the mulch pile location, and Arlington's fire chief, Edward Plaugher, has indicated that he supports this recommendation. The county has stated that it plans to address fire station issues in a consecutive order; i.e., resolving the plan for the Cherrydale station before initiating action on relocating another fire station. Chief Plaugher indicated that a work group, including representatives from affected neighborhoods, would be established to examine issues regarding the future of fire station eight when the county is ready to study that station.

DRCA leadership understands that this will likely be a hotly debated issue within our community, and we will be establishing a workgroup to address our interests and concerns.

## **25th Road Project Considered For NCAC Funds**

- Laura Peralta-Schulte

Residents of the 4000 block of 25th Road, between Military Road and 25th Street, are requesting street improvements through the upcoming Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) funding cycle. There will be a vote on whether to move this project forward as Donaldson Run's priority project at the March DRCA general membership meeting. There are no other projects under consideration at this time.

Two improvements are being sought by residents of 25th Road: (1) the construction of a sidewalk on the south side of the road to address concerns for pedestrian safety, and (2) the construction of storm sewers to address the issue of flooding.

Currently, there is a substandard sidewalk on the south side of the street and no sidewalk on the north side. Portions of the existing sidewalk become muddy after rain or snow, forcing pedestrians to walk on a very narrow road. This is a street that children and their parents use frequently to walk to Taylor School. To maintain the width of the road so that fire trucks and other rescue vehicles can use the road, residents have agreed to give up some property to aid in construction of a sidewalk.

Rainwater runoff currently floods residents' basements and causes property damage and land erosion. New storm sewers, which would allow the water to drain directly into sewers, are requested to combat this problem.

Residents of 25th Road request the support of members of the civic association for these improvements. The issue will be presented and discussed during the March DRCA meeting and residents look forward to answering any questions.

# Real Estate Tax Key Issue in Upcoming Arlington County Budget Debate

- Laura Peralta-Schulte

County Manager Ron Carlee unveiled a proposed balanced budget for 2004 on February 8 which for the third year in a row uses revenue generated from double digit increases in property assessments to cover increased costs for public services and substantial decreases in state revenues.

The current budget does not anticipate any tax reductions. The key question before the Board is whether to accept the budget as presented or to seek a reduction in the amount of taxes homeowners must pay. It would be incumbent on lawmakers to find other revenue sources or cut programs to pay for any reduction. Both county board candidates, Walter Tejada and Mike Clancy, favor a reduction in the tax.

According to county figures, the county's real estate values grew at 15.2 percent from last year. Increases were not consistent across all sectors with residential single family home values at 17.3 percent versus commercial values at 8.6 percent. The real estate tax is the largest tax source available to policymakers given Virginia's state law which does not give local jurisdictions the power to diversify how money is raised.

Details relating to the size of state budget cuts are still being worked through. The state has reduced revenue to the county three times in the last year and has had a 5.1 percent reduction in state revenues in two years. There is flat growth in other major tax sources including personal property taxes and sales tax.

The County is pursuing several strategic initiatives in the 2004 budget. First, the budget seeks the enactment of the first two phases of a county living wage proposal. Under the budget, all county employees would receive a living wage, as would in-home service providers serving our most vulnerable residents. A third phase, one that would extend a living wage to county contractors, is not included due to fiscal limitations. Other

initiatives include those focused on economic sustainability, transportation, human services and neighborhood conservation that are paid for either through specific or federal funds.

The county will hold two public hearings for citizens to comment on the agenda. The first will be held on Tuesday, March 25 at Thomas Jefferson Middle School at 7 p.m. and the second will be held on Thursday, March 27 at 7:00 p.m. in the county board room.

## SPRING MEETING SCHEDULE

**Wednesday, March 26**

Agenda: NCAC Project Discussion and Vote

**Wednesday, April 23**

Agenda: Legislative Update with Delegate Brink and Senator Whipple

**Wednesday, May 21**

Agenda: Parks

Note: All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the first grade pod of Taylor School.

## National Cherry Blossom Festival

The 2003 National Cherry Blossom Festival will take place March 22-April 7. This year marks the 91st celebration of the original gift of 3,000 cherry trees, given by the city of Tokyo to Washington, DC in 1912. It also marks the 150th year of formal relations between Japan and the United States. The National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade will take place on Saturday, April 5. For a complete listing of activities taking place during the festival, go online to [www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org).

# Emergency Preparedness: A Citizen/Government Partnership

- Kim Smith, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator

Donaldson Run Civic Association hosted a forum on Emergency Preparedness for its fellow North Arlington civic associations at its November 20 general membership meeting.

The primary topic was what the government can and cannot do in a "disaster", a situation that overwhelms existing public agencies. The forum was presented by Captain Mark Penn (Arlington County Fire Department), Captain Tonya Woodson (Commander of the First Police District), Dr. Susan Allan (Director of Public Health), Odile Saddi (Director of the Agency on Aging and Disabilities), and Rob Hindman (Principal of Taylor Elementary School).

Arlingtonian Jackie Snelling presented some very important information which focused on what we can do in terms of preparation. This included having emergency kits/supplies on hand and plans for both sheltering in place and evacuation, as well as a communication plan in the event family members are separated and local/cell lines are overwhelmed.

Arlington County has now formalized its government/citizen partnership with the formation of the Citizen Corps Council. Under the chairmanship of Jackie Snelling, the council will focus on four separate tasks: education (of the diverse populations in the county); volunteer management; communication (all-population alert systems); and resource management. Citizens interested in helping in this effort are encouraged to e-mail Jackie at [jackie@civfed.org](mailto:jackie@civfed.org) or [arlcouncil@co.arlington.va.us](mailto:arlcouncil@co.arlington.va.us).

An additional component of the government/citizen partnership is the formation of Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), patterned after teams formed in California for earthquakes and in hurricane-prone areas along the east coast. The FEMA program is being offered

by the Arlington County Fire Department on a neighborhood basis to teams of ten to fourteen individuals per session. The sessions are six week nights and two Saturdays. Curriculum includes overall disaster management, two medical operations, light search and rescue, fire suppression, the psychology of disaster, terrorism, and the organization of CERTs. For additional information, contact [kim@civfed.org](mailto:kim@civfed.org). (The Civic Federation is scheduling teams for the Fire Department.)

For additional information on emergency preparedness, both the FEMA and Red Cross web sites have a wealth of information. You may also go online to [prepared@civfed.org](mailto:prepared@civfed.org).

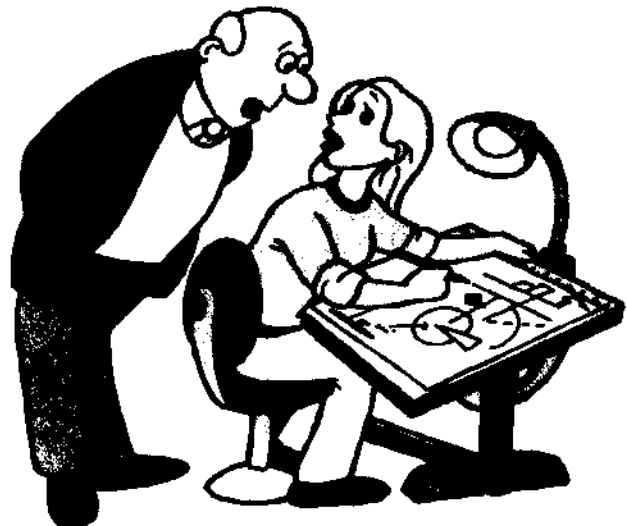
## WANTED

One or more volunteers from the DRCA community to take the lead in coordinating Donaldson Run's emergency preparedness effort. We are seeking individuals who have a strong interest in the issue and feel committed to ensuring that our neighborhood is prepared for various emergency scenarios.

To volunteer, please contact Laura Peralta-Schulte at (703) 812-8580 or at [laura.ps@starpower.net](mailto:laura.ps@starpower.net).

## Did You Know?

Arlington police officers will evaluate your home with regard to the security of your property from intruders. The officers will make recommendations on possible improvements to safety. Contact Officer A.C. Quigley at (703) 228-3600 x9729.



## Looking for Professional Help Around the House?

The Current is reviving a popular part of the newsletter in which neighbors recommend professionals who have done work on their house or yard. If you have had a good experience with a professional who has worked for you and would like to let others in the neighborhood know about it, please contact the newsletter editor at [mary@drca.org](mailto:mary@drca.org).

**Concrete/Stone work**  
Universal Stone (703) 644-7777, referred by Anne Wilson, 525-0344

We're looking for recommendations for:  
Gutter Cleaning  
Handyman  
House cleaning  
Landscaping  
Painting  
Window Washing



Mike Pugh  
Real Estate Consultant

8360 Greensboro Dr., Suite 114 • P.O. Box 9623  
McLean, VA 22102-0623

Office: (703) 821-8210 • Fax (703) 821-8261

Home: (703) 276-9627 • Cell: (703) 593-6320

E-mail: [mike@mikesellsvirginia.com](mailto:mike@mikesellsvirginia.com) • [www.MikeSellsVirginia.com](http://www.MikeSellsVirginia.com)

## Need a Job Done? Hire a Neighbor!

### Babysitting

- Riley Baldus, contact at 527-5333
- Danika Globokar, contact at 524-2177
- Beverly Jones, contact at 528-4593
- Anna Raven-Hansen, contact at 841-1787

### Car Washing

- Mike Cassidy, contact at 465-1685
- Danika Globokar, contact at 524-2177
- Xavier Meisinger, contact at 524-2177

### Housesitting

- Blythe Apple, contact at 243-3837
- Riley Baldus, contact at 527-5333
- Kirk Hanneman, contact at 527-4604
- Mindy Hanneman, contact at 527-4604
- Anna Raven-Hansen, contact at 841-1787

### Lawn Mowing

- Riley Baldus, contact at 527-5333
- Mike Cassidy, contact at 465-1685
- Danika Globokar, contact at 524-2177
- Xavier Meisinger, contact at 524-2177

### Odd Jobs

- Riley Baldus, contact at 527-5333

### Petsitting

- Blythe Apple, contact at 243-3837
- Riley Baldus, contact at 527-5333
- Mike Cassidy, contact at 465-1685
- Beverly Jones, contact at 528-4593
- Anna Raven-Hansen, contact at 841-1787
- MC Petcare, contact Cara at 812-8894 or Megan at 524-4922

### Snow Removal

- Mike Cassidy, contact at 465-1685

If you know someone who would like to be added to this list, please complete the interest survey found at [http://www.drca.org/Interest\\_survey.htm](http://www.drca.org/Interest_survey.htm) or send an email to [mary@drca.org](mailto:mary@drca.org)

## 2003 – A Watershed Year

- Larry Finch

The watershed year program will run throughout 2003, with many of the activities focusing on our neighborhood streams – Donaldson Run and its tributaries. About 150 people, including many students, attended the kickoff event held at Taylor School on January 29. Attendees heard talks on watershed themes and then visited displays and talked with representatives of sponsoring organizations, including Potomac Overlook Regional Park, Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment, the Audubon Naturalist Society, Friends of Donaldson Run Watershed, the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, Arlington's Department of Environmental Services, and Tree Stewards.

Several watershed year programs are scheduled for March, including these activities at Potomac Overlook Regional Park:

- "Equinox Hike to the Potomac", Saturday, March 22 at 2 p.m. This hike is for adults and children six years and older. It will be led by a naturalist, who will point out interesting aspects of local natural history along the way.

- "Donaldson Run Runs Through It", Saturday, March 29 at 2 p.m. An indoor/outdoor exploration of the ecology of the Donaldson Run watershed. This program is for adults and children eight years and older. Participants will collect and view water critters, hunt for fossils, take water samples, and otherwise learn about the life and times of our neighborhood stream.

There is no charge for these activities, but those planning to attend should call Potomac Overlook Regional Park (703-528-5406) to make reservations.

## Neighborhood Conservation News

- Ned Rhodes

Part of the upcoming March general membership meeting will be devoted to the discussion and review of any Neighborhood Conservation projects that the civic association wants to move forward to become eligible for funding. Once a project has passed its initial review, our procedures dictate that the project be summarized in the newsletter and then discussed at a general meeting. A part of this discussion will include a question and answer period, after which the civic association votes to move one project forward for funding.

Please read the article on page three in this newsletter about the project being considered for 25th Road and come prepared to discuss it at the March meeting. We will be voting on whether to advance this project to the next level for funding consideration. Remember that only dues paying members can vote.

### Residents Asked To Report Potholes

Arlington County is asking that residents call (703) 228-6485 to help the Pothole Patrol target potholes. In addition, the Pothole Patrol is surveying county primary roads to identify, and immediately fix, any potholes that they spot. The Patrol also is repairing damage to streets made during water main breaks, another severe storm casualty. This process will continue until spring - once the weather warms up, the county can apply more permanent solutions.

## FORT C.F. SMITH PARK GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

Saturday, April 26, 10am-2pm and Sunday, April 27, Noon-4pm. All ages.

Two fun-filled days of demonstrations and drills from Civil War reenactors, music, games, and hayrides! Official ribbon cutting by Arlington County Board members at 1pm on Sunday.

Free. No reservations needed.

Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site, 2411 North 24th Street, Arlington: 703-243-7329.

## **Missionhurst**

- Steve Grand

Missionhurst is one of the hidden jewels of our community. Nestled among trees between the Donaldson Run bike path and North 25th Street, this peaceful sanctuary has served since 1946 as the U.S. headquarters of the Congregation of the Immaculate Heart of Mary – an international Roman Catholic missionary organization serving the needy of the world. The property houses a chapel, a residence for about a half dozen friars, a conference facility for visiting missionaries, and a retirement home for elder members of the order. Missionhurst officials have long made available their scenic grounds to local residents for sledding, soccer practices, and other activities.

DRCA board members, along with representatives of the adjoining Old Dominion Citizens Association, met in January with Friar Joe Giordano, who runs the Missionhurst facility. He assured us that his order has no current plans either to sell the property or to develop it further. As a follow up, DRCA and ODCA sent a letter to Friar Giordano putting on record our strong desire to see the property either remain as it is or be converted to park land, and requesting that we be consulted should any development be contemplated on the property in the future.

## **Water Main Break on 26th Street**

- Anne Wilson

If you live or travel on 26th Street near Old Dominion Drive, you may already know that there was a significant road repair project following a water main break that occurred there on January 23. During the repair of the pipe which broke in several places, it was discovered that large sections underneath the road had been washed away by the leaking water. The county hired a contractor to dig up and fill in the affected areas which essentially resulted in the rebuilding of major portions of 26th Street between Old Dominion Drive and Wakefield Street. The road was closed to most traffic during the day. By the time you read this, the repair work will have been completed, and the county will return in the spring to pave this section of 26th Street. If you are

interested in seeing photos of the cavity under the street caused by the leaking water, visit the DRCA web site at [www.drca.org](http://www.drca.org).

## **Why Have "Citizen Radar" in Donaldson Run?**

- Mike Green

It has been nearly three years since the Donaldson Run Civic Association became a participating association in the Arlington County Citizens Speed Monitoring Program. Known as "Speed Watch," the primary purpose of the program is to allow citizen volunteers to assist the police with the problem of speeding in residential neighborhoods. The approach to solving it is one that communities across the nation are adopting. A radar unit is operated by police-trained citizens who volunteer a little time to make our neighborhood safer.

With citizen volunteers operating radar units throughout the neighborhood, the county is able to pinpoint actual problem areas and identify specific problem drivers. The police then can give these areas more effective and efficient speed enforcement at the exact time that it is needed. This has proven ultimately to enhance safety and reduce speeding violations.

The Speed Watch team conducts an actual speed survey, using currently certified radar units, by clocking the speed of the cars on the street and by keeping a log of those speeds. The log is then turned in to the police department where the list is analyzed for any speeding problems and patterns.

A large part of the citizens radar program is in the area of education. After the surveys are analyzed, any speeder whose license number was recorded by the Speed Watch team will be sent a letter from the police department. The letter will explain that a vehicle registered to the recipient was clocked speeding through the neighborhood by one of the many citizen volunteers. Violators are neither issued citations nor are they given fines or points on their drivers' licenses. However, it is hoped that by making those violators aware that there are more eyes than just the police protecting our streets, they will voluntarily become safer drivers.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Please check your mailing label to see how many residents in your home are members and the latest year for which dues have been paid. Dues cover a calendar year. Contributions are not tax deductible.

Dues: \$5 per person per calendar year. Payment for 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 years (circle one)

Total dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter contribution: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New resident: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(please show name of each paying member)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests/Volunteer Areas/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **Donaldson Run Civic Association.**

Mail to: Ned Rhodes, Treasurer, 2749 North Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22207

## Membership News

- Ned Rhodes

This is just a short reminder to check the mailing label on the last page of this newsletter to verify your Donaldson Run Civic Association membership status. You may fill out the membership application above or find one on our website at [www.drca.org](http://www.drca.org). We do not prorate your membership and the membership year is the calendar year. Dues are only \$5 per person per year and the money goes to support the newsletter (published four to five times a year and sent to every household within the DRCA boundaries), our Neighborhood Day activities and our general membership meetings. Thanks in advance for your continued support.

I am in the process of a slight reorganization of the civic association website, to make it easier to find information. I am going to add some additional menu choices and organize the information into different categories. These changes should be made within the next month or so. Please email me at [ned@drca.org](mailto:ned@drca.org) with any suggestions.

**Membership Meeting March 26  
7:30 p.m. Taylor Elementary**

## Gulf Branch Nature Center Spring Programs

### THEY GET ALONG

Wednesday, April 2, 3-4pm, Grades 1-4

Learn about nature's survival conspiracies - and some surprising parasitic ones too! Get a close up look at some of the conspirators, participate in symbiosis charades, and search the trails for these unique animal connections. Free. Reservations required.

### WILDFLOWERS FOR BEGINNERS

Saturday, April 5, 2-3pm

Adults and children ages 14 and up

Examine pictures of the more common specimens up close, learn to identify them and search for the real thing. Free. Reservations required.

### DINOSAUR EGG HUNT

Tuesday, April 15, 10-11:30am, Grades K-2

Go dinosaur crazy at Gulf Branch, as we learn about these giants from the past. There will be dino-mite activities which finish up with a search for those rare dinosaur eggs. \$10 fee. Reservations required.

Gulf Branch Nature Center is located at 3608 North Military Road in Arlington. Phone 703-228-3403 for more information.

Donaldson Run Civic Association  
c/o Ned Rhodes, Treasurer  
2749 North Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22207

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2 members thru 2003

Ned & Arleen Rhodes  
2749 N Wakefield St  
Arlington, VA 22207

This is your neighborhood newsletter  
See page 2 for Civic Association information.

**DRCA Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 26, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Taylor Elementary School, First Grade Pod**  
**2600 North Stuart Street**

**Agenda: Discussion of NCAC Project for 25th Road**  
**Note: a vote on the matter will be taken.**

**April's meeting: Wednesday, the 23rd at 7:30 p.m.**

## **Prior Meeting Report**

- Peter Fallon

At the January 29 general membership meeting of the DRCA, the following motion was overwhelmingly approved by the members present.

*"The Donaldson Run Civic Association supports the proposed changes to the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance (CBPO), recognizing that efforts should be made (by Arlington County) to allow for the review process to be as non-onerous as possible for homeowners located within Resource Protection Areas (RPA's) who are seeking to renovate or remodel their existing homes."*

Approximately one hundred properties in DRCA are identified as within an RPA under the new ordinance.

The Lorcom Lane road project is underway. In response to community opposition, the Department of Public Works agreed that it would not incorporate a super-elevated curve at Randolph Street. The new roadway will remain "at-grade."

The project is expected to be completed by summer 2003 and digital speed indicators will be installed after construction is complete.

As of January 29 the large property on Lorcom Lane adjacent to Saint Andrew's Church has not been transferred. No building permits have been filed with the county nor has any proposal been submitted for site plan review.

The Department of Public Works will begin renovation of lift stations throughout the county, including the Donaldson Run Park (on Military Road) and Marcey Road stations. The lift stations serve as collection points for sewage en route to the water treatment plant on South Glebe Road.

DRCA's Candidates Night scheduled for February 26 was canceled due to school closings. Given the short campaign season and the candidates' schedules, DRCA was unable to reschedule prior to the March 11 special election. DRCA will host an annual candidates night in October for the November general election.