



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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

May 2003

## **Neighborhood Day Is Saturday, May 10**

-Scott McCaffrey, Arlington Sun Gazette

Organizers of the seventh annual Neighborhood Day celebration in Arlington say the May 10 community festival will be the biggest and best ever. "We are building a tradition that we hope will last well into the future," said Inta Malis, who is chairing the organization committee for the celebration. "We in Arlington work hard all the time - this is our one chance to come out and celebrate," Malis said. "Each year, we have more and more events, more participation."

Neighborhood Day originated in 1997 as a way to bring together Arlington's diverse community in a number of large and small gatherings on a single day. Originally held in October, it was moved to May in 1999. The theme for this year's community-wide event is "All Neighborhoods, All Walks of Life." Special events will be held throughout the county, including the traditional parade down Wilson Boulevard. New in the parade this year will be the "Blue Jean Band," which will feature anyone willing to pick up a musical instrument (from kazoo on up) and march along. "The band takes anybody, I mean . . . anybody," said Randy Swart, a former president of the Arlington County Civic Federation who is on the organizing committee. (To reinforce that point, the county government postcard being sent out to residents tells them "no talent is required" to be in the band.)

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington will hold its annual "Walk for the Animals" celebration at Bluemont Park, beginning at 9:30 a.m. Residents and their dogs can enjoy a leisurely community stroll. Also at 9:30 a.m., groundbreaking will be held at Powhatan Springs Park on Wilson Boulevard. The 5.3-acre park will include a skate facility, youth sports field and interactive nature center for children.

The annual Community Hero Awards will be presented at 11:30 a.m. at Ballston Common Mall. The awards recognize individuals, groups and businesses that have made a difference in the social fabric of the community. The event is sponsored by Ballston Common, E\*Trade and the Arlington Sun Gazette. Nomination forms are available by calling the Arlington County Volunteer Office at (703) 228-1760.

At 1:58 p.m., the Arlington Neighborhood Day Mile, conducted by the D.C. Road Runners Club, will run down Wilson Boulevard. Runners of all ages are welcome; registration will take place at the site. The cost will be \$1 for adults, with children up to eighth grade running free of charge.

At 2 p.m., the annual Neighborhood Day Parade will kick off down Wilson Boulevard, starting in Clarendon and ending in the Court House area. New this year will be formation of the "Neighborhood Day Parade Band," which will include anyone who wants to participate. Details are forthcoming.

At 6:30 p.m., Fort Myer will present its annual Neighborhood Day Twilight Tattoo, an outdoor community event that spotlights the history of the United States Army through music and action.

(See Neighborhood Day on page 2)

# Prior Meeting Report

-Helen Lane

The March 26 Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) meeting was a busy one with many issues brought to the table:

## The Water Storage Tank Project

David Hundelt, the engineering design supervisor of the Water, Sewers and Streets Division of the Arlington County Department of Public Works, outlined the project to renovate the underground storage tanks at the Lee Pumping Station (water tower) site. The project will begin in late April and take about one year. Some decrease in water pressure and minor service interruptions could occur during that period. The two 3-million gallon tanks are in "relatively good" condition but have been in service since 1958. The valves and underground piping connecting the tanks to the water main and the tower are to be replaced and a new line will be installed from the tanks to the main line. The automatic control valve also will be replaced since it has malfunctioned repeatedly and diverted water into Donaldson Run. The work plan is to keep one tank in use and to do the work between 7am and 6pm. Some deep digging will be needed to install the new lines and there will be some noise in the immediate neighborhood. Assuming no serious problems, there should be no cut-off of water.

## 25th Street Project

See article on page 5.

## North Buchanan Street Cul-de-Sac: Proposed Rezoning and Development

The Hitt Company wishes to redevelop the North Buchanan Street cul-de-sac off Yorktown Boulevard near the Glebe Road overpass. Four houses would be torn down or enlarged and part of the street would be taken to accommodate a fifth house. The Yorktown Civic Association opposes this project and DRCA views the requested rezoning as an action that would set a troubling precedent. A resolution was unanimously adopted stating:

*Regarding the Hitt Company Proposal to rezone the North Buchanan Street cul-de-sac off Yorktown Boulevard, the Donaldson Run Civic*  
**(continued on page 4)**

**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 Peralt a-Schulte	812-8580
Secretary	Helen Lane	524-3417
Treasurer	Ned Rhodes	741-0861
Director	Theresa Fallon	522-5368
Director	Mike Green	525-9414
Director	Stephen Grand	807-5166
Director	Sherwin Landfield	525-0005
Editor	Mary Heston Cooper	469-2242

## Neighborhood Day

(continued from front page)

For updated information on the celebration, see the web site at [www.civfed.org/neighday.htm](http://www.civfed.org/neighday.htm). To receive a parade application form by mail, telephone (703) 228-3969. For information on the Blue Jean Band, call (703) 228-3155 or (703) 228-3952.

Neighborhood Day is sponsored by Arlington County Government, Arlington Public Schools, the Arlington Civic Federation, the Arlington County Council of PTAs, and the Arlington Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Commission.

# Cherrydale Fire Station Task Force Moves Forward

-Laura Peralta-Schulte

In a continuing effort to resolve the areas of disagreement related to the relocation of the Cherrydale fire station, the county established a task force of the various stakeholder groups including Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA). Peter Fallon is the primary person representing DRCA with Anne Wilson serving as an alternate.

The task force has held a number of meetings. The emphasis of the discussions so far has been to develop criteria to serve as a guideline for site selection and identify potential locations for the new station. This process is important because it may stand as a precedent in other relocation matters, including the possible relocation of Station 8 that serves the Donaldson Run neighborhood.

At the March 26 meeting of the DRCA, Peter Fallon asked for suggestions from members for criteria for evaluation of possible relocation sites, with emphasis initially on the Cherrydale station. Suggested criteria included the following: parkland should not be taken; commercial sites are preferable to residential sites; and creative mixed uses should be considered. It was agreed, whatever other criteria are applied, that rapid response time in our neighborhood and throughout the county is of the utmost importance. Fallon forwarded these suggestions to the task force for consideration.

# Friends of Donaldson Run Watershed

-Larry Finch

Spring projects being undertaken by the Friends of Donaldson Run Watershed (FDRW) are intended to draw attention to problems of pollution of neighborhood streams and the Chesapeake Bay. These include:

- a watershed art contest for 4th and 5th graders at Taylor Elementary School. Students will prepare

artwork showing steps they and their families can take to help keep our neighborhood streams clean and healthy. Prizes will be awarded, and all of the resulting artwork will be exhibited at Taylor School or Potomac Overlook Regional Park.

- a storm drain marking effort in cooperation with Arlington's Department of Environmental Services and two Eagle Scout candidates. Storm drains will be marked to remind residents that pollutants carried away by stormwater pass through our streams to the Chesapeake Bay. The Scouts will also distribute door hangers with educational information on preventing stormwater pollution. The next FDRW meeting will be held Wednesday, May 14, at 7:30 p.m., at Potomac Overlook Regional Park. For further information, call 703-528-6349.

<p><b>SPRING MEETING SCHEDULE</b></p> <p><b>Wednesday, May 21</b></p> <p>Agenda: Updated proposal for the unified residential development proposal at 4016 Lorcom Lane and the DRCA vote.</p> <p>“Homeowners and the CBPO” presentation by Arlington DES</p> <p>“Annual Report on Local Parks” by Arlington Parks staff</p> <p>Note: All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the first grade pod of Taylor School.</p>
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# Mother's Day Stroll At Fort C.F. Smith Park

Sunday, May 11, 2:30-3:30pm  
Families with children ages 6 and up.  
Treat your mom to a leisurely stroll while you learn about plants and animals .

\$2 fee. Reservations required, call 703-228-6535.  
Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site,  
2411 North 24th Street, Arlington.

## Prior Meeting Report

(continued from page 2)

*Association views this as an action that would set a questionable precedent and strongly supports the position of the Yorktown Civic Association opposing this project.*

Other issues discussed include:

**Fire Station Relocation** (see article on page 3.)

**The Vermont Street Project** (construction on this project has been delayed approximately one year.)

**Neighborhood Minor Arterial Study:** Peter Fallon reported that the county will soon begin its long awaited study of minor arterial roads. The minor arterials in our neighborhood are Lorcom Lane, Military Road, and the North 26th Street/North 31st Street stretch between Military Road and Old Dominion Drive. DRCA will seek to have a representative on the Citizens Advisory Group to be formed in connection with this study. Tom Beahn has agreed to serve as the DRCA representative.

**Neighborhood Day** (see articles on pages 1, 7 and 10.)

**Traffic Radar:** (see article below.)

## Citizens Radar Patrol

- Mike Green

Are you concerned about cars speeding down your street? Do aggressive drivers pass you in the bicycle lanes? Do you fear for your children's safety when they walk down our neighborhood streets?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, DRCA has a way that you can help reduce your concerns while, at the same time, help to educate the driving public about the speed limits in our neighborhood. The Citizens Radar Patrol consists of volunteers, trained by Arlington County police, who use certified radar units to determine the speed of cars travelling on our streets. The patrol's reports about the speeders are sent to the police who send letters to the cars' registered owners, informing them of the violations.

The police will be conducting training for new members in the next few weeks. If you are interested in joining the Citizens Radar Patrol, please talk with any board member.

## Scholarship Honoring Dr. David M. Brown, YHS '74 & Columbia Astronaut, to be Awarded in June

-Ralph C. Oser

In the month following the tragic loss of the NASA Space Shuttle Columbia and its extraordinary crew, the Alumni and Friends of Yorktown High School (AFYHS) received an anonymous challenge grant that will permit a June scholarship award in honor of Dr. David M. Brown, YHS '74.

To date more than \$3,600 has been received from friends and classmates of Dr. Brown. The current balance includes more than \$1,000 contributed from the Yorktown Class of 1971 from funds received at its last reunion. In addition to gifts of all sizes from classmates, friends and YHS Staff, an anonymous donation has been received for a 2 for 1 challenge grant. With this grant AFYHS anticipates being able to award a \$4,000 merit scholarship in Dr. Brown's memory at Yorktown's June graduation ceremonies.

At the end of March, members of the Yorktown Science Department submitted the names of five of their most promising seniors to a panel of retired Yorktown faculty members who will review the candidates and make a recommendation for the award to the AFYHS Board of Directors .

To make your tax-deductible contribution in memory of Dr. Brown, please mail a check payable to "Alumni & Friends of Yorktown High School, Inc." to P.O. Box 7698, Arlington, Virginia 22207, with the notation "Brown Scholarship" and your affiliation with YHS (if any) in the note line. Employees of firms that have corporate matching programs are encouraged to contact the Yorktown alumni organization for details on how to further leverage their gifts.

Contact Archibald Warnock, AFYHS President & YHS '71, at (410) 923-1009 for details or email: [scholarships@yorktownalums.org](mailto:scholarships@yorktownalums.org) or [warnock@awcubed.com](mailto:warnock@awcubed.com)

# Lorcom Lane Development Project

-Peter Fallon

As most of you know from DRCA meetings and newsletters, for the past year your civic association has been following attempts to develop the large tract located along Lorcom Lane at Randolph Street. (the Vадja/Minar property). The estate has entered into a contract to sell the property to a local builder. The property is currently comprised of multiple contiguous lots, zoned R6 and R8. Approximately 14 houses could be built "by-right" which means that if a builder submits a building permit request to Arlington County, consistent with all setback requirements under the county code, the permit would be approved administratively by the county staff. No further public process is required and the project is not considered by the Arlington County Board.

An alternative to "by-right" is the "unified residential development" (URD) option. Under this approach, a builder voluntarily enters into the county's site plan approval process. Adjacent neighbors and the civic association are given an opportunity to work with the developer to make the project more acceptable to the community. The final site plan (which includes public comment) is approved by the Arlington County Board.

Recently, a partnership between Potomac Custom Builders and JL Albrightain filed a URD with the county to build 14 single-family homes on this site, which is approximately 2.5 acres and includes two houses of historic interest dating back to 1907. Nearby residents, representatives of St. Andrew's Church, and civic association leaders met with the developer on multiple occasions. Understandably, nearby residents have concerns with the initial proposal and seek to work with the developer under the URD process. At press time, Potomac Custom Builders was scheduled to give an update at the April 23 DRCA meeting. County staff (the Planning Department and the Department of Public Works) will also attend the meeting to assist the community in understanding the public process and to facilitate the negotiation process.

The URD currently is scheduled to be heard by the Arlington County Board on June 14, 2003. The builder has agreed to give another update at our

May 21 DRCA meeting. The nearby neighbors will also present any continued concerns that they have on the project and ask for DRCA's formal endorsement.

I encourage all members of the community interested in this issue to come and learn about the project at our next DRCA meeting on May 21. Also, information on the project will be available at the DRCA tent at the Taylor School Fair on May 10.

## Neighborhood Conservation Update

- Ned Rhodes and Laura Peralta-Schulte

Our third Neighborhood Conservation (NC) project, street improvements on 25th Road, is moving forward following a membership vote of 15 for endorsement and seven against at DRCA's March meeting. Two improvements were sought: (1) the construction of a sidewalk on the south side of the road to address issues of pedestrian safety, and (2) the construction of storm sewers to address the issue of flooding. Several 25th Road residents expressed concern that the project would result in the loss of mature trees. Neighbors will be able to consult with county staff on the project details. This project will be presented for approval to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) in June. If it is approved by the committee, it then will be presented with all the other approved NC projects to the county board for approval this summer.

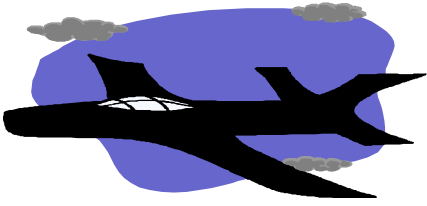
The county has a record number of neighborhoods submitting projects and the increased bond has allowed us to approve many more projects. However, these approved projects have overtaxed the county staff in areas of planning and construction and because of this, projects are taking longer than they should. The NCAC is working hard with the county staff and the county manager to come up with solutions to this problem, and it is hoped that some new procedures will be in place by the summer.

Now is the time to start planning for our next NC project, but it is up to you to step forward and organize the project. Contact anyone on the executive committee if you have questions.

# Reagan National Airport Noise Study

-Steve Geiger

There is a study underway at Reagan National



Airport to quantify the levels and distribution of noise from arriving and departing

aircraft, and to make suggestions for abating this noise to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Part 150 Noise Study Committee is chaired by Barbara Favola, Vice Chairman of the Arlington County Board. The Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) recently created an Airport Issues Committee, comprised of representatives from twenty-three civic associations in Arlington. Steve Baur, a co-chair of the Airport Issues Committee, was appointed by Ms. Favola to participate in the Part 150 Advisory Committee. Starting in June of this year, a series of six open meetings will be held and the Part 150 Noise Study committee will gather suggestions from members of the communities surrounding the airport.

There are several "urban myths" that have been perpetuated concerning airport operations. First, is the myth that there is a curfew on flights between 10 pm and 7 am. There is actually a nighttime noise restriction, in which only quieter planes may fly between those hours. As we all know, flights currently start at about 6 am and extend to about midnight. Aircraft not meeting the stricter noise requirement during this time can be fined (seven such fines, of \$5,000 each, were levied last year). However, most of the aircraft currently using the airport meet the nighttime noise restrictions.

The second urban myth is that all aircraft must follow the river pathway on takeoff and landing. Actually, the only flight restriction in this regard is that aircraft cannot veer over the east (DC) side of the river into protected airspace surrounding the White House or the Vice President's house. There are no restrictions for the Arlington side of the river. Aircraft currently are flying directly over residential areas in Arlington.

The third urban myth is that the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has control of flight paths or hours of operation of the airport. The airport is open continuously; however, there is a "slot" system that limits the number of flights that can arrive and depart on a daily basis. The number of slots is determined by Congress. The FAA controls flight paths, and since September 11, 2001, government security interests have also been involved in this procedure.

Ideas for abating aircraft noise include imposing tighter noise restrictions on aircraft after 10 pm and before 7 am, and a requirement that aircraft use flight management systems to keep them over the center of the river and away from residential areas. As the Part 150 process continues, these ideas and others suggested by local communities and other stakeholders (i.e., airlines and airline pilots, local businesses) will be considered.

The Part 150 Noise Study represents our community's best chance to provide input into abating noise from the airport. You are encouraged to get involved in this process, by working through your civic association, through the ACCF, and/or through direct participation in the open meetings to be held this summer. For more information, contact your civic association's representative to the ACCF Airport Issues Committee, or the committee co-chairs: Steve Baur ([steveb@civfed.org](mailto:steveb@civfed.org); (703)525-5580 or Steve Geiger ([steveg@civfed.org](mailto:steveg@civfed.org); (703)522-0026.

## Parks Project Update

- Larry Finch

The DRCA parks project approved last year for funding under the Neighborhood Conservation program will get underway soon. The first phase will be stream restoration in Lee Heights and Zachary Taylor Parks, scheduled to begin this summer, using the services of a stream restoration consultant. Stream restoration will improve water quality and in-stream habitat, both of which have been degraded by stormwater pollution and streambank erosion. As the project gets underway, residents will have opportunities to learn more about it and to express their views. A key event will be a workshop on conceptual designs with the stream restoration consultant and county staff. Watch for notices of these events.

## 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

### Painting

Gerardo Ayala (703) 256-0997, referred by Robert and Mary Cooper, 469-2242

We're looking for recommendations for:

Gutter Cleaning  
Handyman  
Housecleaning  
Landscaping  
Window Washing

## Join the DRCA Pet Brigade on Neighborhood Day

-Anne Wilson

The Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) will be "going downtown" for Neighborhood Day when the newly formed DRCA Pet Brigade marches in the Arlington County Parade. Everyone, with or without pets, is welcome to participate. Join us with your pet, a stuffed animal, your children, or your children dressed up as animals. Or, cheer on your children as they march in the parade. We will be meeting in advance of the 2 p.m. parade at a staging area located at 13th and Herndon Streets in Clarendon. (The exact time of the staging has not yet been set by the county.) The parade will proceed down Wilson Boulevard from Clarendon to the Courthouse area. For more information, contact Laura Peralta-Schulte at (703) 812-8580 or Anne Wilson at (703) 525-0344 or, just show up and join us.

## 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 8 41-1787

### **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 8 41-1787

### **Lawn Mowing**

- 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 8 41-1787
- 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)

# Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance

- Larry Finch

An organization calling itself "Concerned Arlington County Homeowners" has been running advertisements in the Arlington Sun Gazette attacking the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance as amended by the county board on February 8. The ads emphasize the most stringent provisions of the ordinance (in some cases inaccurately) without making clear that they apply only to properties located near open streams.

Within the Donaldson Run neighborhood, a number of properties are close to streams and extend into so-called Resource Protection Areas (RPA), where the more restrictive provisions of the ordinance apply. As a result of the recent amendments, the number of properties within the boundaries of the Donaldson Run Civic Association (which spans both the Donaldson Run and Marcey Creek watersheds) where an RPA now intersects at least some portion of the property increased from 80 to 197. The new RPA added in these watersheds include: 1) a number of natural streams that were not included in the original RPA, and 2) steep slopes (at least 25 percent grade) beyond the usual 100 feet from the streambanks. More than 80 percent of the properties in the Donaldson Run neighborhood lie entirely outside the RPA.

It is important to note that some properties extend only a small distance into the RPA while others are located fully within the RPA. The ordinance contains provisions to allow reasonable use of private property within the RPA while maintaining water quality protection. To minimize the impact of the new ordinance on homeowners, county staff is developing streamlined submission and review procedures to accommodate small projects in the RPA such as decks, small additions, and minor tree removal. Staff members also are preparing a brochure for RPA property owners.

The Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance was amended to meet Arlington's obligations under state regulations to reduce pollution of the bay. At the same time, it contributes directly to cleaner, healthier streams in Arlington. One tool for doing this is the new requirement for tree canopy replacement, which applies everywhere in the

county. Maintaining tree canopy is very important to the long-term health of Arlington's streams.

As noted above, the amended ordinance also includes strict provisions to avoid loss of vegetation in the stream buffers, which are the narrow strips of land corresponding to the RPA. Properties within the RPA are subject to more stringent regulations because activities there can have a major impact on the health of the streams.

Many residents of the Donaldson Run neighborhood are regular users of our stream-valley parks and have a strong interest in healthy streams and parks. Park users are well aware that our streams are experiencing serious streambank erosion problems from stormwater runoff and that they are not as clean as they might be. Ignoring these problems would have a significant adverse effect on the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Those who attended the January meeting of the DRCA heard a speaker from Arlington's Department of Environmental Services review the provisions of the ordinance in some detail. After listening to the presentation, asking questions, and expressing their own views, attendees voted overwhelmingly to endorse the proposed amendments. In effect, they had concluded that our neighborhood streams are a valuable community resource and that we must all do our part to protect them. Properly implemented, the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance should help to preserve the beautiful stream-valley parks that are so important to the quality of life in the Donaldson Run neighborhood.

In the next issue of The Current we will provide specific information for homeowners within the RPA.

**DRCA Membership Meeting  
is May 21  
7:30 p.m. at Taylor  
Elementary School**

## 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 Update

- 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.

### **New to the Neighborhood? Let Us Know Who You Are!**

Contact Anne Wilson (703- 525-0344 ) or Mary Heston Cooper (703-469-2242 ), two Donaldson Run residents who will welcome you to the neighborhood and help answer any questions you have.

## Gulf Branch Nature Center Spring Programs

### **POND EXPLORATION**

Tuesday, May 13, 4-5 pm, Grades 2-5

This is your chance to discover what creatures live in the Gulf Branch pond. Wear old clothes and shoes that can get wet.

Free. Reservations required.

### **"SURVIVOR!" AT GULF BRANCH**

Wednesday, May 14, 3-4 p.m., Ages 8-12

What would you do if you were lost in the park?

Learn actual survival techniques the experts use.

Edible plants, games, and shelter building are some of the activities to increase your survival skills.

Free. Reservations required.

### **BLACKSMITHS OPEN FORGE**

Saturday, May 17, Noon - 4 p.m., Families

Everyone is invited to join the Blacksmiths' Guild of the Potomac. Watch, participate, and learn as members of the Guild use fire and muscle to form raw materials into useful tools and beautiful objects. Free. No reservations required.

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

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

**DRCA Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 21, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Taylor Elementary School, First Grade Pod**  
**2600 North Stuart Street**

**Agenda: Updated proposal for the Unified Residential Development (URD) at 4016 Lorcom Lane**

**“Homeowners and the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Ordinance”  
presentation by Arlington Department of Environmental Services**

**“Annual Report on the Local Parks”  
presentation by Arlington Parks staff**

***Please note that a vote will be taken on the URD proposal.***

## **DRCA Celebrates Neighborhood Day at the Taylor School Spring Fair**

On Saturday, May 10, the Donaldson Run Civic Association will again celebrate Neighborhood Day by hosting a game and information booth at the Taylor School Spring Fair. There will be plenty of prizes for those of all ages who can correctly answer our trivia questions, so be sure to stop by and visit.

## **Potomac Overlook Festival on May 4**

A major spring event right next door to the Donaldson Run neighborhood is Potomac Overlook Regional Park's 18th Annual Open House and Heritage Festival. It will be held from 1 - 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 4. There will be a variety of activities and exhibits for all ages, including nature walks, food, a Maypole dance, and a clown. The park is within walking distance for many Donaldson Run residents. Those who prefer to drive should turn onto Marcey Road from Military Road. Marcey Road ends at the Potomac Overlook parking lot. For information, call 703-528-5406.