

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.drca.org

Fall 2004

Welcome New Officers

Ned W. Rhodes

I actually had to look it up to figure out that I have been on the executive committee of the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) for four years, serving as both Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative and Treasurer. This pales in comparison to outgoing President Peter Fallon's more than ten years of service to the association. I thank you for electing me to the office of President, and I will work hard for DRCA.

I would like to welcome new and returning faces to the executive committee. Anne Wilson is back as First Vice President, as is Mike Green as Second Vice President and Helen Lane as Secretary. We welcome Larry Finch, Greg Gromada and Bill Richardson as Directors. These gentlemen have been active in the workings of DRCA, and I appreciate their willingness to serve on the executive committee.

As a result of the elections, we were left with two vacancies on the DRCA Executive Board. Fortunately, former Newsletter Editor Elizabeth Apple agreed to take on the Treasurer's position, and former Director Maxine Nagel agreed to fill the vacant Director position. We are now at full strength and are ready for the next two years.

The appointments of both Elizabeth and Maxine to their positions will be affirmed at the September membership meeting by a voice vote. We have interesting meetings planned for the Fall, and I hope to see you at a meeting.

Military Road Recommendations To Be Presented at Next DRCA Meeting

Anne Wilson

The results of the Arterial Transportation Management (ATM) Study that pertain to Military Road will be presented by Richard Best, staff liaison to the county's ATM Study, at the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) meeting on Tuesday, September 14. Military Road was one of 11 streets evaluated as part of the year-long study, and in July the county's Transportation Commission unanimously endorsed the recommendations of the ATM Task Force.

The purpose of the ATM recommendations is to enhance the safety and efficiency of travel by all users of the road including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and motorists while taking into account the context of the surrounding land use. Methods such as lane narrowing, adding medians, widening sidewalks, and adding safe crosswalks are some of the recommendations that were made for Military Road. At the September membership meeting, DRCA would like to get members' input about these recommendations and decide which the association will pursue with the county.

Please note that the September meeting will **not** be at Taylor School, but will be in Fellowship Hall at the Church of the Covenant located at 2666 Military Road.

The Next DRCA Membership Meeting is Tuesday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m. at Church of the Covenant, 2666 Military Road.

County Solicits Advice On Placement of New Traffic Signals

Anne Wilson

The county board recently approved funding for a new traffic signal initiative in Arlington as part of the fiscal year 2005 budget, which began in July. The purpose of this \$1 million initiative is to install five new signals at intersections with high pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

The county is soliciting suggestions as to where the new lights should be installed. Following receipt of all requests, county staff will evaluate each location based on intersection conditions and traffic counts. Priority will be given to intersections with a high volume of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, proximity to schools, accident experience, and other measures. Based on this analysis, staff will recommend to the county board the five locations for traffic signal installation. It is our intent to announce the five chosen intersections before the end of the year, with work to commence with the community in 2005.

Thus far, the following locations in Donaldson Run have been suggested for a new traffic light:

- * Pedestrian activated light on Lorcom Lane at Vacation Lane
- * Old Dominion Drive at 26th Street
- * Military Road and 26th Street on the north side of Military Road
- * Military Road at 30th Street (or at the entrance to Zachary Taylor Nature Area)

If there is a location where you think a traffic signal would benefit the community, or if you have any comments (pro or con) about the above suggestions, contact Anne Wilson (anne@drca.org or (703) 525-0344).

DRCA Participation at Taylor School Fair

Bill Richardson

On May 8, the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) continued its tradition of meeting and greeting neighbors on Neighborhood Day at the Taylor School Fair. This provided a chance for residents in our civic association area to become members of DRCA and to talk with DRCA officers about issues of interest. Many thanks to Laura Peralta-Schulte for her efforts in organizing the wheel of fortune trivia game (carefully designed to ensure that every Taylor student came away with a prize), and to Larry Finch for arranging with county staff to give away free tree plantings.

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	Ned Rhodes	741-0861
1st VP	Anne Wilson	525-0344
2nd VP	Mike Green	525-9414
Secretary	Helen Lane	524-3417
Treasurer	Elizabeth Apple	243-3837
Director	Larry Finch	528-6349
Director	Greg Gromada	465-8564
Director	Maxine Nagel	524-5093
Director	Bill Richardson	525-5270
Editor	Mary Heston Cooper	469-2242

The Time Has Come...

Peter Fallon

I've been asked what I am most proud of about my eleven year tenure as Donaldson Run Civic Association President. The answer is simple -- the widespread participation from all corners of the civic association and the respect shown for the diversity of opinion on issues facing our community. When I first became president, DRCA was essentially the neighborhood watchdog. Frankly, at that time most of the "brush fires" were concentrated near the mulch pile and Marymount University corner of the community. Over the past few years, the different corners of our community have come together to develop our neighborhood conservation plan, work on traffic calming issues, preserve and enhance our local networks of parks, respond to infill development issues, and tackle so many other things.

Though DRCA represents a very large geographical area, these issues affect us all, whether we live east of Military Road, near the country club or Marymount University, or around Lorcom Lane or Old Dominion Drive. Personally, I've always identified "the neighborhood" as more than just the houses along my own street. Rather, I've viewed the neighborhood as the much larger civic association community. I've seen DRCA mature and be recognized as one of the most active and respected civic associations in Arlington. Civic association meetings are held almost monthly on a wide variety of topics and issues. DRCA's positions on issues are determined by the general membership, based on factual information and open discussion at our membership meetings. Information is shared with the community through this wonderful newsletter, the DRCA website, and monthly email distribution.

I certainly cannot take all the credit for these successes. Frankly, DRCA would not have been nearly so active without the incredible support of so many of you. In particular, I'd like to recognize the efforts of Ned Rhodes, Anne Wilson, Mike Green, Sherwin Landfield, Helen Lane, Steve Grand, Laura Peralta-Schulte, Mary Heston Cooper, Elizabeth Apple, Maxine Nagel, Larry Finch, and my wife, Theresa Fallon. I would also like to thank the many of you who have served on DRCA's traffic calming and parks committees.

2004 Meeting Schedule

Tuesday, September 14

**Agenda: ATM
Recommendations for
Military Road and
Donaldson Run Stream
Restoration Update**

**Please note different location:
Church of the Covenant
2666 Military Road**

Wednesday, October 13

Agenda: Candidates Night

Wednesday, November 17

**Agenda: County Manager,
Ron Carlee**

The time and topics of DRCA meetings are subject to change. Updated agendas are sent via email to our list subscribers approximately one week prior to meetings. To join our list, please add your email address to the DRCA membership application. All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. in the first grade pod of Taylor Elementary School unless otherwise noted.

Your work has enabled DRCA to successfully gain traffic calming improvements at several locations within our community and our upcoming stream restoration project in Taylor Park.

I've viewed DRCA's primary role as providing leadership to ensure fair representation of the diversity of the many voices in our community and to advocate on the community's behalf. I hope you will consider donating your time and talents to this worthy organization. Working together proactively on the issues that affect so many of us is key to maintaining our quality of life in DRCA. Theresa and I continue to live in Donaldson Run and will continue to be active supporters of DRCA. It has been my honor and pleasure to serve as president of DRCA over these many years.

Our former Treasurer, Ned Rhodes, was elected President in April 2004 and Ned and the other members of the executive committee have my full support and best wishes for the future.

Military Road Bridge Construction Update

Ned W. Rhodes

Phase I construction of the Military Road bridge will be completed in approximately thirty days, according to Edward Sanders, the construction manager. The remaining work in phase I construction consists of precast culvert placement on the north side, backfill, roadway construction, Dominion Power pole relocations and traffic shift from the south side of Military Road to the north side.

Phase II construction will be completed approximately thirty days following phase I. The work will consist of roadway and foundation excavation, placement of culvert foundation, placement of precast culvert sections, culvert backfill, roadway construction and restoration. The completion date for the entire project is projected to be October 2004.

For general questions about this project, contact Steve Siebert at (703) 228-4215. For questions about the construction process, contact construction manager Ed Sanders at (703) 228-3756.

DRCA's Next NCAC Project - Restoration of Tributary B

Ned W. Rhodes

The parks in our neighborhood are very important to us, as DRCA learned from the survey it used to prepare Donaldson Run's Neighborhood Conservation Plan in 1999. There has been a lot of excitement over the restoration of Tributary A of Donaldson Run which is scheduled to begin this fall. As a result, DRCA's executive committee has decided to move ahead with the restoration process on Tributary B in Taylor Park.

Tributary B runs from the confluence of Tributary A up to the mulch pile. Details of this proposed project will be given at DRCA's September membership meeting. A vote will be taken to determine whether to advance this project as

Donaldson Run's number one priority for the Fall funding round of the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC).

Due to money limitations, the county may not be able to fund the entire stretch of Tributary B as one project. Instead, DRCA may need to divide the project into two or more parts and fund them separately. Come to the September meeting to learn more about the restoration of Tributary A and our plans for Tributary B of Donaldson Run.

Application for Park Enhancement Grant

Larry Finch

The Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) has applied for a Park Enhancement Grant (PEG) to install two stone benches near the bike path below North Vermont Street. The benches would serve park visitors using the bike path that starts at Military Road, crosses North Vermont Street, and ends at North 26th Street, opposite Marymount University. A flagstone walk would be installed to provide all-weather access to the benches, and trees would be planted to provide shade in summer.

The bike path follows Donaldson Run upstream from Military Road -- a long, steady climb. There are no benches between Military Road and North Vermont Street, so the benches to be installed under this project would be the first opportunity to rest. With seating space for several people, the benches would also provide a convenient place for park visitors to meet and talk.

A survey of Donaldson Run households a few years ago indicated that some eighty percent of residents visit neighborhood parks on a regular basis. Many of these park visitors follow the bike path along Donaldson Run where the benches would be located.

The rustic stone benches would blend with the park's natural setting, a setting that will be enhanced by a nearby stone wall to be built under a Neighborhood Conservation project. Anyone with questions about this project should contact Larry Finch at lefinch@verizon.net or by calling 703-528-6349.

Professional Help Around the House

Email mary@drca.org with recommendations.

Concrete/Stone work

Universal Stone, (703) 644-7777, referred by
Anne Wilson, 525-0344

General Handyman

Karl Knudson, (703) 538-5865, carpentry, tile work,
small additions, decks, referred by Karen
Hanneman, 276-0787

Housecleaning

Vivian Villarroel, (703) 256-0973, referred by
Connie Sorrentino, 528-2551

Professional Housecleaning Services, managed by
Alba Isabel, (703) 928-9089, referred by Rob Jones,
276-0545

Mercedes Roldan, (703) 243-2962, referred by
Laura Jackson, 312-0541

Aida Sales, (703) 273-6140, referred by
Nedji Ellsworth, 243-4329

Maryen or Raul, (703) 321-5335, referred by Julia
Ward Ciatti, 527-8728.

Landscaping and Yardwork

Andrew Preziosi, (703) 525-6170, referred by Leslie
Curley, 243-9459

TP Lawn Service, owned and operated by Tuan
Phan, (703) 569-4433 or cell (571) 243-8737, referred
by Connie Sorrentino, 528-2551

Jose Sales, (703) 273-6140, referred by Nedji
Ellsworth, 243-4329

Painting

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

Need a Job Done? Hire a Neighbor!

Email mary@drca.org if you or someone you know is
interested in providing a service listed below.

Babysitting

- Daniel Bronstein, 527-5714
- Meagan Vargas, 819-0275

Car Washing

Housesitting

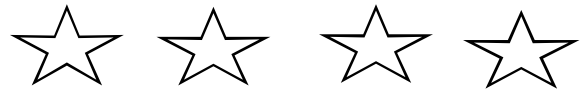
- Kirk Hanneman, 527-4604
- Mindy Hanneman, 527-4604
- Meagan Vargas, 819-0275

Lawn Mowing/Yard Work

Odd Jobs

Petsitting/Dogwalking

- MC Petcare, contact Cara at 812-8894
or Megan at 524-4922
- Debbie Walker, 243-1024
- Corinne Wiesner, 527-5566



Early Years Preschool Relocating

Early Years Preschool is relocating in September
2004 to Cherrydale United Methodist Church at
the corner of Lorcom Lane and Nelly Custis. Early
Years Preschool accepts children 6 months to 5
years of age. There is still room in the 4-year-old
class. Please call Betty Henry at the Early Years
Preschool at (703) 532-8687 about enrollment and
waitlist questions.

**Do you have notice of a community event that you would like posted on one
of Donaldson Run's kiosks?**

**Contact Maxine Nagel or Alan Kolick at (703) 524-5093 or by email at
jkolick@aol.com**

Donaldson Run Stream Restoration Project

Larry Finch

For about two years, we have been reporting on plans for a major stream restoration project along Donaldson Run in Lee Heights and Zachary Taylor Parks. Now this work is about to begin.

The project is needed because of serious erosion along Donaldson Run. Stormwater falling on impervious surfaces flows rapidly into storm sewers and then into streams. Present stream configurations cannot handle these surges of stormwater without suffering from erosion.

Runoff destroys habitat for stream organisms and carries sediment and other pollutants downstream to the Potomac River. Erosion threatens trees and trails along the stream, and it has also led to some breaks in sanitary sewer lines.

The early phases of the stream restoration project began in August 2003, with data collection and a survey of the streambed. As the work progressed, a community workshop was held on November 12, 2003, to review conceptual plans for the project. Residents had an opportunity to learn more about the project on a stream walk a few days later, on November 15, 2003. A second community workshop was held on February 25, 2004.

During the past winter and spring, a stream restoration advisory group met several times with the stream consultant to work out the details of the project. Members of the group include Donaldson Run residents and county staff. Because this project has implications for future projects elsewhere in Arlington, the advisory group also includes representatives of the Urban Forestry Commission, the Park and Recreation Commission, the Environment and Energy Conservation Commission, and Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE).

The project design is nearing completion, and construction is expected to begin before the end of 2004. Park users should be aware that extensive earthmoving will be required to create a stable stream channel through Lee Heights and Zachary Taylor Parks. Construction is expected to take about three months, and the nature trail through

Zachary Taylor Park will be closed for safety reasons. It may also be necessary to close the bike path along the left bank of the stream for brief periods.

Relocating the stream channel will require removal of a substantial number of mature trees. To replace those trees, several hundred canopy and understory trees, together with shrubs and ground cover, will be planted after construction has been completed. The stream restoration advisory group has been developing a planting list which includes a variety of native trees and shrubs selected for their compatibility with the sites and their wildlife habitat value.

The stream restoration project will be discussed at the DRCA meeting on Tuesday, September 14. In the meantime, further information can be found on the county website at: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/EnvironmentalServices>. You can also contact Larry Finch at lefinch@verizon.net or by calling 703-528-6349, or Aileen Winquist of Arlington's Department of Environmental Services at 703-228-3610.

Third Annual Arlington 9-11 Memorial 5K

On Saturday, September 4, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. the third annual Arlington Police, Fire and Sheriff 9-11 Memorial 5K race will be held. The Arlington Police Charitable Fund organizes and sponsors the race, which starts and finishes in front of the Doubletree Hotel at 300 Army/Navy Drive in Crystal City, and includes a leg past the Pentagon.

All proceeds from the race go to 9-11 related charitable relief organizations. Past beneficiaries have included the Red Cross, Salvation Army, the Survivor's Fund, the Special Operations Warrior Foundation, the Port Authority Police World Trade Center Disaster Relief Fund, and the Flicker of Hope Foundation.

Charitable contributions may be made payable to Arlington 9-11 5K Run. For more information visit www.arlington911race.com or contact Captain Matt Smith at (703) 228-4071 or Detective Dan Borelli at (703) 228-4052.

“Arlington Prepares” Fair

Are you and your family or co-workers prepared for an emergency? Do you have enough food, water and supplies for three days?

To be better prepared, Arlingtonians are invited to attend the free Arlington Prepares Fair on Saturday, October 30 at the Arlington Career Center, 816 South Walter Reed Drive.

Arlington's Office of Emergency Management, Arlington Citizen Corps Council and other partner organizations will offer free information to help you prepare for and recover after an emergency. Arlington County also will provide a display of a variety of emergency equipment, including the new Mobile Command vehicle and the County's specialized HazMat equipment.

At 1:15 p.m. participants will work through a simulated emergency scenario to demonstrate the community's preparedness and to discuss appropriate responses for the emergency scenario. The exercise also will explore communication and coordination among county agencies, volunteer organizations and the public during an emergency. While this is principally an exercise to benefit Arlington County and its partner organizations, the public is welcome to observe and participate.

Attendance is free and registration is not necessary. The Arlington Prepares Fair is sponsored by Arlington County Office of Emergency Management and the Citizen Corps Council.

Opera Theater of NoVa Presents The Magic Flute

The Opera Theater of Northern Virginia's Fall family opera production is Mozart's classic *The Magic Flute*. The performances will be on November 14, 19 and 20, 2004 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre in Arlington. The opera tells the story of a kidnapped daughter, a wicked queen, and a young prince who goes to the maiden's rescue with a magic flute. This production has been shortened and translated to English--perfect for children!

The group's Winter production on February 26 and 27, 2005 is *Bravo Rossini!* at the Gunston Arts Center, Arlington. The Spring production, *Fatal Song* or the *Great Opera Murders*, will take place on May 21 and 22, 2005. Music in the production is by Bernstein, Bizet, Donizetti, Gounod, Massenet, Mozart, Offenbach, Puccini, Stravinsky, and Verdi. The show will be held at Theatre One, Gunston Arts Center in Arlington.

All performances are in English. Season subscriptions (with 20 percent discount) are available until September 20, 2004. For more information call (703) 528-1433 or visit www.novaopera.org.

Marymount University's Master Plan

Anne Wilson

Marymount University recently completed its Campus Facilities Master Plan. The plan was developed during the 2003-04 academic year and was endorsed by the University's board of trustees in December 2003. Last spring, Dr. James Bundschuh, the President of Marymount University, presented the plan at a Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) meeting.

The objectives of the plan include expanding student housing and activity space, adding an academic building in the center of the campus, separating pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and creating more green space. Of particular interest to the Donaldson Run community is the proposal to build a three story parking garage on the site of the current 26th Street parking lot. The University has indicated that the plan for the garage will be "an aesthetically pleasing structure that appropriately blends with and enhances the surrounding neighborhood." At the civic association meeting, neighbors expressed their desire to have the garage sited underground as much as possible, and it was recommended that the entrance and exits of the garage be on Yorktown Boulevard. Plans for the proposed garage will need to go through the usual county process which allows for community input. Dr. Bundschuh advised that he would keep DRCA notified as the University's plans for the parking garage progress.

New Laws for Virginia Drunk Drivers

Mike Green

Did you know that an alcohol-related fatality occurs approximately every 30 minutes, making it the nation's most frequently committed violent crime? More than 17,000 people in the U.S. die in alcohol-related crashes every year. On average, a person is injured in an alcohol-related crash every two minutes.

In response to the public's outcry over drunk driving, Virginia has enacted new laws that are considered among the toughest in the country. Starting on July 1, 2004, an increased focus is on repeat offenders and harsher penalties. The laws establish new mandatory jail sentences, allow courts to confiscate vehicles, and impose additional fines. At the time of an arrest for Driving Under the Influence (DUI), law enforcement officials will report the offense to the Central Records Exchange - thus, drunk driving violators will have criminal records.

In the coming weeks and months, Arlington police officers and Sheriff's deputies will continue their implementation of concentrated DUI enforcement operations as part of this year's regional Checkpoint Strikeforce campaign. There will be sobriety checkpoints as well as specific DUI patrols looking for drunk drivers.

It is estimated that, after all of the associated fees, fines, rate increases, towing charges, and other expenses are added up, a DUI arrest in Virginia costs more than \$5,500. If you decide to consume alcohol, the best way to avoid this expense is to have a designated driver or take a cab.

Yorktown Pops

The Yorktown High School Music Department will present the annual fall "Pops Concert" on Tuesday, October 26. The show will begin at 7 p.m. and will be held in the school gym, just off Yorktown Boulevard. Come hear Yorktown's String Orchestra, Madrigals, Jazz, Girls Camerata, and Concert Choir perform. The show is free and open to the public.

Donaldson Run Schools Update

Greg Gromada

Taylor School

The Arlington County School Board is reviewing a plan to better match building capacity to enrollment in local elementary schools including Donaldson Run's Taylor School as well as Ashlawn, Barrett, Glebe, Jamestown, Key, Long Branch, McKinley, Tuckahoe and Science Focus Elementary Schools. The school board is in the process of appointing representatives from each of these schools to advisory committees, which will consist of one teacher and two parents, with the principals serving as ex officio members.

If you have specific questions and/or would like further information, please contact Taylor School Principal Rob Hindman at (703) 228-6275.

H-B Woodlawn

H-B Woodlawn officials are planning an addition of a music wing at the school with construction scheduled to begin in August of 2005. Planning meetings are held every Thursday night at 6:30 pm at H-B Woodlawn in the teacher's lounge. The Cherrydale Civic Association has been very well represented, and Frank Haltiwanger, Principal at H-B Woodlawn, has invited all interested parties to attend the planning sessions or to contact him directly at (703) 228-6350.

Pioneer Day Festival

It's time once again for this family favorite! Each fall, for over twenty years now, we've been gathering around the Walker Log House to celebrate our nation's pioneer heritage. Step back into history and try your hand at some old time games and crafts. Enjoy live music, dancers, and local artisans. This program is a multi-generational crowd pleaser - a great place to enjoy some time together with family, friends and neighbors. Join us on Saturday, October 2, noon - 4 p.m. at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Road, Arlington. Parking lot closed for this program. Please use on-street parking. \$3 fee per person. No reservations are required.

Friends of Donaldson Run Watershed

Larry Finch

Friends of Donaldson Run Watershed (FDRW) is dedicated to preserving healthy streams and parks in the Donaldson Run and Marcey Creek watersheds. FDRW organizes volunteer activities for removal of invasive vines, stream cleanup, and reforestation of areas where trees have been lost. In cooperation with the Audubon Naturalist Society, FDRW organizes programs on watershed issues for students at Taylor School and sponsors nature walks through stream-valley parks for children and adults.

With funds from Arlington's Park Enhancement Grant program, FDRW is sponsoring a project to reforest a site along the bike path near North Vermont Street, where kudzu and other invasive vines have killed the trees. On Saturday, October 23, volunteers will work at the site, removing invasive plants and planting small trees and shrubs. Plan to join us!

FDRW meets monthly at the nature center at Potomac Overlook Regional Park. Everyone interested in our neighborhood streams and parks is urged to attend. For more information about FDRW and its activities, please contact Larry Finch at lefinch@verizon.net or 703-528-6349.

Arlingtonians Clean Up

Join Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) on Saturday, September 18 from 10 a.m. to noon to pick up trash from Four Mile Run at Barcroft Park. Meet in front of the Sports and Recreation Center, 4200 South Four Mile Run Drive. For more information and to register for this event contact 703-228-6427 or office@arlingtonenvironment.org.

Residents of Arlington, Falls Church, and Alexandria are invited to participate in a Water Stewardship Leader Training program that focuses on household actions to protect local streams. To request an application form, please contact ACE at office@arlingtonenvironment.org or 703-228-6427. This event will take place on Sunday, October 17 from noon to 6 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center, 3308 South Stafford Street, Arlington.

Residents Can Reduce Air Pollution

(originally published in **The Arlington Environment, Summer 2004**)

We know the air quality is bad in this area, but what can we do about it? Many people believe that the bulk of air pollution comes from industries, but in the Washington, DC area, individual resource consumption and practices create far more pollution than industries. In fact, motor vehicles account for about 30 to 40 percent of the ozone-causing pollutants in the Washington region.

There are many actions we can take that will help. Minimizing contributions to air pollution is even more critical on code-red days when ozone levels are high.

Besides emissions from motor vehicles, other less obvious sources of air pollutants include oil-based paint and emissions from gasoline powered lawn and garden equipment.

Some of the most important actions we can take:

- Reducing car emissions by carpooling, telecommuting, taking mass transit, and combining your errands;
- Biking or walking instead of driving;
- Refueling all vehicles after dusk;
- Minimizing use of lawn and garden equipment or using the equipment after dusk;
- Postponing use of aerosols; and
- Postponing use of oil-based paints.

In your workplace, ask if your employer is part of the Ozone Action Day Employer Program, an outreach program sponsored by Clean Air Partners. More than 250 companies, government agencies, and educational institutions are part of the program. Through this free program, employers receive notices of ozone action day forecasts. Participating employers also receive educational information to share with their employees about air pollution and how individuals can help. For more information visit www.cleanairpartners.net.

Fort Ethan Allen Community Canine Area Relocation Task Force

Peter Fallon

The Arlington County Board created the Fort Ethan Allen Community Canine Area (FEA CCA) Relocation task force in January 2004. The task force was charged with recommending to the county board a permanent site for the current CCA, which is located within the historic district along Old Glebe Road. The task force was composed of representatives of the civic associations along Military Road, and various community groups representing dog park users, park advocates, and members of the historical community. In addition to serving as the Donaldson Run Civic Association representative, I was appointed chair by the county board.

After considering approximately 35 sites, the task force voted 15-1-2 in favor of the "yellow site" located along North Stafford Street adjacent to the Madison Community Center. Recognizing that no site would be perfect, task force members chose this site for many reasons including the flat terrain, existing parking lot, preservation of trees, and perceived cost. This recommendation was endorsed by the Arlington County Manager and was adopted by the county board on June 26, 2004, by a vote of 4-1. The design and construction period is expected to take approximately 18 months.

Recently, the county board reconvened the FEA CCA task force for the purpose of reviewing the CCA design proposals. Approximately two meetings are anticipated this autumn. Meetings will be posted on the county website and announced in DRCA newsletters and to our email subscribers.

For more information on the task force process, evaluation criteria and design information, please visit the new County website at: <http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/forums/ethan/tour.htm>

Signature Theater Premiere (www.sig-online.org)

One Red Flower - August 17 - October 3, 2004

Music by Paris Barclay . Book and lyrics adapted for the stage by Paris Barclay from the book, "Dear America: Letters Home From Vietnam ."

Traffic Update

Anne Wilson

A brief update on traffic issues affecting the Donaldson Run neighborhood:

Lorcom Lane:

New, smaller speed indicator signs were ordered and have been received. The county is waiting for Dominion Power to install the necessary power on the affected poles.

Intersection of Vacation Lane and 23rd Street:

The county's analysis of this intersection indicated that it did not qualify for multi-way stop signs or other traffic calming measures.

Intersection of Vacation and Lorcom Lanes:

Diagonal striping on the north side of Lorcom Lane was added at this intersection to allow cars to safely proceed further onto Lorcom Lane when making a left hand turn there. This has helped with the visibility problem, but concern has been expressed about the tailgating of drivers on Lorcom Lane who now have to slow down if someone is making a right turn here.

Intersection of Vacation Lane and Taylor Street:

Jeff Sikes from the county's Transportation Division plans to evaluate this intersection with a county engineer.

26th -31st Street:

The county is considering a trial reconfiguration of the Vermont-26th Streets intersection by extending a curb to narrow the intersection and more clearly define the stop at Vermont Street. If you would like to see the plans for this trial change, come to the September Donaldson Run Civic Association meeting or contact Anne Wilson (email is anne@drca.org or phone: (703) 525-0344).

And, as always, if you have questions or comments about these or any other traffic issues, or would like to be on the Traffic Committee, contact Anne Wilson.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FOR DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Please check your mailing label to see the latest year for which dues have been paid. Dues cover a calendar year. Contributions are not tax deductible.

Dues: \$15 per household 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): _____

Phone: _____ email address: _____

Address: _____

Special Interests/Volunteer Areas/Comments: _____

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

Mail to: Elizabeth Apple, Treasurer, 4207 North 31st Street, Arlington, VA 22207

Treasurer's Report

Elizabeth Apple

It's a pleasure to join the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) executive board as treasurer, and I look forward to serving the neighborhood in this capacity.

Many of you are already dues-paying members of the DRCA, and we thank you for your financial support. We're especially grateful to those of you who have made extra contributions to help defray the cost of printing and mailing DRCA's newsletter, *The Current*. Each issue is sent to every household in our boundaries.

If you're not a DRCA member and would like to join, annual dues are \$15 per household and can be paid in one of three easy ways: fill out and submit the membership application in this newsletter; complete the application online at our website, www.drca.org; or bring your dues to any of our regular monthly meetings at Taylor Elementary School. If you're unsure of your membership status, just check the mailing label on the last page of this newsletter.

Art Show at Fort CF Smith Park

Arlington Artists Alliance is pleased to sponsor an art show of paintings and ceramics that portray or inspired by Fort CF Smith Park. The show will feature works by the Alliance, as well as by artists of all ages from the community at large. The show and sale will be held from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 18 and from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, September 19. Fort CF Smith Park is located at 2411 North 24th Street. For information contact Beth Hudgins at tghbhudgins@msn.com or at (703) 532-4450.

**CONTACT MIKE PUGH AT
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This is your neighborhood newsletter
See page 2 for Civic Association information.

DRCA Meeting

Tuesday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m.

***Please Note Different Location: Church of the Covenant ,
2666 Military Road***

**Agenda: Arterial Transportation Management Study
Recommendations for Military Road and an update on the
Donaldson Run Stream Restoration Project**

NCAC Project Update

Ned Rhodes

The Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) has four projects in the NCAC hopper. Here is an update on their status:

Project N349 – Donaldson Run Stream Restoration:

See Larry Finch's article on page six of this newsletter.

Project N362 – Street Improvement on North Vermont Street:

This project was funded in November of 2002 and had a projected completion date of November 2004, which will not be met. There has been a fifty percent design meeting with the neighbors and the project has just now completed the fifty percent plan stage. Additional refinements are required to bring the project to a ninety percent design stage at which time another meeting will be held with the neighbors. It may take approximately one year to reach this stage and, if all goes well, construction could start in the Spring of 2006.

Project N412 – Street Lights for Project N 362:

The large street improvement project for Vermont Street was broken up into two projects that will most likely be built at the same time. Project N412 is to install street lights along the improved section of Vermont Street and it shares in part of the design for project N362. Construction on this project may also begin in Spring of 2006.

Project N402 – Street Improvement on North 25th Road:

Only survey work has been done on this project. The county is estimating that in 10 months they will have a fifty percent design completed so that a meeting can be scheduled with the neighborhood.

Portions of the stream restoration project may be completed by the end of this year, and over the next year DRCA can expect to participate in design meetings for the other three projects. The goal for completion of any NCAC project is 24 months. Unfortunately, it appears as if none of DRCA's projects will meet that goal. Updates will follow in future issues of this newsletter.