

The Current



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

Donaldson Run Stream Restoration

Larry Finch

Stream restoration work in Lee Heights Park is nearing completion. Earthmoving activity there was finished in September, and now park visitors can walk down to the stream at almost any point. Previously, access was difficult because erosion had resulted in steep banks several feet high along much of the stream.

Park visitors can see the measures that are being taken to control erosion and stabilize the stream. The new stream channel follows a series of gentle curves, and the banks have been laid back so that runoff can spread over a larger area during storms. In addition, stone structures have been built in the stream, creating "step pools" to help manage stormwater.

The restored stream has the characteristics of a natural stream channel: In rural areas, natural processes often produce streams with gentle curves and step pools. Restoration of Donaldson Run will result in a healthier stream, with a better environment for aquatic life and less silt being deposited in the Potomac River.

All that remains to be done in Lee Heights Park is to plant a variety of native trees and shrubs in areas

that were cleared for stream restoration. Planting is scheduled for late October, an ideal time for this activity.

Now stream restoration activity is shifting to the Zachary Taylor Nature Area. Work will progress downstream from North Utah Street to Military Road.

Earthmoving activity should be completed in January 2006. Erosion control fabric will be installed to stabilize the stream banks until vegetation becomes established. Trees and shrubs will be planted when the weather permits, probably in March.

The nature trail from Military Road to North Utah Street will be closed until the work is completed, and the bike path from Military Road to North Vermont Street may be closed for shorter periods.

We will miss the trees that are being lost in the stream restoration process, but next spring the newly planted trees will begin to grow into a forest that park visitors will enjoy for generations to come – a forest bordering a healthy, stable urban stream.

**The Next DRCA Membership Meeting is Wednesday, November 16
at 7:30 p.m. at Taylor Elementary School.**

President's Message

Ned W. Rhodes

This will be the final newsletter of the year, and you should look for the next issue sometime in early January. I think we have had a good year, and we are seeing projects of all kinds in our neighborhood. We will be working with the post office and monitoring the next few mailings so that we can make sure that the newsletter is delivered in a timely fashion. No one has been able to explain why it took almost two weeks for the last newsletter to be delivered. In order to keep yourself up to date on Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) happenings, please continue to check our web site at www.drca.org. The newsletter is usually posted two weeks before you receive it in the mail. In addition, please make sure that our treasurer, Elizabeth Apple (apple@drca.org), has your email address so that we can keep you informed of neighborhood news and announcements.

Our social half hours before the membership meetings are a good time to meet neighbors and to discuss business with the DRCA executive committee. I know we will have some interesting meetings this coming year, so please make plans to attend.

Arlington Historical Society Meeting

The Arlington Historical Society will meet Tuesday, November 15, at 7:30 PM in the auditorium of the Arlington Central Library, 1015 North Quincy Street.

Virginia Mecklenburg, Senior Curator at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, will present a slide lecture on Auriel Bessemer and his Post Office Murals of the 1930s. Mr. Bessemer was commissioned by the Department of the Treasury's Section of Fine Art to paint murals for the new central post office in Clarendon.

The murals, entitled "Historical and Industrial Scenes - Sketches of Virginia", are on loan from the U.S. Postal Service to the library during the restoration of Arlington's Joseph L. Fisher Post Office in Clarendon. Come and learn more about some of the nation's first public art projects and the role they played in local communities. For more information, call 703-536-8270.

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 Street and 27th Streets south of Lorcom Lane); and Vernon Street on the west.

DRCA Board

President	Ned Rhodes	741-0861
1 st VP	Anne Wilson	525-0344
2 nd 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

Graffiti in the Neighborhood

You may have noticed that some signs and structures in Donaldson Run have been the target of graffiti vandals recently. The County tries to respond quickly to remove graffiti. If you notice any new graffiti please report it promptly to the Police Department at 588-2222.

Traffic Talk

Anne Wilson

If you are concerned about traffic in the neighborhood or in Arlington in general, Arlington County wants to hear from you. Arlington is in the midst of updating its Master Transportation Plan, and part of this effort is to find out what you, the citizens, think are the major transportation problems and possible solutions facing Arlington drivers. Make your concerns known by completing the County's online transportation survey. The links for the survey are:

English:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=718591359938>

Spanish

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=938831374963>

Military Road

As you may remember from past articles, Military Road at 26th Street/Road near Taylor School has been identified by neighbors and the County as a problem area for pedestrians and drivers. For years, neighbors living on 26th Street have tried to draw attention to the hazards caused by fast traffic and poor visibility. Two traffic studies have recommended making changes to Military Road so that this area will be less dangerous for drivers and pedestrians. With that as background, the Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) invited Dennis Leach, Arlington's Director of Transportation, to visit the intersection at 8:30 am on a Monday in September. Mr. Leach observed first hand the speed of rush hour traffic and heard reports from parents and the school crossing guard about the challenge of providing a safe crossing for children walking to Taylor School. Mr. Leach concurred that the area needed attention, and said that he would begin to focus county efforts on developing solutions and funding for this area. As a short term aid for drivers turning in and out of N. 26th Street, DRCA has asked the County to replace the parabolic mirror on Military Road. So far we have been unsuccessful in our request because mirrors are not in the County's "toolbox" of approved traffic techniques. Stay tuned for more information as we continue to focus on this part of Military Road.

If you have questions or comments about traffic issues, or would like to be on the Traffic Committee, contact Anne Wilson. (email: anne@drca.org; phone: 703 525-0344).

2005/2006 Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, November 16
Agenda: Stream Restoration
Update

There will be a social half hour
beginning at 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 25
Agenda: To Be Determined

The dates, times, 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. at Taylor Elementary School unless otherwise noted.

Keep Holiday Parties Safe

Mike Green

Every year, approximately 17,000 people die and an estimated half a million people are injured in alcohol-related motor-vehicle crashes. Nearly 1,600 of these deaths occur between Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve.

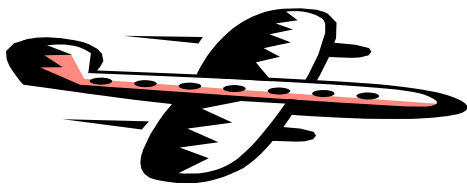
There are several things that you can do to protect yourself and your family:

- 1) Always wear your seatbelt and drive defensively.
- 2) Be a responsible host. Offer non-alcoholic beverages, serve high-protein snacks, and provide alternate transportation for guests who have been drinking.
- 3) Always designate a non-drinking driver if your outing involves alcohol.
- 4) If you have children under 21, remember that zero tolerance is not only the right thing to do but is also the law.

Airport Noise Study

Helen Lane

Last year the Donaldson Run Civic Association was one of a number of civic associations in the Washington area that contributed to a region-wide study which made recommendations to mitigate aircraft noise from Reagan National Airport. Recommendation number one calls for aircraft to remain over the river from take off until reaching a point north of Langley, Virginia. The study is now wending its way through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) bureaucratic process. It has been reviewed by the FAA district office at Dulles and has been handed off to the FAA New York office, which is conducting a "pre-review." Once the "pre-review" is completed the study and recommendations will be published in the Federal Register and a 180-day public comment period will begin.



Whether any of the recommendations will be accepted remains to be seen. However, in the meantime, there is one bit of good news. Alaska Air is following recommendation number one by using the "way points" that mark the over-the-river flight-path. Alaska Air planes are equipped with global positioning systems (GPS) needed for many airports in Alaska. This will spare the FAA the cost of an expensive study to determine whether GPS is feasible for the Reagan National Airport flight-path.

Any Donaldson Run resident interested in participating in the work of this area-wide noise committee may contact Helen Lane at (703) 524-3417.

Neighborhood Conservation Update

Ned W. Rhodes

Donaldson Run's Neighborhood Conservation (NC) plan (available on the web site www.drca.org) was accepted by the Arlington County Board in 2000. Five years later, we have four NC projects working their way through the system and a few of them nearing completion.

Stream Restoration: As you read this newsletter, the stream restoration has been completed in Lee

Heights Park and work has begun at the Utah Street entrance to the Taylor Nature area. This project should be completed by early next year, and I believe it will be a model for other stream restoration efforts in Arlington. At our last meeting, the civic association agreed to ask the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee to fund a design project for stream restoration of Tributary B from its confluence with the main stream all the way up to the mulch pile. Once we have the design completed, we then can ask for funding for construction projects to implement the design.

Vermont Street: While this project has not moved as fast as we would like, we have reached the 100 percent design phase through the efforts of block captain Julius Asboth. The County is going to review the project one more time in an effort to cut some costs and then it will put it out for bid. The timeframe for start of construction is March 2006. The streetlight component of this project would be done in tandem with the curb, gutter and sidewalk portion of the project.

25th Road: This project is scheduled to have a 75 percent meeting sometime in the near future. Block captain Tim Arthurs still has a few issues to work out with the affected neighbors before the project moves to the 100 percent design phase. Given that, it is anticipated that construction on this project will start sometime in late 2006.

Update on 26th Street Sidewalk

Anne Wilson

By the time you read this, work may have started on a new sidewalk on N. 26th Street between Wakefield and Upland Streets. Neighbors' questions and concerns were addressed at a meeting in early October, and those attending were advised that construction could begin by the end of the month. Surveyors have been spotted on the street, and it appears that the project will begin very soon. This project will serve three purposes: 1) enhance pedestrian safety, 2) solve a drainage problem at the intersection of Vermont and 26th Streets, and 3) hopefully calm traffic in that area. County staff worked closely with the neighbors to resolve several important concerns, and the interest and involvement of those who live in the area made this a better project. Thanks to those of you who were involved and to County staff for their persistent effort. If you missed the article in the last newsletter containing the details of this project, you can read it on the DRCA web site: <http://www.drca.org/newsletter/2005/Sept05Current.html>.

DRCA Rises to the Challenge

Maxine Nagel

The Donaldson Run neighborhood has met the challenge and is officially wildlife friendly!

Since the beginning of 2005, a dozen DRCA neighbors have responded to the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat Neighborhood Challenge by certifying their properties as Backyard Wildlife Habitats. To have a certified Backyard Wildlife Habitat, a homeowner must have a property that provides food, water, shelter, and a place to raise young. DRCA was one of only a few Arlington civic associations that answered the challenge—to certify at least five new properties by September 30—and will receive recognition from the Arlington County Board at a special ceremony on Wednesday, November 9, at the Historic Hendry House at Ft. C.F. Smith, 2411 North 24th Street.

Even though the Neighborhood Challenge is over, it's not too late to have your own Backyard Wildlife Habitat. Visit www.arlingtonenvironment.org for more information and to complete the certification form. Questions? Call Chase Raines at 703-524-4957 or by email at nanhraines@aol.com.



Pola Negri Movie Night

On Thursday, January 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. join your neighbors at Gulf Branch Nature Center to learn about one of the queens of the silent screen and the Nature Center's most exciting (human) resident. Pola Negri lived in the Nature Center when it was still a private home.

Learn about the life and times of this screen siren and then enjoy a big screen viewing of the 1927 silent classic, "Barbed Wire". Popcorn and soda will be served. \$5 fee. Reservations required. Register on-line <http://registration.co.arlington.va.us> or call 703-228-4747.

Reference program # 624472A.

Dear Donald,

Why is does Zachary Taylor figure so prominently in our neighborhood, having both a park and school named after him?

Sincerely,
Curious on Stuart Street

Dear Curious,

I was able to uncover a bit of information about the naming of Zachary Taylor School, which opened in 1953. In the 1950's, schools were often named for famous people or places in Virginia such as Williamsburg, Yorktown, and Washington-Lee. Interestingly, Taylor School was first named after Taylor Street which is near the school. Zachary was added to the official name of the school in 1969. Zachary Taylor, who was born in Orange County, Virginia, was President of the United States for only one year. He died in office on July 9, 1850, reportedly after getting sick from eating cherries at a July 4 celebration. By the way, the cost of building Taylor School was \$542,000.

Thanks to Principal Rob Hindman and neighbors Helen Lane and Jessica Kaplan, who helped research this for me.

Donald

Public Spaces Master Plan

Larry Finch

A new Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) is in the final stages of preparation. It will replace the Open Space Master Plan adopted in 1994. The PSMP will provide guidance for planning a variety of County programs, including parks and natural areas, athletic facilities, aquatic facilities, community centers, and arts and cultural centers.

The new plan is scheduled to be considered by the Planning Commission on November 28 and the County Board on December 10. There will be opportunities for public comment before both of those bodies. The final draft of the plan is available on the Arlington County website. Anyone with questions concerning the master plan should call Larry Finch (703-528-6349).

Arlington Public School New Tips
www.arlington.k12.va.us/SCR/pubs/NewsTips

Schools Update

Greg Gromada

Taylor Elementary School

Rob Hindman, Taylor School Principal, reports that Taylor School has a student enrollment of about 570 students for the 2005-2006 school year.

Rob also reports that Taylor students recently enjoyed a day with well-known children's author Kevin O'Malley. Kevin was at Taylor School to help launch a new school-wide reading incentive program for children. It is hoped that the Read Across America-Walk Across America Program will encourage children to read and exercise.



In other news, Rob said he enjoyed participating in the October 1 Walk Arlington program, which was sponsored by Arlington County and the Donaldson Run Civic Association. Rob provided our Donaldson Run walk visitors with an interesting tour of Taylor's geothermal heating-cooling system, and DRCA appreciates his participation.

In turn, on behalf of the Taylor Elementary School community, Rob extends his appreciation to the Donaldson Run Community. Taylor School shares news through school and PTA websites and in the regular monthly PTA newsletter. Please feel free to call Rob at (703) 228-6275 directly with questions or comments about Taylor.

Williamsburg Middle School

According to Williamsburg Middle School 7th Grade Teacher Tobie Hendricks, its school is in need of judges for its science fair on Thursday, January 19, 2006. The hours are from 6:30 p.m. until approximately 9:30 p.m. It is helpful to have a science background but not absolutely necessary. If you are interested, please e-mail Tobie.Hendricks@apsva.us.

H-B Woodlawn

According to Principal Frank Haltiwanger, construction on the music addition is proceeding on schedule, and completion is anticipated for September 2006. Community members with questions or concerns can e-mail Frank at fhalt@arlington.k12.va.us, or call 703-228-6363.

In addition, Woodlawn officials are interested in any community input regarding traffic safety along Vacation Lane in front of the school at arrival (9a.m.) and dismissal (4p.m.). If any neighbors have an interest in this issue, please contact Frank. Student safety is the priority.

Yorktown High School

Yorktown High School will open its doors to the community in November and December with a number of after-school events, both cultural and educational. Mark your calendars!

Friday, November 18, 7 p.m.: Join Yorktown's outstanding dancers, singers, instrumentalists, and otherwise talented students at the annual **Yorktown Variety Show**. Students must audition to perform in the Variety Show, which is one of the school's most popular events. Make plans early—the Variety Show is always a sell-out. (Tickets required—contact Yorktown at 703-228-5400).

Tuesday, November 29, 7 p.m.: The Yorktown PTA will host the second in its **Family Network** series: "The Adolescent Brain—Guiding It, Teaching It, and Protecting It." Dr. William Stixrud, a neuropsychologist who specializes in the evaluation of adolescents and adults with learning disabilities, will focus on unraveling the mysteries of the adolescent brain. The program will be held in Room 1B (Free and open to the public.)

Wednesday, December 7, 7 p.m.: The Yorktown Singers—**Chorus, Jazz Ensemble, and Madrigals**—will perform their annual Winter Concert in the Yorktown Auditorium. (Free and open to the public.)

Tuesday, December 13, 7 p.m.: Yorktown's Strings—the **Orchestra and Guitar students**—will provide an evening of musical magic at their annual holiday concert in the high school auditorium. (Free and open to the public.)

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Schools Update

(continued from page 6)

Thursday, December 15, 7 p.m.: Join the award-winning **Yorktown Symphonic and Concert Bands** for an entertaining evening of music under the direction of Benjamin Williams, head of Yorktown Bands. (Free and open to the public.)

Planning is already underway for Yorktown High School's 2006 Graduation Boat Party, an all-night alcohol- and drug-free celebration for Yorktown's 2006 graduates. This annual event--to be held next year on the evening of June 22, 2006, aboard the paddle-wheeler *Cherry Blossom*--generally draws up to 80 percent of the graduating class (all graduates are invited and encouraged to attend.) Entertainment, food, and fun are the drawing cards, and parents of the attendees can rest easy knowing their grads are celebrating in a safe, chaperoned environment. Yorktown parents have been hosting these graduation celebrations for more than a dozen years under the auspices of Northern Virginia Project Graduation, a non-profit group set up in response to a rash of graduation-related traffic accidents across the area. For more information, or to assist in planning the Yorktown 2006 Graduation Boat Party, please contact Maureen McManus at momcmanus@comcast.net

Saving Trees from English Ivy

Larry Finch

This is a good season to work on the English ivy growing in our yards. If not controlled, it will spread across the yard, choking out other plants. Saving trees should be the top priority. When ivy covers the trunk of a tree, it traps moisture and softens the bark, reducing the tree's defenses against insects and disease. Eventually, it blocks sunlight from the leaves and kills the tree.

Ivy can be removed from trees by pulling it away from the trunk and cutting it at shoulder level and near the ground, creating an ivy-free band around the tree. There is no need to pull ivy down from higher up in the tree; it will die anyway, and removing it may damage the tree.

Eliminating ivy from the area around trees also is important. Ivy competes with trees for water and nutrients. Trees will be healthier if the ivy is removed from the root area and replaced with a thin layer of mulch.

After rescuing the trees, the next step is to begin eliminating ivy from our yards. It has a shallow root system that is not effective in controlling erosion, and it provides a favorable environment for undesirable wildlife, including mosquitoes.

A variety of non-invasive ground covers are available to replace English ivy. Some examples are listed in the booklet, "Native Alternatives to English Ivy", available from the Virginia Cooperative Extension (703-228-6521).



Arlington Seeking Ham Radio Operators

Katrina, Rita, Wilma.... As this year's active hurricane season has shown us, emergency communications are vital during a disaster. That's why Arlington is looking for new volunteers for its Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES).

"As Hurricane Katrina proved, natural or manmade disasters can knock out phone lines, and leave even cellular networks inoperable [or] jammed," said David Jordan, Arlington's RACES officer and the County's chief information security and privacy officer. "If Arlington County's emergency communications systems were damaged in a disaster, that's when RACES volunteers would spring into action."

As the County's RACES officer, Jordan is charged with identifying, recruiting and training FCC-licensed amateur radio - a.k.a Ham - operators. RACES volunteers must be willing to:

- Become competent in providing auxiliary emergency communications, anytime, anywhere;
- Maintain proficiency through continuing education, drills and exercises, and
- Serve in their community and perhaps throughout the Commonwealth during emergencies and disasters.

Typical RACES communications involve sending and receiving emergency messages on Amateur Radio Service frequencies between critical government offices, Emergency Operations Centers (state, county, local) and other locations such as hospitals, emergency services, emergency shelters and other locations where communication is needed.

FCC-licensed amateur radio operators who are interested in learning more about volunteering should contact Jordan at (703) 228-3185.

Professional Help Around the House

Email mary@DRCA.org with recommendations.

Computer Support Services

Cameron Jones (571) 217-3596, referred by Rose Bannigan, 524-6722

Concrete/Stone work

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

General Contractor

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

R & M Cleaning Services, 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) 553-0678 or cell (571) 243-8737, referred by Connie Sorrentino, 528-2551

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

A Cut Above Lawn and Landscaping Service, Patrick Rankin, (703) 536-3183, referred by Kathryn Ricard and Greg Gromada, 465-8564

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

Housesitting

-- Kirk Hanneman, 527-4604
-- Mindy Hanneman, 527-4604

Petsitting/Dogwalking

-- MC Petcare, contact Cara at 812-8894
or Megan at 524-4922

Leaf Collection Available

Maxine Nagel

Arlington County began its annual fall leaf collection program on October 31. Leaves will be vacuumed from curbside in each Arlington Civic Association, although the exact schedule for DRCA was not available at press time. Look for leaf collection schedules to be posted throughout the neighborhood within the next several weeks.

For residents who prefer to bag their leaves, the County has free biodegradable bags—which are collected one business day after the regular trash pick-up—at the following nearby locations:

Langston Brown School and Community Center, 4854 Lee Highway. Hours: M-F, 9 am-10 pm, Sat, 9 am-1 pm

Lee Center, 5722 Lee Highway. Hours: M-F, 9:30 am-10 pm, Sat, 9:30 am-6 pm

Madison Center, 3829 North Stafford Street. Hours: M-Th, 9:30 am-10 pm, F, 9:30 am-6:30 pm, Sat, 10 am-2 pm.

County officials note that the biodegradable bags also can be used for spring yard waste collection, which will take place during the month of April.

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

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

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

**Mixed-Use Project
Planned
Peter Fallon**

The county has received an application to build (via use permit) a "mixed-use" project at the corner of Old Dominion Drive and Wakefield St. (across from the new traffic signal). The four-story project calls for ground level retail, commercial office space on the second floor, and two levels of residential. The site is currently occupied by two houses (previously sub-divided into apartments). The application has been reviewed by the Arlington County Planning and Transportation Commissions and has been deferred until the February 2006 County Board meeting for a decision. Anyone interested in this proposal can contact Peter Fallon at peter@drca.org or Ned Rhodes at ned@drca.org for more information.

**Opera Theatre of
Northern Virginia's 2005
Annual Family Opera**

Opera Theatre of Northern Virginia (OTNV) is pleased to present Rossini's "The Barber of Seville" on November 13 and 19.

Adapted for young audiences by the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the "Barber" is a delight for the young and the young-at-heart! Running time is approximately one hour. Performances will be held on both the 13th and 19th at 3:00 pm in the Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 125 South Old Glebe Road, in Arlington. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for children (under 14). Group rates are available. For more information or to purchase tickets, call (703) 528-1433 or visit www.novaopera.org.

Donaldson Run Civic Association
C/o Elizabeth Apple, Treasurer
4207 North 31st Street, Arlington, VA 22207

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

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DRCA Meeting

Wednesday, November 16 at 7:30 p.m.
A social half hour begins at 7 p.m.

Agenda: Donaldson Run Stream Restoration Update
Taylor Elementary School
2600 North Stuart Street

Development of County Park Continues

Peter Fallon

Work continues on the County's premier park, better known as "the North Tract." The park is situated immediately south of the 14th Street Bridge near Crystal City. Current plans call for a state-of-the-art aquatics center and four artificial turf recreation fields.

The County Board has created the North Tract Design Task Force to work with county staff and consultants. Community input is sought for all aspects of this project. For more information on the NT proposal contact Erik Beach (Arlington Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources) at 703-228-3818.

Treasurer's Report

Elizabeth Apple

As always, thank you for your membership fees, contributions to the newsletter and for filling in the membership forms. We use the information to update our mailing and e-mail lists. Additionally, your comments are very important to us, and we appreciate the time you take in completing them. These forms are circulated among the Board members so that we can all be aware of your concerns. Finally, if you are thinking about joining DRCA but are waiting until 2006, there's no need: Your \$15 fee will pay for the rest of this year and next!