



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DONALDSON RUN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.drca.org

March 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ned W. Rhodes

You might notice that this newsletter is rather skinny. The reason is that although all our recent newsworthy information has been sent out via an email update or published in the last newsletter, we felt it was important to make you aware of the next two upcoming Donaldson Run Civic Association (DRCA) meetings. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 28 at Taylor School. We will have our normal social half hour from 7-7:30, followed by a presentation from Verizon on their latest offerings. See the separate announcement in this newsletter for full details.

In the second half of the March meeting, we will have a legislative update from our State Senate and House representatives, Mary Margaret Whipple and Bob Brink. It is always good to hear from them and catch up on what is happening in Richmond. They will give a short report on the recently completed legislative session and then take questions from the floor.

May 30 is the tentative date for our last meeting of the spring. We normally take the summer off and start our meeting schedule again in September.

I encourage you all to check the mailing label on this newsletter for your current dues status. We appreciate your support by renewing or joining. Throughout the year, things happen fast and the best way to stay informed is through the DRCA email list open to all dues paying members of the civic association. If you are on that list, then you would have received advanced notice that we had cancelled the February 28 meeting as well as other news of interest to the neighborhood. The list is used to send meeting notice reminders and other news that arrives too late for the printed newsletter.

Check our web site at <http://www.drca.org> for other information, links and copies of our old newsletters. I look forward to seeing you at the next membership meeting.

VERIZON FIOS SERVICE TOPIC FOR MARCH 28 DRCA MEETING

Bill Richardson

Last summer, the County Board authorized Verizon to provide cable service in Arlington, as a competitor to Comcast. Additional information about the terms and conditions of Verizon's cable franchise is available on the County's website, by searching for the Arlington Cable Television and Information Technology Advisory Commission. Verizon's FiOS service is provided by extending the fiber portion of Verizon's outside plant directly to your home, and offers cable, high speed Internet, and phone services.

Following our usual social half hour with refreshments at 7:00 and preliminary announcements, the first half of our March 28 meeting at Taylor School will be devoted to a presentation by Robin Stennet, Marketing Manager for Verizon's FiOS service, about the features of that service. Robin will be available to answer your questions about the rollout of FiOS in our neighborhood, the features of Verizon's new service, and the process of sign-up and installation.

MARYMOUNT PROJECT TO BE CONSIDERED AT MAY MEETING

Anne Wilson

The Marymount proposal for the corner of 26th Street and Old Dominion Drive will be again considered by DRCA membership at the May meeting, which is **tentatively** scheduled for May 30. Last December, the County Board

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MARYMOUNT PROJECT

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deferred taking action on the multi-use (dormitory, parking garage, classroom, auditorium) project so that stakeholder groups, including DRCA, could try to resolve issues surrounding the project through a series of meetings guided by a professional facilitator. Securing the services of a facilitator took longer than anticipated, and the first meeting is scheduled for March 13. It is expected that in May it will be time for DRCA to consider any revisions made to the proposal as a result of the facilitated discussions. More details about the project and the date of the meeting will be announced in the spring issue of *The Current*.

MASTER TRANSPORTATION PLAN FORUM

Arlington County and the Arlington Transportation Commission will be holding a public forum on the draft Master Transportation Plan (MTP) on Monday, March 19. The event will be held in the Navy League Conference Room (located at 2300 Wilson Boulevard) and will begin at 7PM. Your participation is welcomed.

Below is a set of questions that will be the focus of the discussion. These questions were derived from public comments received following the release of the second draft (dated November 2006) of the plan.

1. Should streets be rebuilt with narrower lanes to manage traffic speeds on arterial streets and to create local streets that operate as "Yield Streets"? How prescriptive should the Master Transportation Plan (MTP) be in providing street design standards?
2. Should the County pursue the construction of new streets in redevelopment areas when such streets would provide direct connections into residential areas? Should the County end the practice of eliminating street connections for non-safety related reasons?
3. What is the significance of the new street typologies in the draft MTP? How could they address community concerns about arterial and local streets design and operation?
4. Would establishing a Primary Transit Network be an equitable way to allocate transit

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

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resources? By what principles should we balance transit priorities against other modes?

5. How should the County provide options to travel by private vehicles in the primarily lower-density, single-family residential areas?

If you have any questions regarding the MTP or the forum please contact Ritch Viola, AICP, Project Manager- Master Transportation Plan (703) 228-3699.

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/Comment:

Please make check payable to Donaldson Run Civic Association.

Mail to: Arleen Rhodes, Treasurer, 2749 N. Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22207

ARLINGTON POLICE MAKE CRIME REPORTS AVAILABLE BY EMAIL

The Arlington County Police Department is distributing a weekly summary of significant crime reports by email. The crime reports are already available on the Department's website, but distributing the information by email will make it easier for Arlington residents to keep informed about criminal activity in their communities.

Citizens can subscribe to the free service on Arlington County's website: www.arlingtonva.us/subscribe. On the Subscription page, check the box next to Police Crime Reports, enter your email address, and click on the Subscribe button.

To view the crime reports online, go to www.arlingtonva.us/police. Information about the most recent incidents will continue to be posted each weekday if time permits.

REDWALL AUDITIONS AT THE CHILDREN'S THEATRE

From heroes to villains, this epic musical adventure contains elements of all grand quests. Fans of Tolkien and King Arthur tales will be engaged to the final battle. This show is a great way to introduce your children to the Redwall book series.

For those nine to 18 years old who are considering being a part of the show, a pre-audition workshop is scheduled for March 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. (\$50). The workshop will help students learn what to expect at an audition and how to present themselves. The workshop is held shortly before auditions which take place March 19 and 20.

The theatre is located near Route 50 and Glebe Road. Call the hotline (703) 548-1154 or visit the website at www.encorestage.org for the latest information on the Children's Theatre.

Donaldson Run Civic Association
c/o Arleen Rhodes, Treasurer
2749 N. Wakefield 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 Membership Meetings

Wednesday, March 28

Agenda: Presentation on Verizon's FiOS Service

Wednesday, May 30

Agenda: Consideration of Marymount Project

**Membership meetings begin with a
social half hour at 7 p.m.
Presentations and discussions begin at 7:30**

**Taylor Elementary School
2600 North Stuart Street**