



Neighbor News



DPCA MEETING
West Village at Shirlington
Monday, November 18
7:00 pm

NEXT DPCA MEETING

Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Join our last Douglas Park Civic Association meeting of the year as we receive updates on neighborhood crime by Arlington County Police Department, power sub-station and power line under grounding by Dominion Energy, and Kickoff the Holiday Fund Drive.

Location: West Village at Shirlington Clubhouse
4155 S Four Mile Run Dr, Arlington, VA 22204

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Message from the President

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Help us improve the neighborhood! The Douglas Park Civic Association is dedicated to improving the neighborhood with advocacy, convening, and giving back. I am proud of the events we put together to build community, am very grateful for the generosity from neighbors to help those in need, but we could use more help advocating to improve our infrastructure.

Douglas Park has historically not benefitted as much from infrastructure projects compared to other parts of the County, and we need passionate residents to help us fight to make things better. Our neighborhood is filled with professionals who understand how to manage projects, work with government bureaucracy, and mobilize the community.

Please reach out to me (president@douglasparkca.org) if you may be willing to work a project, even a small amount of time could go a long way to making the neighborhood a safer, stronger, and more beautiful place.

41st Annual Holiday Fund Drive Kickoff

By Rita Wiggins

The leaves are changing color and falling from the trees; there is a chill in the air; the 2024 Trail of Terror, other Douglas Park awesome Halloween activities, and the Election Day Bake Sale are now in the rearview mirror. On the DPCA calendar, that can only mean one thing... It's time to kick off this year's Holiday Fund Drive.

Since 1984, the Douglas Park Civic Association has participated in a Winter Holiday fund raising and gift buying effort in support of the children and families at Randolph Elementary School.

This year the school would like to try something a little different. They are planning to have a "shop" where parents can choose their child's gift and then bring it to a table to have it wrapped or bagged. The parents will also receive a gift card for each child. Randolph ES is planning to "open the shop" on Dec. 13 from 4 - 6pm and Dec. 14th from 9am - 11am.



There are several ways that you can participate in this worthwhile effort. We are looking for volunteers to:

- Provide cash donations. Checks should be made out to Douglas Park Civic Association and should be mailed to Andy Price at 1716 S. Pollard Street, Arlington, VA, 22204. You can also donate online via PayPal to treasurer@douglasparkca.org or via Venmo to @DPCA_arl. Whichever method you choose to donate, please be sure to include "Holiday Fund Drive" in the note section.
- Purchase gift items based on recommendations and ideas provided by the team at Randolph, to be delivered to the school by Dec. 13. (You will be reimbursed for all gift purchases.)

- Purchase gift cards to be delivered to the school by Dec 13. (You will be reimbursed for all gift card purchases.)
- Volunteer to work during the shop's open hours listed above. (Jobs will include gift wrappers, ticket takers, table monitors, etc.)

If you would like to purchase presents or gift cards, or volunteer at the shop, please contact Rita Wiggins at rmwiggins@verizon.net. Please don't hesitate to contact Rita with any questions you might have. We look forward to hearing from you.

Trail of Terror Success

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Thank you very much to this year's Trail of Terror planning committee: Jess, Amy, Sarah, and Adam. A special thank you as well to Alison for planning the "Witch's Ride" bicycle ride where neighbors rode through the neighborhood giving out candy with costumes.



After the Witch's Ride, neighbors had fun at the kids area with bouncy castles, cotton candy, face painting, and pumpkin decorating.



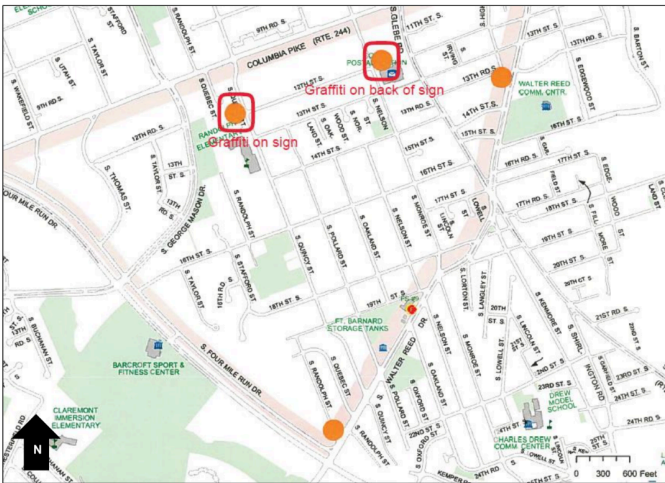
The Trail of Terror started with the customary performance of the Plague Doctor, as attendees attempted to survive the trail. This year's trail raised \$5,000 for the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) and Randolph Elementary School Parent Teacher Association, as well as 260 pounds of food for AFAC.

\$18,000 for Douglas Park Sign Replacement

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

The Arlington County Neighborhoods Advisory Committee has approved \$18,000 to re-design, move, and replace the four Douglas Park neighborhood signs. It is still a mystery where our current Douglas Park Civic Association logo (and bad font) came from around 20 years ago, but we now have an opportunity to re-design it and we are welcome to suggestions from the neighborhood.

SIGN LOCATIONS (EXISTING)



For sign placement, two of our signs are tucked into the neighborhood instead of on our borders. This sends a bad message that our multi-family buildings, apartments and condominiums, are not a part of the Douglas Park neighborhood. Our family lives in a multi-family building, and I am disappointed this was not addressed when the signs were first put up.

Community Oversight Board

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

There is an opportunity to give back to your community by building trust between the public and the Arlington County Police Department. The Arlington County Community Oversight Board (COB), with the Independent Police Auditor, independently reviews and addresses public grievances against the police department and has the power to investigate complaints and recommend actions. Douglas Park residents can apply to be a member of the COB here: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Commissions-and-Advisory-Groups/Community-Oversight-Board>.

Douglas Park Trees Removed

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Douglas Park has had some trees removed recently, and could have more to be removed in the near future. On the south side of Douglas Park, several Ailanthus altissima (Tree of Heaven) trees were removed, which



are invasive species. The Tree of Heaven trees were removed before they suppressed the growth of other plants in the area. They are especially difficult to remove and need to be treated with an herbicide first, otherwise it would respond to being cut down with hundreds of root sprouts. Other invasive species of trees and bushes will be removed from the park, as they negatively stress the native vegetation. As other trees are moved as part of the Douglas Park Phase 1 renovation, the Douglas Park Civic Association will continue to work with Arlington County's Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure the park has a healthy tree canopy.

DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA FORMULARIO DE MEMBRESÍA—AÑO FISCAL 2025

MARZO 2024 — FEBRERO 2025

- SE ADJUNTAN MIS CUOTAS FAMILIARES ANUALES DE \$25.00
- ESTOY/ESTAMOS DONANDO LA CANTIDAD ADICIONAL DE \$ _____
- SE ADJUNTA UN CHEQUE POR \$ _____

POR FAVOR IMPRIMA

Nombre _____

Dirección de la calle (incluyendo el número de apartamento) _____

Arlington, VA 22204

Teléfono de casa (incluyendo el código de área) _____

Correo electrónico _____

ME GUSTARÍA AYUDAR CON:

- Picnic y desfile del cuatro de julio
- Venta de pasteles para del día de las elecciones
- Colecto de fondos para festividades
- Escribir artículos para boletines
- El Camino del Terror de Hallowe'en
- Distribuir/entregar boletines
- Llámame en cualquier momento, y veré si puedo ayudar
- Publicidad en boletín

ENVÍE POR CORREO SU CHEQUE, PAGABLE A 'DPCA', JUNTO CON ESTE FORMULARIO A:

Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association
1716 South Pollard Street
Arlington, VA 22204-5050

O únase/renueve con PayPal en <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>

¡Gracias!



STAY IN TOUCH!

- Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/douglasparkarlington/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DouglasParkArlington>
- Website: <https://www.douglasparkca.org/>
- Email ListServ using Groups.io: Email "Subscribe" to dpcalistserv+subscribe@groups.io
- Google Calendar: <https://bit.ly/DPCAcal>

R & M Cleaning Services

We are licensed and insured!

- RELIABLE
- EXPERIENCED
- GOOD REFERENCES
- FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING
- REASONABLE RATES



WE BRING OUR OWN EQUIPMENT

*Free in-home Estimate
Weekly/Bi-Weekly/Monthly or Occasional
Move-in or Move-out*

**Call Maryen or Raul at
703-321-5335**

DOUGLAS PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION • ARLINGTON, VA
MEMBERSHIP FORM—FY2025
MARCH 2024 — FEBRUARY 2025

- ENCLOSED ARE MY ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD DUES OF \$25.00
- I'M/WE'RE DONATING THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$ _____
- A CHECK FOR \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____
 Street Address (incl Apt No) _____

 Arlington, VA 22204
 Home Phone (incl Area Code) _____
 Email _____

I'D LIKE TO HELP WITH:

- Fourth of July Picnic and Parade
- Election Day Bake Sale
- Holiday Fund Drive
- Writing newsletter articles
- Halloween Trail of Terror
- Distribute/deliver newsletters
- Call me anytime; I'll see if I can help
- Newsletter advertising

MAIL YOUR CHECK, PAYABLE TO 'DPCA', ALONG WITH THIS FORM TO:

Treasurer, Douglas Park Civic Association
1716 South Pollard Street
Arlington, VA 22204-5050

Or, join/renew with PayPal at <http://www.douglasparkca.org/join/>

Thank you!

Here Comes Santa on a Fire Truck

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

Get ready for Santa to go through the neighborhood again this year! Last year Santa started out at Fire Station #9 a few weeks before Christmas, and rode a Fire Truck to say hello to all of the good girls and boys in Douglas Park and the other nearby neighborhoods.



The red and white fire truck matched Santa's outfit perfectly. Stay tuned to the DPCA-Listserv for Santa details in December.

New Car Tax Enforcement Coming

By Steve Jordan Tomaszewski

The Arlington County Commissioner of Revenue's Office will be starting a new pilot program to enforce vehicle tax payments in Arlington County. This program will have a vehicle with an Automatic License Plate Reader driving around Douglas Park and the rest of Arlington County looking for vehicles regularly parked in the county and are subject to personal property tax. Over the next three months (November 2024 – January 2025), the [Personal Property Enforcement Program \(PPEP\) Team](#) will be driving through your Civic Association's neighborhood.