



*Respecting Tradition  
Welcoming Progress*

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

## Old Glebe Civic Association

March 2020

### WE ASKED—YOU ANSWERED!

We want to thank the more than 100 households that responded to our recent survey to determine the neighborhood's "assets, needs, and objectives." (See the report on this survey, page 2.) This data is vital for updating Old Glebe's Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP), last done in 2003. An update is needed in order to apply for a County grant for any neighborhood improvements.

The survey shows a large number of you wanting the County to more vigorously control development. Is the County making sure developers avoid unnecessarily cutting down existing trees? Other civic associations in Arlington have alleged that the County has *not* adequately enforced existing regulations.

So we have scheduled a special public meeting for Old Glebe to address this issue and several other issues that the survey raised. Please come to that meeting —**Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m. at the Gulf Branch Nature Center** to make your voice heard.

### Presidents' Corner by Richard Samp

Several other upcoming meetings may be of interest. As previously reported, the County has initiated a long-term **Gulf Branch Stream Restoration** project. A meeting at the Madison Center, Room 8, on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm will provide updates on the project and will solicit your feedback.

The Arlington County Civic Federation's annual banquet will be held on Friday evening, April 17<sup>th</sup> at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. Eric Schaeffer, Artistic Director of the Signature Theater, will be the featured speaker. Old Glebe Civic Association is always represented at the banquet and we are willing to reimburse the ticket price for a limited number of neighborhood residents. If you wish to attend, contact me by email:

[president@oldglebe.org](mailto:president@oldglebe.org)

Finally, at our Annual Meeting in June we elect new board members for the Old Glebe Civic Association. Please consider offering some of your time and talent by adding your name to the slate of officers and delegates. We are eager to revitalize participation in our community!

Old Glebe Civic Association (OGCA) is an organization formed to give residents a voice in local, County, and State affairs. Any resident may become a member.

OGCA is a member of the Arlington County Civic Association —which provides policy inputs to the County and State governments.

### Old Glebe Officers:

*President Rich Samp*

*Vice President Burt Bostwick*

*Secretary Peter Jaffe*

*Treasurer Ruth Gordon*

### Members of the Executive Committee and Delegates to Arlington Civic Federation:

Officers listed above, plus:

Karen Rosenbaum, *Newsletter Editor*

Howard Solodky, *NCAC Rep*

Maureen Fanguy

Tony Spadaro

Marx Sterne

### OGCA PLAQUE HONORS BILL SCHWAB

Next time you're taking a stroll through the neighborhood and you go over our newly restored pedestrian bridge at the foot of Chesterbrook Road, please notice that we have now dedicated this bridge to one of the long-time servants of this community, Captain Bill Schwab.

After serving in World War II and the Korean War as a Navy pilot, Bill did flight training, international education, and worked with NATO at the end of his career. After retirement, Bill moved to Arlington, was active as a neighborhood organizer and earned the nickname "Mayor of Chesterbrook Road" for his involvement with his neighbors. He was also a stalwart on the board of the Old Glebe Civic Association for many years.

The plaque is fitting in that it was Bill's idea to build a bridge over the stream there.



### CONNECT WITH US!

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

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Old-Glebe-Civic-Association>

OGCA Listserve:

<http://groups.yahoo.com>

Search "oldglebecivicassociation"

## RESULTS FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SURVEY

The Old Glebe community reported a high level of satisfaction about most aspects of living here. They gave generally high ratings to most County services, showed an appreciation for the beauty of the neighborhood, the low crime rate, and favor retaining this as an area of single family homes. Surprisingly they indicated a fairly low level of use of amenities such as the Madison Center, Glebe Park, the Gulf Branch Nature Center, and Fort Ethan Allen Park — but this may relate to the age of the respondents (47% were over age 55).

A major complaint revealed by the survey is in the area of traffic control. 53% want sidewalks on at least one side of each street; 59% think some intersections are difficult to maneuver because of traffic flow or visual obstructions; 60% are concerned about speeding vehicles. To control these issues all-way stops are much preferred (58% favor) over speed bumps (50% oppose) or rumble strips (41% oppose) or traffic circles (45% oppose).

The most striking response in the survey was that 92% thought the County should require developers to make greater efforts to save mature trees when building or expanding existing houses.

Another 85% supported a County program to help homeowners maintain, rather than remove, large mature trees.

And although 91% say crime is not a problem in this neighborhood, there were some significant complaints about thefts from parked cars.

All these issues will be discussed at our **APRIL 19<sup>th</sup> MEETING at GULF BRANCH NATURE CENTER at 1:00 p.m.**

Another result from the survey: Sunday afternoons ranked as the best time for attending OGCA events. So we'll see you there, right?

[The Survey is available for your perusal at <http://oldglebe.org/>]



## SPEAKERS HEADLINE PUBLIC MEETING

Because of our survey's strong response about saving the tree canopy in Arlington, **Vincent Verweij, Urban Forest Manager** of Arlington's Department of Parks & Recreation has promised to send a speaker to share information about what citizens and the County can do to rein in the developers' seeming eagerness to clear cut any land under development. Also, they will give us information about the loss of older trees which we have been experiencing.

Also headlining the meeting will be our Police Liaison, **Corporal Beth Lennon**, of the Arlington Police Department's Community Outreach Team. She will have the latest information and guidance about the legalities of door-to-door solicitation, prevalence of thefts from parked cars (and what we can do to prevent it), and issues regarding traffic safety in our neighborhood.



**The Friends of Arlington Library Spring Book Sale Members Night** is Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> (memberships available at the door) through the half priced sale on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at the Central Library on N. Quincy Street. Tens of thousands of books will sell for very reasonable prices. The children's section is extremely large, as are current fiction, romance, foreign language, history and literature. Also large selections of music (CDs, sheet music, LPs) and DVDs are offered. For more details go to: [arlingtonlibraryfriends.org](http://arlingtonlibraryfriends.org)

In 2019: 72,000 children and adults attended preschool and story time programs, 23,000 students participated in book talks, 10,000 patrons attended makers programs, 2,200 attended eight Arlington Reads events! 50,000 Arlington households have an active library card.

## WALKER CHAPEL NEWS

The annual **Kid Stuff Sale** is March 21<sup>st</sup> from 8:00 to noon. This premiere consignment sale has seasonal kids' clothes, shoes, toys, books, movies, strollers, bikes, maternity clothing and lots more!

**April Fest** is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 3:00. Flowers, hanging baskets, and mulch are featured, as well as gently used books for kids and adults. CDs, DVDs, and computer games will be offered, along with a bake sale.

Mulch and flower pre-sales begin March 7<sup>th</sup>, and neighbors can donate goods for the sales on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Interested in helping with April Fest? Contact Carl Cunningham at [cunningham122@verizon.net](mailto:cunningham122@verizon.net).

## MADISON CENTER IS FULL OF LIFE & ACTIVITY

Old Glebe is fortunate to have excellent resources—tennis courts, playgrounds, a nature center and the **Madison Community Center**. Madison's parking lot was full at 9:00 a.m. on a recent Monday morning, and inside the rooms were buzzing with activity. Little kids bounced around in preschool or cooperative playgroups. Adults were earnestly working out with weights and



equipment in the Fitness Center or at the drop-in "Brahma Pit" for even more serious body builders. Yoga and pilates classes filled the

multipurpose room. A seated exercise class for the 55+ set was happily stretching. And don't forget about chess, bridge, ping pong and other games!



## THE EMERGENCY RESPONDER NEXT DOOR

by Tony Spadaro

Recently, while on separate vacation hiking trips, two of your neighbors came across fellow hikers who were suffering from severe reactions to insect bites and a heavily-bleeding wound. In both incidents your neighbors used their first aid knowledge to assist in administering anti-shock medication and to control the bleeding, saving lives.

These good Samaritans were Old Glebe citizens trained and certified as emergency management volunteers, helping to make our neighborhood safer every day. They assist Arlington County Emergency Services during storms



or other disasters and are the local first responders when the Arlington County Fire, Rescue and EMTs may not be immediately available or over-committed. They have skills that allow them to assist if you or your children are injured in routine accidents, providing life-saving help until the professionals arrive.

Community Emergency Response Teams (or CERT) have been operating in Arlington since 2002 and, to-date have trained over 850 County residents. In the northwest area of Arlington (which includes our Old Glebe neighborhood) over 300 volunteers have been trained, and some 40 are currently on active duty and available to assist upon call by the Arlington Emergency Manager.

CERT programs, certified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), assist local communities at the county level across the nation. The Arlington CERT was one of the first such programs and continues to lead the way. Any County resident can be a CERT volunteer if willing to take 33 hours of classwork over 6-7 weeks and pass the written and practical exams. This training is interesting and thorough. CERT team members are trained (and practice) to be the Emergency Incident Commander until relieved. They are trained to organize and manage an emergency scene according to the FEMA Incident Command System:

## VOTING IN 2020 by Howard Solodky

This year presents multiple opportunities for each of us to exercise that most fundamental of democratic rights, the right to vote. On **March 3<sup>rd</sup>**, Super Tuesday, Virginia is one of several states holding a Democratic Presidential Primary. If you were not already a registered voter in Arlington, the deadline for registering to vote to participate in the primary was **February 10<sup>th</sup>**.

In the **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** General Election, US Senator Mark Warner, a Democrat, is running for reelection. No fewer than six candidates have entered the race to be his Republican opponent. **June 9<sup>th</sup>** will be primary day when the Republican Senatorial nominee will be selected. To participate in that primary, if you are not already a registered voter, you must register no later than **May 18<sup>th</sup>**. U.S. Congressman Don Beyer, a Democrat whose district includes Arlington County, is also running for reelection in November. However, it appears that no Republican primary will be held to determine his opponent because only one Republican, Heerak Christian Kim, has thrown his hat in the ring.

Arlington voters also get to elect in 2020 two new members of the School Board and one new member of the County Board. Six Democrats have already announced they are seeking one of the two School Board seats, and Democratic incumbent Libby Garvey is being challenged by Democrat Chanda Choun for the Board of Supervisors position. The Arlington County Democratic Committee will hold a caucus (primaries are prohibited by law in Virginia for School Board races) over two days to determine which two Democratic candidates the party will endorse for School Board. The first session of the caucus will occur on **May 7<sup>th</sup>** from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at Drew Elementary School, and the second session will be on **May 9<sup>th</sup>** from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm at Washington-Liberty High School. The Democratic primary for County Board will be held on **June 9<sup>th</sup>**. While the chair of the Arlington County Republican Committee has publicly committed to fielding candidates for both the School Board and the Board of Supervisors, no such candidates have surfaced as of this date.



assessing the situation, planning the response, organizing the response teams, evacuating victims to designated safe areas, doing light search and rescue, conducting field triage of injuries, administering life-saving first aid to the injured and ensuring that the scene is rendered safe. CERT volunteers are also trained to anticipate and deal with the mental and physical stress of disasters.

Even without major disaster assignments, CERT-trained neighbors are good to have around when bad things happen since they have skills (and also supplies) that help: controlling bleeding, clearing airways, using automated external defibrillators, and preventing shock.

CERT members follow major weather events such as hurricanes, wind storms and flooding; help to train local area professional first responders by

organizing and providing "victim" actors at major disaster simulation exercises; assist in the Until Help Arrives (UHA) program preparing County employees to protect themselves in active shooter incidents; provide decoy volunteers to train and test the drug and explosive detection systems; run "ham" radios when normal communications are disrupted (as in our *derecho* storm several years ago); locate and clear snow around fire hydrants in Arlington during winter storms, saving precious minutes for the Fire Department responders.

So get to know your neighborhood CERT folks—and consider becoming one yourself. Many County residents take CERT training simply to know how to help their own families in a dire situation—even without volunteering to be on call. New training will occur soon; see <http://arlingtoncert.org/>

# OLD GLEBE CIVIC ASSOCIATION PUBLIC MEETING

Sunday, April 19th at 1:00 p.m.

Gulf Branch Nature Center

- Do you want to save trees? Arlington's *Urban Forest Manager* will tell us how!
- Are you concerned about door-to-door solicitors, car break-ins and traffic safety? *Corporal Beth Lennon* of the Arlington Police will give us the facts.

## BE THERE!

### IS YOUR OGCA MEMBERSHIP CURRENT? JOIN OR RENEW TODAY!

Membership funds are used for community events, beautification, and causes such as Gulf Branch Nature Center. Please send the information below with a check made out to Old Glebe Civic Association to join or renew for one year (\$10), three years (\$25) or a lifetime membership (\$100). Mail to **OGCA, 4522 North 37th Street, 22207.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Arlington, VA. 22207

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_\*

\*[Your email address is **vital** for us to be able to keep you up to date with OGCA news.]

You may also renew with a credit card online at <http://www.oldglebe.org/contact/>