



Arlington Ridge Civic Association

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Website: www.arcaonline.org

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Pentagon Row Plaza



"Guard of Honor"



COUNTY BOARD ELECTIONS

On March 27, 2012 there will be a special election to fill the unexpired term of former Arlington County Board member Barbara Favola, who was elected to the Virginia State Senate.

The following candidates have announced their candidacy for this seat:

Peter Fallon <http://fallonforcountyboard.org>

Melissa Bondi <http://www.melissabondi.org>

Terron Sims <http://simsforarlington.com>

Libby Garvey <http://www.libbygarvey.com>

Kim Klingler <http://www.kim4arlington.com>

Elmer Lowe <http://www.bluevirginia.us/diary/5522/blue-virginias-arlington-county-board-interviews-elmer-low>

Audrey Clement <http://audreyclement.org>

Six of the announced candidates are seeking Democratic Party endorsement at the **Democratic Unassembled Caucus**, which will be held **Jan 19, 7 – 9pm** at Washington Lee High School, and **Jan 21, 11am – 7pm** at Kenmore Middle School. For more information see <http://www.arlingtondemocrats.org>.

Republican Canvass

<http://www.arlingtongop.org>, Jan 25: 7:30pm NRECA, 4301 Wilson Blvd. 703-685-2488

PROPOSED RE-DEVELOPMENT ON JOYCE ST. CUL DE SAC Mr. Troutman and County staff to attend ARCA meeting

Mr. Dan Troutman has accepted an ARCA invitation to explain his proposal for redeveloping the property at 2816 South Joyce Street (cul de sac off Fort Scott Drive). Mr. Troutman would like to remove the existing house and build three houses on a 20,000+ square foot pie shaped lot. A representative from the County staff will also attend the meeting. Last October Mr. Troutman and his business partner Mr. Dennis Zauner purchased the property. In the fall they filed a plat to build three houses by utilizing a "paper street" extension of June Street that runs to Oakcrest Park ("The Pit"). Two houses would enter off June Street extended, and one house would front off the Joyce St. cul de sac. In January, a new plan was filed that has a new cul de sac being built off the existing cul de sac. The three lots would originate from the new cul de sac and extend toward the back of the property. This redevelopment would take place under the Unified Residential Development (URD) code of Arlington County. Please come and learn about this very important possible development for our community and express your views. An ARCA "position" could be established at this meeting. On Jan. 10, the developers held an informational meeting for neighbors to consider the two perspectives. Neighbors were concerned about adding 3 houses to the cul de sac, and about setting a precedent. The County Board is scheduled to hear this issue on March 10.

EDGE DEVELOPMENT TO BEGIN AT OLD POST OFFICE SITE

The owner of the old Post Office site has reached a deal with Kettler to build a residential development, and plans are scheduled to be filed with the County by the end of January.

DEVELOPMENT UPDATES**Crystal City Citizen Review Council (CCCRC)**

On December 12, 2011, the full 19-member Council met to review the transportation metrics to be tracked as part of the ongoing review of Crystal City's development under the Sector Plan adopted in September 2010. The discussion involved confirming what data would be collected by the county, rather than effective 'performance measures.' ARCA and AHCA representatives believe such measures should include a consistent approach to traffic data collection on roads and streets leading into and out of Crystal City, including Pentagon City, ARCA and AHCA. The current 2010-11 baseline data provided at the November 9 meeting (posted on the ARCA website) are based on tube counts which do not indicate month, day, exact location, or direction, and were mostly taken at five year intervals. We need a protocol for traffic data collection that will better support CCCRC metrics. We also need a measure for transit effectiveness that would tell us whether Transportation Demand Management (TDM) is succeeding in shifting trips from autos to transit. And we need information on pass-through traffic (on Rt. 1 and S. Glebe, for example), in coordination with VDOT. Subsequent small workgroups will hopefully address these and other concerns. Some items proposed for inclusion earlier, like slug carpooling, were dropped because the county does not collect data.

There are now a number of important community services for Crystal City which are shared with AHCA and ARCA—schools, emergency medical care, fire, police, library, theater—that do not have a metric, but will be in a category of items to be monitored as development proceeds. The same is true of retail needed to make Crystal City self-contained, such as grocery, hardware, child and eldercare. The method of monitoring needs to be determined. Potential increased pressure on ARCA's and AHCA's parks are also not reflected in the metrics, both because the county does not collect significant data on park use, and because they consider that increased use would be handled under the ARCA and AHCA Neighborhood Conservation plans.

Whether it was possible to have a useful metric for air quality in the CCCRC report was also discussed. Ultimately the majority decided that data from the Virginia DEQ monitor at Aurora Hills Community Center would not accurately reflect air quality directly resulting from possible increased traffic. National Airport, the Metrobus yard, West Virginia powerplants, I-395 traffic, etc. are heavy contributors, and there is currently no way to measure emissions from local CC traffic as a separate item. Nonetheless, air quality continues to be a concern of ARCA representatives. Co-chairs Christer Ahl and Judy Freshman said they plan to have the Council's first report completed and published in the spring of 2012.

Pentagon Row Plaza Re-Design

Federal Realty presented revised plans for a re-design and upgrade of the plaza at the November 9 AHCA meeting. (Their Dec. 8 proposal is posted on the ARCA website). As previously reported, the winter-season ice rink would be lengthened but not widened, to 57' x 120,' making it about two-thirds of regulation size, which many who use the rink thought would be an improvement. The existing raised areas with grass would be removed to allow the bigger rink, but other play space would be added. Mature trees would be kept or replaced if weak; a proposed artificial turf lawn with curved path would replace current pavement. Two 800 sq. ft. freestanding retail spaces would be added, with nearby table and chair seating. Federal Realty says the retail will help cover the cost of the re-doing the plaza. Other features for seating, fountains, and play space would replace existing ones.

A fire pit and additional seating would be added, and outdoor warm season restaurant seating would remain. Attendees at the AHCA meeting expressed concern about pedestrian flow (especially during winter, when the rink is in place), viewing area for non-skaters, flexibility for families with small children, the heat island effects of artificial turf, and nature and quality of retail in freestanding buildings. A number of residents said they preferred real grass, but it would get dry and worn quickly, and require replacing every year. In spite of enthusiasm from a number of people, a majority of AHCA residents voted not to approve the plan. Federal Realty had made a number of changes in response to previous comments, and is making changes to respond to comments from County planning staff. They will submit their revised application at the January 21 County Board Meeting.

Next ARCA Meeting: Thursday, January 19 at 7 pm

at Aurora Hills Community Center, 735 S. 18th Street, Arlington VA 22202

SCHOOLS UPDATE**OAKRIDGE**

Feb 10, 6 – 8 pm Summer Activities Fair

WAKEFIELD**Wakefield Students Sweep Decal Competition!**

The four finalists in this year's vehicle decal competition are all Wakefield students! Vote by January 22 at

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/treasurer/forms/decavote.asp>

Arlington-Ukraine Student Exchange

The Arlington Sister Cities Assn. is sponsoring a new program in which Arlington students visit Ukraine for 2 weeks in summer 2012, and Ukrainian students visit Arlington in the fall. Call 703-615-1021 or 571-214-1827 for more information.

PEG PROPOSALS APPROVED**We Did It!**

All three PEG grants sponsored by ARCA were approved by Arlington County's Parks and Recreation Commission, and were formally adopted by the Board at its January session. Two of the projects were funded in their entirety, and the third, for Prospect Park, was partially approved -- new benches, bathhouses but no upgraded path (postponed pending resolution of easement issues). See <http://www.arcaonline.org> for details of the proposals.

See arcaonline.org for more information on all articles contained in the Newsletter.

PLACE INITIATIVE, OPEN DOOR SESSIONS**County Board Urges Broader Civic Engagement**

2012 Chair of the Arlington County Board, Mary Hynes, has named the development of a blueprint for a broader civic engagement as her top priority. County Board members will hold "open door" sessions at various sites in the county, where residents can engage them in informal discussion on any topic. Our neighborhood open door will be held at Gunston Community Center on the 2nd Monday of the month, from 7 – 9 beginning February 13.

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT UPDATE**Noisy Work to Begin in January**

The Water Pollution and Control Plant is scheduled to begin work on its Wet Weather Filtration Facility in January 2012. This work will include noisy activities such as concrete demolition beginning January and pile driving beginning early April, and will run through November 2012. Pile driving will be scheduled Monday – Friday, 7am – 7pm. For more information, or to report excessive noise and bad smells, call 703- 228-6820.

TREES AND THEIR CARE

Arlington is losing its healthy tree cover at an alarming rate. Two free programs to help you keep yours in good condition are being offered this spring: **Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia** is offering free workshops on selecting and winter pruning of trees and shrubs. Call 703-228-6416 to register.

Tree Stewards of Arlington & Alexandria are volunteers dedicated to improving the health of urban trees through education, tree planting & care, demonstrations and tree maintenance. New volunteer training will be held Wednesday evenings from February 8 through April.

[Http://www.treestewards.org](http://www.treestewards.org)

PLEASE DON'T SMOKE IN ARLINGTON PARKS**Smoke Free Park Initiative****Please Don't Smoke in Arlington Parks**

Arlington County's Smoke-Free Park Initiative asks park patrons to refrain from smoking within 50' of areas of congregation such as ball fields, pavilions and playgrounds to prevent park patrons, and especially childrens' exposure to second-hand smoke. Signs have been posted in most parks.

SCIENCE & YOGA CLASSES FOR KIDS**Aurora Hills Community Center**

Is your preschooler ready for the lab? Come and find out with "Experimentamania", discovering the science behind popular toys and insects and "The World Around Us", featuring worms, fins, feathers and fur, magnets and dinosaurs. For the older crowd, "Secret Agent Lab" features secret communications and detective crime science that sleuth out the answer to life's mysteries. Register: 703-228-4747.

ARCA MEETINGS

All meetings are held at Aurora Hills Community Center, 735 S. 18th Street and begin at 7pm.

Jan 19 ARCA bi-monthly meeting, 7pm

Agenda:

Clifton Restorations LLC Subdivision Plan -Joyce Street
Pentagon Row Plaza
PenPlace
Community Benefits Meeting
Committee Updates

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 3 Christmas Tree Pickup on regular trash day.

Jan 13 – Feb 11 Little Murders, by Jules Feiffer. A strange and dysfunctional family whose travels expose the illogical and hilarious nooks and crannies of the American psyche. American Century Theater. Theatre Two at Gunston. <http://www.americancentury.org>

Jan 15 Dr. Martin Luther King Celebration: An inspirational evening of local and regional talent. 7pm, Washington Lee High School.

Jan 25 Quarterly Police Meeting. 7pm Our Lady of Lourdes Community Room.

Jan 28 Mischief Managed: IBIS Chamber Music presents a concert for children, including their original arrangement of John Williams' score to *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*, and *Mother Goose Suite* by Ravel. Artisphere. 11:15am & 12:30pm. <http://www.ibischambermusic.org>

Feb 4 HOG Invasive Plant Pull in Haley Park, 2400 S. Meade St. Get some exercise, improve your horticultural skills, and meet the neighbors while removing invasive species from the park. 9 – 11 am

Feb 13 County Board "Open Door" Session at Gunston Community Center, 7 – 9pm. Meet with the County Board in an informal session.

ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS

President	Katie Buck	703-271-0208
Vice-President	Arthur Fox	703-271-4119
Vice President	Molly Watson	703-549-6457
Vice President	Patty Joyce	703-283-2522
Secretary	Scott McCoy	703-683-0821
Communications	Maggie Gaffen	703-684-7359
Development	Nancy Swain	
Transportation	David Litman	703-920-7638
	Susan English	
Treasurer	Paul Hammer	703-981-1294
NCAC Rep	Natasha Pinol	703-920-9423
Pen Place	Don Clarke	703-979-7414
Pen Place	Nancy Swain	703-684-7830
ARCA History	Dick Herbst	703-892-5290
Beautification	Bonnie Flynn	703-920-1157
Beautification	Chick Walter	703-519-9487
Schools	Laura Stone	703-685-4371
Webmaster	Chris King	703-931-4842

We would love to hear from you!

Please send comments and questions on the contents of this newsletter to ARCAnighbor@gmail.com

ARCA e-Newsletter!

ARCA has inaugurated a monthly e-newsletter that will include material from the print newsletter, as well as additional information of community interest. By consolidating information usually sent through the listserv, we hope to leave your in-box a little clearer. Please tell your friends and neighbors so they too can remain current on issues that are important to us all. If you would like to be added to the e-newsletter distribution list please email us at arcaneighbor@gmail.com