



September, 2016

Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O. Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202
www.arcaonline.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1

- ◆ *Topics & Speakers*
- ◆ *22202 Density Analysis*

Page 2

- ◆ *Neighborhood News*

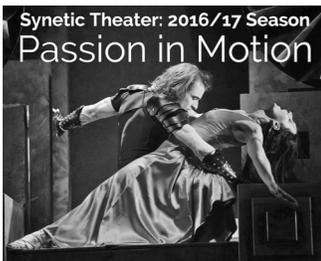
Page 3

- ◆ *Neighborhood Conservation*
- ◆ *Neighborhood News*

Page 4

- ◆ *ARCA Meetings*
- ◆ *ARCA Points of Contact*
- ◆ *Calendar of Events*

Check out Synetic Theater's season at synetictheater.org



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You can pay your \$20 annual ARCA membership dues online using PayPal! www.arcaonline.org, by check or cash. Send to ARCA, PO Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202-0976
The membership year is July 1 – June 30.

Membership Meeting, Thursday, September 15, 7pm Aurora Hills Community Center

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS

- **Congressman Don Beyer** will be on hand to prognosticate on Congress' pre-election and lame-duck agendas.
- **VDOT and Transurban representatives** will report on their final plan for the I-395 Hot Toll Lanes in our neck of the woods as well as whether and how we might qualify for a SOUND WALL along Army Navy Drive.
- **Parks & Recreation** will fill us in on its plans to renovate the Aurora Hills Community Center in the coming year.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT, DENSITY AND CONGESTION IN THE 22202 FORTRESS

For many years, Arlington County has viewed its "22202 Southern Triangle" as its *economic engine*. To that end, it has planned to add significant additional commercial and residential development in both Crystal and Pentagon Cities. Meanwhile, ARCA has been waving a cautionary flag given that thousands of additional commuters, residents and shoppers in 22202 could possibly overload our limited transportation infrastructure and create unbearable congestion.

At long last, the County has begun to recognize our unique geography given that we are surrounded by impenetrable walls: I-395 to the north and west, Four Mile Run along our southern boundary, and the railroad right-of-way along the eastern edge of Crystal City. Our two Metro stations are already among the most crowded in the County and there are only two, north/south roadways (Ridge Road and Jeff-Davis Hwy) that allow traffic to pass through 22202 – none from the east or west. (Take note: Alexandria has already begun planning to convert its adjoining Potomac Yard real estate into another Crystal City.)

In response to an ARCA Resolution, the County assembled this past year a massive quantity of historic, 22202 traffic and transit data which it recently posted on its website: <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/22202-data/>

ARCA has assembled its own task force to analyze that data and identify what additional information will be needed in order to predict the impact additional development envisioned by the County in its Crystal City Sector Plan could have on safety and quality of life in our walled-in fortress.

(Density, cont.)

That Plan calls for a doubling of the residential population in Crystal City, and a 60+ percent increase in its office space.

Further, hoping to assuage community concerns, County staff recently assembled a study of the 40-year evolution of the Pentagon City Phased Development Site Plan (PDSP) in an effort to show that the County had not, over the years, approved any increase in the level of development from that which had originally been approved in 1976. Immediately after its presentation at the Aurora Hills Community Center in late June, ARCA did its own analysis of the County's records which actually establish that the existing residential population of Pentagon City will nearly double in coming years, and its commercial, office density will eventually be three times what it is today, or as authorized in the 1976 PDSP.

Over the summer months, ARCA met individually with, and was well received by, each of the County Board Members. We shared with them and other officials our own density analysis (<http://www.arcaonline.org/2016/09/pentagon-city-density-evolution-1976-2016>) and urged them to authorize no new development in 22202 until completion of a more in-depth study to project potential levels of traffic/transit congestion in the years to come once all currently authorized development in our fortress – and to our south – has been constructed and occupied. In the meantime, we are searching for, and hope to partner with some university urban planning academics to conduct that study that will then enable strategic, or Smart Growth in 22202.

RIVER HOUSE NEWS FLASH!!

Vornado has just submitted to the County a new request to up-zone its 37-acre River House property to allow it to construct upwards of 1,000 new apartments on that property located within ARCA's neighborhood. Vornado's proposal is currently undergoing staff review for conformity with administrative regulations and will not be made publically available for several more weeks. ARCA will keep you informed as we learn more.

CLARENDON DAY

Sept 17, 11am – 6pm. Arlington's biggest street festival on the streets around the Clarendon Metro, with music, food and drink, vendors and kids events, as well as a 5K/10K race before the event. Featured are four music stages, craft beer and wine, a Chili Cookoff, scores of local restaurants, arts and crafts vendors and local businesses. Rain or Shine. Clarendonday.org

MORE SUPERLATIVES FOR ARLINGTON!

Not a month goes by without someone declaring that Arlington is the best (or worst) at something! So far we have been honored with "Best City to Retire", "Best City to Live in America", "#7 Suburb in the U.S.", "Third Healthiest City in America", and also, "10th Sickest City". And now we have been named "Nation's Top Digital County" (for our size), and best of all, "Hardest working City in America". What's next? City with the most effective neighborhood civic association? I'd vote for that.

2018 ELECTIONS, NOVEMBER 8

On the ballot will be President, and Vice President of the United States, House of Representatives (8th District), County Board and School Board (2 seats.) It will also include a special election for two proposed Virginia Constitutional amendments and four County bond questions. Presidential candidates are Hillary Clinton (D); Donald Trump (R); Gary Johnson (Libertarian); Jill Stein (Green Party); Evan McMullin (I). For County Board, Libby Garvey and Audrey Clement are on the ballot; and for School Board Nancy Van Doren and Tannia Talento. Additional information and the amendments and County bond details are at <https://vote.arlingtonva.us/elections>

COUNTY ADDS TRAFFIC, DEVELOPMENT FEATURES TO MY ARLINGTON APP

Arlington residents are now able to check the status of road work, look at traffic conditions and access information on local real estate development projects on the County's mobile app, My Arlington. County staff enters data daily onto the traffic updates from Google Waze. Other recent additions are voting

information, a county staff directory and information on development projects with county site plans.

<https://topics.arlingtonva.us/mobile-tools-apps/>

AURORA HILLS COMPLEX Interior Refurbishment Project

The long awaited refurbishment of our community center and library is on the horizon...we have been told it will probably begin after ARCA's November 17 membership meeting (fingers crossed), when we will have to find a temporary meeting venue. The renovation will include ADA compliant restrooms, new circulation desks, new flooring, kitchen appliances and cabinets, storage cabinets, and replacement of the HVAC. The library will remain open during the work, but the center will close. We will keep the neighborhood informed of its progress.

E-CARE Fall 2016: An event where residents can safely dispose of household hazardous materials, recycle bikes, small metal items, shoes and clothing, and more. Thomas Jefferson Middle School, 8:30am – 3pm. More information at 703-228-6570, or <https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/events/e-care-fall-2016>.

NATIVE PLANT SALE Sat Sept 17, 1 – 4pm, Long Branch Nature Center

Make your yard a welcoming place for local birds, bees and butterflies with native plants. Order online at parks.arlingtonva.us, search "native plant sale. 703-228-6535

ENERGY LENDING LIBRARY (REMINDER)
Don't forget the County's Energy Lending Library can lend you a thermal camera to check air leaks; energy meters, LED bulb samplers and lots of reading material. <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/energy>

ENERGY FUN FACTS YOU DIDN'T KNOW
Arlington's AIRE (Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy) team helps residents make smart

energy decisions that save money and leave a lighter footprint on the environment. At back to school time, they want us to know some energy fun facts...

Wakefield water is heated by the sun via solar thermal panels on its roof.

Discovery Elementary School is a Net Zero Energy school; it creates as much energy as it uses.

The earth heats and cools Discovery, Wakefield and Taylor schools using geothermal wells drilled hundreds of feet into the ground.

Thomas Jefferson Gym saves \$45,000 annually with its new LED lighting.

Arlington currently has 5 LEED certified schools. Many schools have **environmentally responsible "cool" roofs**, painted white or with added vegetation.

Stormwater at Wakefield is captured for irrigation and toilet flushing.

Looking to make your home more energy efficient? Take advantage of Arlington's energy rebate program if you replace a water heater, furnace or air conditioner with a more efficient model. <http://bit.ly/energyRebate>.

HORIZON HOUSE NEEDS AN ACCESSIBLE CROSSWALK!

Horizon House, located at 1300 Army Navy Drive, has been asking the County for some time to provide a pedestrian crosswalk at the bus stop in front of its building to accommodate a resident who must use a motorized wheel chair, and who commutes by bus. So far they have not been able to persuade the County to get out its pot of paint and stripe the roadway as they say that there would need to be extensive work done to the sidewalk on the west side of the road before they can proceed with an ADA compliant crosswalk. The County wants us to stay out of our cars, to walk as much as we can, and has provided bike lanes on many of our streets, but how about we prioritize access for the disabled on our sidewalks? When your means of locomotion is a wheel chair, you don't have too many options. ARCA will follow up on this issue, and hopefully the County can find funds for this important project.

ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Aurora Hills Community Center, 7pm
3rd Thursday, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov

CALENDAR

**Crystal Screen: Sept 20: Chocolat; Sept 27:
 Sideways. 18th & Bell Streets at Sundown.**

**Sept 17 Mt. Vernon German Band Free Concert in
 honor of Oktoberfest.** Aurora Hills Library. 2pm. 703-
 228-5715

Sept 18 Captain All-Star: The area's funniest and
 clumsiest magician. Ages 2 – 7. Lubber Run
 Amphitheatre. 11am. 703-228-1850

Sept 20 Yoga with Mind Your Body Oasis. 3rd Tues.
 of each month. 6:30pm. Aurora Hills Library

Sept 23 – Oct 8 Man of La Mancha: The world of
 Don Quixote by the Arlington Players. Thomas
 Jefferson Theater. Thearlingtonplayers.org

Sept 24 Latin American Flutist Nicholas Real. 7pm.
 Rosslyn Spectrum. Teatrodelaluna.org

Sept 28 – Oct 30 Dante's Inferno. Synetic Theatre's
 unique theatrical take on "Abandon hope all ye
 who enter here". Ages 16 & up. Synetictheater.org

Oct 1 Arlington Fun Ride: Scenic family friendly bike
 ride on Arlington's paved trails, with several rest
 stops. 8am – 12pm. Arlingtonfunride.org

Oct 1 Oktoberfest in Shirlington: More than 5 dozen
 breweries will offer samples, with bratwurst, giant
 pretzels and oom-pah bands to set the mood.
 Noon – 7pm

Oct 4 – Nov 20 Freaky Friday: A musical based on
 the celebrated novel and film, a teen changes
 places with her mother for one day. Signature
 Theatre. Sigtheatre.org

Oct 15 Boo Ha Ha: Annual Halloween event at
 Aurora Hills Center. 3 – 6pm. To volunteer, email Joo
 Chung at jchung3@yahoo.com

Oct 15 Moonlight Tango: Wrap yourself in the
 captivating rhythms of the Rio de la Plata. 7pm.
 Rosslyn Spectrum. 7pm. Teatrodelaluna.org

ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS

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NCAC Rep	Natasha Pinol	703-892-5290
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	Rich Kelly	

We would love to hear from you!

Please send comments and questions to

ARCAneighbor@gmail.com

Neighborhood Conservation comments/questions to

arca.ncac.representative@gmail.com

arlington arts

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