



January, 2017

# Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O. Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202  
[www.arcaonline.org](http://www.arcaonline.org)

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5pm Wakefield HS*



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The membership year is  
July 1 – June 30.

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Thursday, JANUARY 19, 7pm Oakridge School Library, 1414 S. 24<sup>th</sup> Street

**REMINDER!!** We thank Oakridge Elementary School for its continued hospitality in agreeing to host our membership meetings while the County renovates our usual location, Aurora Hills Community Center. We hope to be back there for the May meeting.

## CHRISTIAN DORSEY, FEATURED SPEAKER

We are pleased that Arlington **County Board Member, Christian Dorsey**, will be joining us at our Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. He will share with us his goals for the County in 2017. And, as the County's representative on the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and WMATA, Christian is uniquely qualified to update us on the present condition and future of our METRO subway system which is a critical component of our 22202 transportation infrastructure.

Moreover, as a former member of the County's Planning Commission, Christian Dorsey is very familiar with the County's procedures for reviewing developer's proposals to construct new, large, high-rise commercial buildings. As the County Board's appointed liaison to monitor development in 22202, we've asked him to address the advisability of broadening the scope of the County's review process to focus not just on one new building at a time but also, more holistically, on each new building's contribution to the overall pressure on the County's infrastructure – particularly transportation and schools – that the eventual build-out of Pentagon and Crystal Cities will create in the years to come. Professionally, Christian is in charge of External and Government Affairs at the highly regarded Economic Policy Institute, a non-partisan, DC think-tank that conducts economic research and analyzes the impact of various existing and proposed policies and programs on our nation's economy and workforce. He and his wife, Rachael, live in the Columbia Forest neighborhood and their two young children, Jordan and Mila, attend Arlington Public Schools.

Department of Environmental Services **Project Manager, John Mir**, will also be on hand to inform us about the County's plan to develop and expand a "personal vehicle parking lot" on County land along **South 31<sup>st</sup> Street** across from the Water Pollution Control Plant which will involve re-graveling and the installation of temporary lighting. The site was considered as a temporary bus parking lot several years ago, when it received vehement opposition from neighbors whose houses overlook the lot.

### **A NEW HIGH SCHOOL TO OPEN BY SEPT 2022**

A new High School Planning Committee was approved by the County Board, with a charge to locate a new high school and to recommend an instructional focus that is designed to “strengthen instructional coherence on a system-wide level while preparing individual students for the future.” The committee will begin work in February with a community engagement process that will include review of current programs and options, a community survey, analysis of the options, and in October 2017, staff recommendations to the School Board. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact [newhighschool@apsva.us](mailto:newhighschool@apsva.us).

### **WE ARE ALL ARLINGTON COMMUNITY POTLUCK Oakridge Elementary School, Thu Feb 23, 6:30**

Have a favorite recipe for one of your native dishes? For dishes from someone else's native land? For dishes you have eaten while traveling, or ones that you just find scrumptious? Oakridge PTA extends an invitation to the entire community, parents or not, for its celebration of the neighborhood's richly diverse global cultures at a potluck, “**We Are All Arlington**”, that will feature national and international foods cooked by neighborhood families. Come and show off your culinary skills -- bring your dish with its recipe which will be available online after the event. The potluck will also have a keynote speaker, musical entertainment and activities to foster new friendships. In addition, the organizers are looking for neighbors who would be interested in helping them with the event: please contact Tom Patchen at [thomaspatchen@gmail.com](mailto:thomaspatchen@gmail.com) or 202-321-1755. Sign up for the event is at <https://goo.gl/forms/izZIMMfVqaiPhbx42>

### **SHORT TERM RESIDENTIAL RENTALS ZONING REGULATIONS APPROVED**

The County Board approved zoning regulations that define short term residential rentals as a new home occupation called “accessory homestay” and has created standards for this use. The regulations affect short term rentals (less than 30 days) through online services such

as Airbnb, Craigslist, VRBO and others. Board Chair Libby Garvey says “...the decision will help promote positive and safe experiences for renters, rental owners and their neighbors.” The new use allows the owner to rent out his/her home for lodging purposes on a short term basis, with regulations to protect the character of the neighborhood; to implement safety requirements to ensure the property complies with zoning, building, fire and other safety codes designed to protect public health, property values and neighborhood character; and provide a mechanism for enforcement should problems arise. Stays are allowed only in units used by the owner as a primary residence, who may host a maximum of 6 lodgers or 2 per bedroom; and does not authorize any commercial use. Owners must obtain a permit for an accessory homestay; so far there is no fee but they may be proposed in the future. For more information see <https://building.arlingtonva.us/project/starting-accessory-homestay/>

### **ARLINGTON ALERT EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS**

It's winter, so it follows that there will be emergencies – Metro, snow, heavy rain, downed power lines, traffic pileups, and more. In the past, we had to wait for radio or TV broadcasts or newspapers to find out about them -- now we have **Arlington Alert**, a free service that provides information when major traffic events, mass transit emergencies, and weather alerts happening in Arlington. Alerts can be set up to go to cell phones, pagers and emails, and even by phone. More information is available at <https://www.arlingtonva.us/alerts/>

### **WPA ERA MURALS AT ARLINGTON'S MAIN POST OFFICE**

Have you ever looked up when waiting in line at Arlington's main post office on Washington Boulevard? Next time you are there, check out the seven murals by WPA era artist Auriel Bessemer. Commissioned by the New Deal art officials in 1939/40, the series is Arlington's first public art, and depicts Bessemer's take on local history with images of local Indian tribes, polo at Fort Myer, Robert E. Lee, farm workers

picking tobacco and picnickers at Great Falls. Local historian Toby McIntosh has just written a book on the murals, **Apple Picking, Tobacco Harvesting and General Lee**, that can be obtained at [www.virginianewdealart.com](http://www.virginianewdealart.com)

### **ARCA NEEDS A NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR ITS 2017-8 BOARD**

ARCA is looking for three neighbors to work as a nominating committee for next year's Executive Board. Board terms are one year, so each year, according to our bylaws, we must present a slate at the March membership meeting. The job will entail seeing which current board members are willing to continue, and if not, finding willing replacements. Volunteers for this committee will receive assistance from our the current board, and the eternal gratitude of the community ARCA serves. Volunteer at [arcanighbor@gmail.com](mailto:arcanighbor@gmail.com).

### **LANG COMMUNITY GARDEN UPDATE**

Arlington County has demolished the house at 2822 Arlington Ridge Road to expand the community garden; next steps will be to remove the diseased and invasive trees and add soil; install fencing around the entire garden; mark out new plots and plant replacement trees. The goal of the Urban Agriculture program is to complete the work prior to the spring planting season. For more information or to apply for a plot, see <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/gardens/community-gardens/> or call 703-228-7872.

### **ARLINGTON MASTER NATURALISTS SPRING TRAINING**

**Feb 27 – May 22, Long Branch Nature Center**  
**Deadline Jan 27, [www.armn.org](http://www.armn.org)**

You can make a difference by becoming a Master Naturalist Volunteer, a program that trains volunteers to provide education, citizen science and outreach to conserve and manage natural resources and public lands. Recognized experts in a wide range of disciplines such as ecology, botany, herpetology, ornithology, forest and aquatic ecosystems provide the training. Classroom

training is scheduled for the morning, and field training in the afternoon.

### **TREE STEWARD TRAINING**

**Next training session Tues Feb. 21, Fairlington Community Center**

You can help protect and promote Arlington's urban tree canopy by becoming a volunteer tree steward. Stewards take the lead in their communities with public education programs that include staffing informational booths at farmers markets, leading neighborhood tree walks and speaking at community gatherings, and planting, pruning and mulching trees in streets, parks and schools.

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

### **PAINT, BUILD CREATE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** **Jan 28, 9 – 2:30pm, Fairlington Community Center**

Arlington's Parks & Recreation is seeking volunteers, aged 14+, for its Paint, Build, Create event, a day of creative exploration featuring STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) activities throughout the day. From creative workshops to an art swap, healthy food activities and a teen lounge, you're sure to find a creative outlet! There will even be an epic indoor snowball fight. To register to volunteer with this event and see more details about volunteer responsibilities, please sign up here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/volunteer-for-paint-build-create-tickets-30563983698>

Contact Emily Thrasher for additional information at [ethrasher@arlingtonva.us](mailto:ethrasher@arlingtonva.us).

### **SOCIAL MOMS OF SOUTH ARLINGTON**

If you are a 22202 mom and are looking to meet other mothers, create some friendships, get families together and talk about parenting and neighborhood topics, SMOsA invites you to join. The group holds monthly gatherings and events for families, such as ice cream socials, salon nights, Cinco de Mayo, but mainly friendships. Contact Regina Meeks at [reginameeks@gmail.com](mailto:reginameeks@gmail.com) or Tricia at [triciamallari@gmail.com](mailto:triciamallari@gmail.com)

**ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS****Oakridge School Library, 7pm****3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov****CALENDAR**

**Jan 15 MLK Tribute:** Music from Duke Ellington School of the Arts Choir, gospel singer Helen Slade, dance and spoken word. 5 – 6:30pm Wakefield HS. [MLKtribute.org](http://MLKtribute.org)

**Jan 21, 28 Forty +** dancers over 40. Jane FranklinDance. Theatre on the Run. 5pm. Free [janefranklin.com](http://janefranklin.com)

**Thru Jan 27 “High Caliber” Group Show:** Gallery Underground show of paintings, sculpture, photography & metalwork in the Crystal Underground. [Galleryunderground.org](http://Galleryunderground.org)

**Jan 28 Chinese New Year:** Celebrate with origami and take a short hike with paper “firecrackers” to chase away the New Year’s beast Nian. 5:30pm Long Branch Nature Center. 703-228-6535

**Jan 29 Spellbinders Story Fest:** Favorite tales from around the world. 3pm. Families 3+. Long Branch Nature Center. 703-228-6535

**Jan 29 Opera's Greatest Hits** with the Arlington Philharmonic and US Army Chorus. 3pm. Wakefield High School. Free. [Arlingtonphilharmonic.org](http://Arlingtonphilharmonic.org)

**Feb 15 – Mar 19 The Taming of the Shrew;** Another in the Synetic Theater’s wordless Shakespeare series. [Synetictheater.org](http://Synetictheater.org)

**Feb 23 We are All Arlington Potluck:** Oakridge PTA hosts a community international potluck to celebrate our global diversity. Contact Tom Patchen † 202-321-1755

**Mar 2 The Muggles Ball:** The Friends of the Arlington Library presents its annual ball, this year’s theme is Harry Potter. <https://arlingtonlibraryfriends.org/lit-up-ball/>

**Mar 4 Treemonisha:** Ragtime king Scott Joplin’s opera, performances for children and adults. Thomas Jefferson Theatre. 703-536-7557

**ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS**

President	Arthur Fox	202-371-6626
Vice-President	Matthew Galan	440-622-7883
Vice President	vacant	
Vice President	Meredith Dodge	719-534-3074
Vice President	Charlie Hughes	703-271-8235
Secretary	Don Schlichtmann	703-370-1217
Communications	Maggie Gaffen	703-684-7359
Treasurer	Bob Hyde	703-519-7130
Transportation	Michael Pickford	
Transportation	Sandi Amendola	703-838-8753
NCAC Rep	Natasha Pinol	703-920-9423
ARCA History	Dick Herbst	703-892-5290
22202 NU	Diane Litman	703-920-7638
Beautification	Chick Walter	703-519-9487
Schools	Beth Hicks	571-451-8888
Website	Maggie Gaffen	703-684-7359
CCCRC Reps	Susan English	703-549-6554
	Rich Kelly	703-622-4260

**We would love to hear from you!**

Comments and questions

to [ARCAneighbor@gmail.com](mailto:ARCAneighbor@gmail.com)

Neighborhood Conservation comments/questions to [arca.ncac.representative@aol.com](mailto:arca.ncac.representative@aol.com)

**ONE OF AURIEL BESSEMER’S MURALS AT  
ARLINGTON’S MAIN POST OFFICE  
“Apple Harvest”**

