



July, 2017

# Arlington Ridge Civic Association

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

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

### Page 1

♦ Topics & Speakers

### Page 2

♦ Neighborhood News

### Page 3

♦ Neighborhood Conservation

♦ Neighborhood News

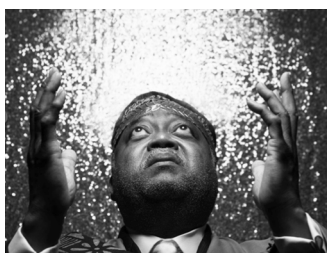
### Page 4

♦ ARCA Meetings

♦ ARCA Points of Contact

♦ Calendar of Events

*WSCAvant Bard presents a concert staging of its "The Gospel of Colonus" at the Lubber Run Amphitheater on August 5 at 8pm*



## JULY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, THURS. JULY 20

**6:30 refreshments, 7pm Membership meeting**

**Aurora Hills Community Center**

Please join us on July 20 for the ARCA membership meeting when we will welcome our two state delegates, **Alfonso Lopez and Mark Levine**. Most neighborhoods have only one delegate, we have two, both Democrats. Does this give us more clout in the Virginia General Assembly? Come and ask them yourself, and press them for their prognostications on Commonwealth politics after the November elections.

Also on the agenda is **Captain Wayne Vincent, our new Arlington Police 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commander**.

**MARK LEVINE (45<sup>th</sup> District)** Levine's district includes Aurora Hills south of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, and pieces of Alexandria and Fairfax County stretching to Huntington Avenue. Levine is a Yale-educated attorney and radio pundit for "Inside Scoop", a public policy radio program. A delegate since 2016, he is on the Health, Welfare, Science and Technology Committee. He co-founded the bipartisan Virginia Transparency Caucus to make General Assembly committee meetings accessible to the public and protecting the first amendment rights of protestors.

**ALFONSO LOPEZ (49<sup>th</sup> District)** Lopez's district could be almost a "salamander" of historic fame, it snakes around Long Bridge Creek streets, with tentacles reaching to Seven Corners, Baileys Crossroads, Rt. 50 and the Navy Annex. Borders within 22202 are I-395, Ridge Road and 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. Lopez, a delegate since 2012, is the Minority Whip, and is on the Science and Technology and Militia Police and Public Safety Committees. He founded the Virginia Environment and Renewable Energy Caucus in 2015 and currently serves as its chair.

## ARLINGTON POLICE 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT COMMANNER, CAPTAIN WAYNE VINCENT

Arlington County wants the community it serves to have pride in its police department, and to support its goal to proactively police our neighborhoods to prevent crime. Captain Wayne Vincent, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Commander, will fill us in on the importance of the Police Department's strong partnerships with the community and to communicate effectively to ensure the public's trust. Come and ask Captain Vincent any questions you may have and meet his ACPD team.



You can pay your \$20 annual  
ARCA membership dues  
online using PayPal!

[www.arcaonline.org](http://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.

## OAKRIDGE GETS NEW TRAILERS FOR STUDENT OVERFLOW

To relieve the current overcrowding that is projected to continue into the coming school year, the APS (Arlington Public Schools) is proposing to add two new classrooms to the temporary classroom building that currently houses 6 classrooms at Oakridge. By using the same building, students and staff would be able to use the staff and hallway bathrooms that are currently present. A temporary Gym/Flex space will also be set up nearby to give the school additional space; a new playground will also be replacing the older playground this summer.

The re-districting of 22202 school boundaries for 2018 will be decided during the coming school year. Stay abreast of this issue at <https://www.apsva.us/more-seats-for-more-students/>

## GUNSTON MODIFICATIONS

In addition, space from the Gunston community center will be modified to add seats for an additional 72 middle school students.

## SCHOOL BOARD CHOOSES "HYBRID" OPTION FOR NEW HIGH SCHOOL

APS voted to use two locations, (a "hybrid option") for additional high school capacity: the Career Center, to provide an additional 700-800 seats and the Arlington Education Center building, an additional 500 – 600 seats. Both of these sites are owned by Arlington County, an important consideration for APS, and they also noted that they would be considering a 4<sup>th</sup> comprehensive high school in "future years". They estimate the two "hybrid" locations will be ready for use in 2022.

## SCHOOLS ADVISORY COMMITTEES NEED VOLUNTEERS

The School Board is seeking the advice of community members through a wide range of advisory committees and councils, who advise and make recommendations on issues or policies related to the successful operation of the school system. More information at [www.apsva.us/school-board-advisory-councils-and-committees/](http://www.apsva.us/school-board-advisory-councils-and-committees/) the problem. Submit nominations at <https://projects.arlingtonva.us/programs/neighborhood-complete-streets/>

## ARCA'S NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PROGRAM NEEDS A NEW LEADER

Natasha Pinol, our amazing Neighborhood Conservation leader for the past 6 years, has retired and we need someone to replace her. She will be a hard act to follow, as her tireless efforts have resulted in an updated Neighborhood Conservation Plan, many neighborhood improvements and a team of activists keeping the program on track.

The job description: "To represent ARCA as an active participant in the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and to serve as liaison between County staff and the neighborhood regarding Neighborhood Conservation issues".

### Responsibilities of the job are:

- To accurately present the collective views or consensus of the neighborhood when acting as NC representative.
- To fully seek broad-based input on matters of NC concern.
- To present or preside over all NC funding request discussions at neighborhood meetings and serve as point of contact on NC projects.
- To serve as a resource to the neighborhood regarding NC policies or procedures.
- To keep the neighborhood informed of relevant actions of the NCAC and the NC Program.

If you are passionate about the neighborhood and would be interested in this really important job, please contact us at [arcaneighbor@gmail.com](mailto:arcaneighbor@gmail.com)

More information on the NC program is at <http://www.arcaonline.org/neighborhood-conservation/>

## REGIONAL MASTER NATURALISTS CLASS

**Applications due Aug. 15, [www.armn.org](http://www.armn.org)**

The program prepares volunteers to provide education, citizen science and outreach to conserve and manage natural resources and gain certification through state-approved courses taught by recognized experts in ecology, botany, ornithology, forest and aquatic ecosystems and more. Classes are from Sept 5 - Dec 12.

## 2016 i-TREE ECO STUDY

In 2016 Arlington's Urban Foresters performed a study on the value of our community's trees using the U.S. Forest Service program i-TreeEco. They surveyed from May – October in 2016, capturing data on tree location, size and health, proximity to buildings, and more. They found that we have 755,400 trees (45/acre), the most common being

dogwood, white oak and red maple; the most tree canopy cover is with tuliptree, white oak and red maple; per year they remove 235 tons of pollution and store 204,000 tons of carbon; oxygen produced is 20,687 tons; runoff avoided in 10,730,168 cubic feet; avoided carbon emissions is 2,210 tons a year, and annual value in environmental benefits is \$6.89 million. Total value of our urban forest currently is a whopping \$1.42 billion. For more information on these numbers, go to <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/trees/2016-itree-eco-study/>

## URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

For more than six years, ARCA has been consistently pressing the County to update its Planning and Development analytical processes to better assure Smart Growth, as opposed to growth for growth's sake in order to increase the County's tax base. Most of the growth, past and future, has been planned by the County to occur within the Rosslyn/Ballston and Jefferson Davis Metro corridors. ARCA's concern has naturally been focused on the latter which includes both Pentagon and Crystal Cities, and impacts our 22202 neighborhood that is largely cordoned off from the rest of the County by I-395 to the north and west, the railroad line along the eastern edge of Crystal City, and Four Mile Run to our south, with only two north/south through roadways. A primary concern has been increased traffic brought about by development, not just generated by new construction in 22202, but also by construction to our south in Alexandria. Rather than attempting to project potential traffic congestion that will eventually result from the full buildout of all new high-rise buildings that have already been approved for construction, County staff has historically looked only at the additional traffic that will be generated by the next new building a developer seeks permission to construct, one building at a time. Moreover, the Traffic Impact Analysis (TIA) the developer is required to perform typically only generates number counts of vehicles on local streets within a block or two radius of the proposed building site – a County regulation ARCA has long criticized for yielding relatively useless information.

ARCA's criticism finally gained traction in recent days, having just been adopted by the County's Planning Commission which advises the County Board on proposed development coming before it for approval. As this newsletter went to press, the

Commission was forwarding a resolution to the Board asking it to require staff to initiate a process that will result in the amendment of the TIA regulation. ARCA is proposing to require the development and analysis of information that will inform the County of the holistic impact of potential traffic on roadways not just in the immediate vicinity of a particular new high-rise building, or even in its larger "urban development zone," but also in adjacent residential neighborhoods.

**Arthur Fox's testimony to the Planning Commission on Traffic Analysis to the Planning Commission is at [arcaonline.org](http://arcaonline.org)**

## AREA ROADWAYS TO BE "RE-STRIPED" Intersection of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Eads Streets.

Recognizing that this notorious intersection is often impossibly congested, the County has promised to paint new, dedicated turn lanes in addition to straight-through lanes in the hopes of reducing both confusion and congestion. In addition, it is in the process of redesigning the nearby intersection of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Route 1 and plans major construction of the re-engineered intersection in 2019.

**Army-Navy Drive.** A portion of this arterial roadway between Joyce St and the 395 bridge overpass is to be resurfaced in the near future and thereafter re-striped with new bike lanes, more narrow travel lanes to slow traffic, and a pedestrian crosswalk in front of Horizon House from the new bus stop ARCA was successful in getting the County to build. No word on whether the current free parking on Army Navy Drive will continue.

## ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE BOARD

The membership will vote on the slate for the ARCA Executive Board for the coming year: Arthur Fox, President; Meredith Dodge, Charlie Hughes, Michael Pickford, Vice-Presidents; Don Schlichtmann, Secretary; Bob Hyde, Treasurer; Maggie Gaffen, Communications; Sandi Amendola and Matt Galan, Transportation.

## MILLENNIALS IN ARLINGTON

Arlington County wants to hear from the many millennials who live and/or work in Arlington – what issues are important, and how we can get more millennials involved and engaged? Weigh in on schools, transit, parking, energy efficiency, parks, and more.

<https://arlingtonva.ideascale.com/a/ideas/recent/campaign-filter/byids/campaigns/20805>

**ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**  
**Aurora Highlands Community Center, 7pm**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov**

**CALENDAR**

**Jul 19 – Aug 9 Summer Series for Older Adults:**  
 Weds. From 3 – 4pm. Topics: Staying connected thru volunteering; Arlington Neighborhood Village; Medicare update and Medicare counseling and assistance & resources for caregivers. Aurora Hills Community Center.

**Jul 19 – Aug 13 The Mark of Cain:** A neo-surrealist distillation of human history seen through the eyes of Cain, the world's first criminal Synetic Theater. Synetictheater.org

**Jul 21 Little Red & the Renegades.** Zydeco dynamo at Lubber Run Amphitheater. 8pm Free. Arlingtonarts.org

**Jul 21 Cheick Hamala Diabae** West African lute music. 8pm. Free Lubber Run Amphitheater.

**Jul 30 Insect Insanity:** With nets and bug boxes, search under logs, around the pond and in the meadow for bugs, beetles, butterflies and more. Ages 6 – 10. Long Branch Nature Center. 703-625-6535

**Aug 5 Gospel at Colonus:** Concert version of the hit musical by WSC Avant Bard. Free. 8pm. Lubber Run Amphitheatre. Arlingtonarts.org

**Aug 12 Signature Theatre Cabaret:** An evening of powerhouse vocals by Signature's regular performers. Free 8pm. Lubber Run Amphitheatre.

**Aug 13 National Chamber Ensemble:** Acclaimed chamber group led by violinist Leonid Sushansky. Free. 6pm. Lubber Run Amphitheatre. Arlingtonarts.org

**MEETING BOWLS**  
**1320 Courthouse Rd. July - Oct 2017**



This playful urban furniture that looks a bit like revolving laundry baskets will be installed in Courthouse this summer by the group mmmm...as part of a public art initiative aimed at sparking public conversation about Courthouse Square's future design by persuading eight people to squeeze into its "meeting bowls" - certain to encourage conversation! After its stay in Arlington, the project will move to Miami Beach for **Art Basel Miami**.

Information: [www.mmmm.tv](http://www.mmmm.tv)

*Pictured: Meeting Bowls in New York*

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 Neighborhood Conservation comments/questions  
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