



Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O. Box 2976, Arlington, VA 222
www.arcaonline.c

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*Bike Rodeo
April 27, BikeArlington*



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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.

THURSDAY, MARCH 21 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Aurora Hills Community Center, 735 18th St. S.,

6:30pm Refreshments, 7pm Meeting

Come early to enjoy light refreshments and meet with neighbors

JBGSMITH & COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS TO JOIN US FOR MARCH MEETING

JBGSmith owns by far the most commercial real estate in 22202, the bulk of it in **Crystal City** but also the land on which Amazon is planning to build its corporate campus in Pentagon City. Andrew VanHorn, JBG's Executive VP for Development, will be on hand to share with us his company's ambitious vision for rejuvenating Crystal City in the coming years along with specific construction projects they are about to launch.

Thereafter, County Board Members Libby Garvey and Matt de Ferranti will join us to explain the County's role in landing **Amazon's HQ2**, including its recently concluded financial arrangement with Amazon, together with the revenue the County expects to derive over time as a consequence of the Company's presence in Arlington. We also hope to be briefed on a number of community concerns involving not just traffic, schools and housing costs which will likely be impacted by Amazon's arrival. This will be our opportunity to ask the many questions that have been festering in so many of our minds and to learn how the County is planning to deal with the many challenges accompanying the arrival of our new corporate neighbor. Don't miss this opportunity!

COUNTY WEBSITE ON TRANSPORTATION & PLANNING IN 22202

<https://projects.arlingtonva.us/22202-data/>

The County website now has a large collection of 22202 transportation data assembled in response to ARCA's 2015 request for an independent think-tank study of its infrastructure's capacity to accommodate future development. Based on its interpretation of this pre-2016 historic data, County staff contend that congestion has abated in recent years and there is no need for any such study given the improved transportation networks. The comprehensive base-line data include historic traffic counts, ART, Metrobus and Metrorail ridership, and demographics which ARCA hopes a sophisticated urban transportation think tank could use with computer modeling to analyze and project whether and how our traffic infrastructure could be restructured in the coming decades to avoid undue congestion in light of planned construction in Crystal City as well as the 4 million square foot campus Amazon plans to build in Pentagon City to accommodate its 25,000 employees.

COUNTY BUDGET

County Budget Public Hearing Apr 2nd
Public hearing on the tax rate Apr 4th
County board room, live streamed on co
website

<https://budget.arlingtonva.us/fy-2020-budget-information/>

ARTS BUDGET SLASHED

The County Manager is proposing that the budget for Arlington's Cultural Affairs' award winning programs be slashed by a stunning \$500,000. Winner of the Ford Foundation and Kennedy School of Government Innovations in Government award, which honors programs that do a lot with little money, Arlington's arts programs have been held up as a model around the world. The Manager proposes to close the Costume Lab and Scene Studio program located at Gunston, which provide services to many local arts groups. In addition two staff members will be laid off. Matching grant funds to local arts groups will also be cut, along with support for county wide special events. Janet Kopenhaver of the advocacy group Embracing Arts says, "the tiny arts program is being held accountable for a share of this year's budget shortfall that is 62.5 times greater than its share of the county budget." As Hippocrates said, "Ars longa vita brevis" (art is long, life is short).

PROPOSED 2020 SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING

March 28, 7pm, Syphax Education Center, 2nd
Floor board room, 2110 Washington
Bldv, <https://www.apsva.us/budget-finance/>.

APS is currently developing its 2020 fiscal year budget, an especially challenging one as APS works to address a shortfall of \$43 million. The superintendent's first draft of the budget makes it likely that there will be increased class sizes and staff layoffs as part of the proposed cuts. It also expects an increase in enrollment of about 1,000 students next year. Feel free to weigh in with your thoughts.

APS SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR 2019 HONORED CITIZEN VOLUNTEERS

<https://www.apsva.us/about-the-school-board/aps-honored-citizens/>

The School Board is seeking nominations of volunteers who have demonstrated a sustained commitment of at least 5 years to APS. **Deadline April 12.**

2019 SUMMER CAMP CATALOG AVAILABLE

Camp at <http://camps.arlingtonva.us.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/>

METRO CLOSING STATIONS SOUTH OF NATIONAL AIRPORT from May 25 – Sept 2

Beginning this summer, Metro will work to rebuild deteriorating platforms on the six stations south of National Airport, which will be closed during the work. To help mitigate the inconvenience, Metro will add more frequent express and regular bus service. For more information go to www.wmata.com/platforms

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS ZONING CHANGES: Construction to be Encouraged

County staff is circulating a draft policy recommending property owners be allowed to build new, free-standing ADUs with only a 5' setback from street and property lines. The County views these units as a low-cost way to beef up affordable housing options in Arlington. Previous regulations did not allow new buildings; now they are being encouraged. "A five foot setback would allow some space between property lines and ADUs, and create enough room for direct sunlight to flow into all buildings on the property," advocates say. Additional community meetings are planned, and if you hurry, you can give feedback at <https://housing.arlingtonva.us/plans-reports/accessory-dwelling-ordinance-update/>

EARLY MORNING BOOMS!

ARCA residents have wondered what those loud booms are around 7am, and now we know – military personnel are learning how to fire cannons for special events. That would be the Presidential Salute Battery Guns Platoon of

the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, aka the “Old Guard”, who train from 7 – 8am. They say they will continue practicing for however long it takes to get their booms right.

ARLINGTON ONCE AGAIN RANKED “BEST CITY TO LIVE IN AMERICA”

The online review service Niche has once again awarded Arlington top marks in part due to its high quality public schools, low crime rate, abundant nightlife and walkability. They have also ranked the school system as the top option in the state, and among the best suburbs in the country!

HOWEVER...ARLINGTON IS ALSO POLITICALLY INTOLERANT!

The Atlantic magazine has named Arlington among the country's least politically open-minded counties, ranking them based on how much “partisan prejudice” citizens expressed. The ranks were based on surveys in which questions such as how they felt about family members marrying across the political aisle, and whether Democrats or Republicans were “selfish, compassionate or patriotic”. Voter turnout and registration was factored in, and Arlington ended up ranked in the 100th percentile of the most prejudiced. Across the country, Suffolk Co. Mass. was ranked the most politically close-minded, and Watertown, NY the most open minded.

REBUILDING TOGETHER NEEDS WORK!

The team from Rebuilding Together is interested in working in Arlington, and is actively recruiting low-income home owners in need of home repairs. They tackle everything from ramps, stair lifts, bathroom plumbing, electrical work, carpentry, painting, gutters and landscaping. If you or someone you know might be interested, please get in touch with Don Ryan, Director of Rebuilding Together, at 703-508-0035, or donryanemail@gmail.com, and see <https://rebuildingtogether-off.org/apply>

GROW YOUR OWN HERBAL TEAS

Sat. Apr 27. 7 – 8:30, Shirlington Library

A simple DIY technique will show you how to plan, care for and harvest herbs that thrive in our area, for flavorful teas with minimal time and effort. Free. Register at www.mgnv.org or call 703-228-6414.

ARLINGTON HOME SHOW AND GARDEN EXPO

Sat April 27, 10am – 4pm

Kenmore Middle School, 202 S. Carlin Springs

75 home builders, contractors and specialist vendors, architects, inspectors, landscape designers, realtors, Arlington County housing, bring a convenient way to learn about remodeling and improving your home. Also learn about sustainable landscaping practices with classes in turf alternatives, edible landscaping, energy smart lighting.
703-228-6414.

SPRING REMINDERS

Plant Clinics: Central Library: 6:45 – 8:45pm

Wednesdays from Mar. 20 – Oct 23

1015 N. Quincy St.

Arlington Farmers Market: Sat from 8 – 11am

beginning April 20 – Sept 28.

N. 14th St. and N. Courthouse Rd.

Del Ray Farmers Market: 203 E. Oxford

Ave, 8:30am – 11 May 4 – Sept 28

CLIMATE CRISIS: IMPACTS AND SOLUTIONS

April 9, 7 – 9pm

George Mason University, 3351 Fairfax Drive

Ecoactionarlington.org

Former Arlington County Board member Jay Fissette will present the project, dramatically conveying the impacts and challenges we face. He will also speak on Arlington's response to climate change and highlight the proposed county's energy plan: how are our health, food and water being affected, are renewables really working, where are the electric vehicles, and what more can individuals do.

ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
Aurora Hills Community Center, 7pm
3rd Thursday Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov

CALENDAR Thru Apr 14 Topdog/Underdog: A Cain-and-Abel fable about two African American brothers engaged in a game of one-upmanship. Avant Bard, Theatre Two at Gunston. Wscavantbard.org

Mar 23 Children's Opera: Hansel and Gretel, presented by Opera NOVA, at Thomas Jefferson theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Rd. 2pm. Operanova.org, 703-536-7557

Mar 23 The Viennese Classics: National Chamber Ensemble presents the music of Haydn, Mozart and Beethoven in a salute to the Classical Era. Theatre One at Gunston. 7:30pm. Nationalchamberensemble.org

Mar 27 Intro to Genealogy: Learn how to craft a family story for your children and grandchildren. 1 – 3pm. Aurora Highlands Civic Assn.

Mar 30 Living History at Fort C.F. Smith: The Union Army has set up camp at Fort C.F. Smith: come for a day of drilling, fort tours and Civil War life in Arlington County. 703-228-4775

Mar 30 Sketch Walk Arlington: Hone your powers of observation while exploring Arlington in this open sketch session led by WalkArlington and Sketching the District. Walkarlington.org.

Apr 2 Grand Hotel: 1928 Berlin is the center of a razzle dazzle world between the wars. Signature Theatre. Sigtheatre.org

Apr 27 Bike Rodeo: Bike Arlington, Phoenix Bikes host a free bike rodeo for children of all ages, including safety helmet, bike maintenance checks, games to teach basic biking skills, riding courses and balance bikes for preschoolers. 10am – noon. Womens Club clubhouse parking lot at 700 S. Buchanan St. 703-553-5800.

E-CARE RECYCLING EVENT
May 4, 8:30am – 3pm
1426 N. Quincy St., across from W-L
High School



Arlington will hold its biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE), an event where residents can safely dispose of hazardous household materials, recycle bikes, small metal items and more. A full list of acceptable items is at recycling.arlingtonva.us/household-hazmat/e-care/

ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| President | Arthur Fox | 202-371-6626 |
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| Vice President | Meredith Dodge | 719-534-3074 |
| Vice President | Charlie Hughes | 703-271-8235 |
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| NCAC Rep | Lauren Bailey | 917-548-1807 |
| ARCA History | Dick Herbst | 703-892-5290 |
| 22202 NU | Diane Litman | 703-920-7638 |
| Beautification | Chick Walter | 703-519-9487 |
| Schools | Colleen Pickford | 703-615-5333 |
| CCCRC Reps | Susan English | 703-549-6554 |
| | Rich Kelly | 703-622-4260 |

Comments and questions to ARCAnighbor@gmail.com

Neighborhood Conservation comments/questions to arca.ncac.representative@gmail.com