



July, 2019

Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O. Box 2976, Arlington, VA 222

www.arcaonline.org

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Dark Star Park Day
August 1, 9:32am



THURSDAY, JULY 18 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

AMAZON'S HQ2 ON FAST TRACK!

While the honeymoon glow is still warm, Amazon's partner, JBGSmith, is wasting no time asking the County to rezone MetPark to allow it to construct two 22-Story office buildings containing 2 million square feet to be built on the remaining vacant land along Eads and 15th Streets instead of *much smaller* apartment buildings currently allowed. And the County has obliged by scheduling a series of meetings to acquaint the public with this project, the first, **a community meeting on July 10th** as broadcast by ARCANeighbor, (projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/met-park-phases-6-8/) then just one *proforma* meeting to "consider" the necessary zoning amendment on July 15th, followed by just three Planning Commission Site Plan Review meetings on July 29th, September 23rd and October 14th, and subsequent approval by the County Board. Expect construction of these mammoth buildings that will eventually house @ 12,500 daily commuters to begin next year.

Meanwhile, while the County had promised our community that Amazon would have to run the same public review gauntlet as all other developers before it could locate its campus in Pentagon City, the best we can hope for is to try to prevent other commercial property owners from also securing significant "*relief*" from the existing zoning ceiling in Pentagon City. To that end, the County has tentatively agreed to retain an independent think tank to analyze the capacity of 22202's transportation and other infrastructure to accommodate all the additional growth JBGSmith and other commercial property owners are planning to build in greater 22202 (i.e., "National Landing") in the coming years. Presumably, this study will then enable the County to assure Smart Growth that will assure 22202's future livability.

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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.

MORE DEVELOPMENT**Crystal House Additions**

For those who did not attend our May membership meeting, we learned that the new owner of the Crystal House property is proposing to build 4 new "infill" buildings containing an additional 798 apartments. This will require up-zoning its property from 48 units/acre to 72 units/acre. Two of the buildings abutting the sidewalk on Eads St. between 18th & 22nd Streets will be 11 stories tall; in addition the County is pressuring the owner to add 3 story townhouses along Fern St. in the northern corner of the property.

Verizon Site Apartments

Developers are proposing a new 19 story, 306 unit building on the east side of Eads Street between 11th & 12th Streets, with ground floor retail and a dog park as its "community benefit."

VA TECH TO BUILD NEW CAMPUS IN POTOMAC YARD

Va Tech will build a new campus on a 15 acre property near the Regal movie theater (which will be demolished); its funding part of the state's pitch to woo Amazon. It will be an "innovation campus" with its first master's degree students enrolling in 2020, in existing space adjacent to where the new academic buildings will be built. When complete in about 10 years, they will enroll 750 master's candidates and hundreds of doctoral students and fellows, the university said. The campus will ultimately be part of a 65 acre mixed-use development, with the planned redevelopment of the Potomac Yard shopping center.

BOEING DONATES \$10M TO AQUATICS CENTER

The Boeing Company is donating \$10 million to Arlington County for maintenance, operations and programming for its new neighbor, the Long Bridge Park aquatics center. In exchange, the County will rename the adjacent athletics fields "Boeing Fields at Long Bridge Park", and will also name the 50 meter pool inside the aquatics center for the company. The aquatics center is due to open winter 2021.

GOOD LIBRARY NEWS!

As of July 1, Arlington Public Library will automatically renew materials checked out to all cardholders! It will be limited to 3 renewals, for materials that do not have holds, and as long as you are a borrower in good standing (no fines outstanding or an expired card).

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES!**"All Summer Long and Absolutely Free"**

describes the 50th anniversary of the Lubber Run Amphitheater's concert series, where generations of Arlingtonians have enjoyed cultural events in the sylvan setting just two blocks off Route 50. Events range from children's theater to The Grandsons, King Soul, salsa with Sin Miedo, pet friendly "Pops in the Park", and cabaret performances by some of Signature Theatre's favorites. Concerts continue through September 15; concerts begin at 8pm Friday and Saturday, and 11am on Sunday. (N. Columbus St. & N. 2nd Sts).

<https://arts.arlingtonva.us/lubber-run/>

CONCERTS IN SHIRLINGTON**Wed. thru Aug 14, 6:30 – 8:30, in front of Shirlington Library**

Local bands will perform music from the 70s, 80s and 90s, as well as some original songs. Wine samplings for \$5 by Cheesetique will be on hand.

ROCK AT THE ROW SUMMR CONCERTS**Pentagon Row, 1201 S. Joyce St.****Thurs 7 – 9pm, thru Aug 1**

Hot bands and cold drinks return to Pentagon Row for the summer, with food and drink available to purchase.

ARMY NAVY DRIVE TO BE A PEDESTRIAN-BIKE CORRIDOR

Arlington's proposed changes to Army Navy Drive from S. Joyce to 12th Streets will transform it to a more pedestrian and bicycle friendly corridor, providing a physically-separated two way bicycle lane on the south side, with options to build dedicated transit lanes in the future. The plan will slow auto traffic through the area, and is being enthusiastically hailed by area bicyclists, who said it is "an unspeakably huge improvement for cycling."

They took this opportunity to contrast it with the plans to realign Columbia Pike and S. Joyce St, which feeds into Army Navy Drive, calling that project “a death trap.”

HOW FAR CAN I GO ON MY SCOOTER?

“Geofencing” is the limiting of where scooters can ride or park - certain areas are set as fenced off by Arlington County as part of the Shared Mobility Device (scooter) pilot. “The County is using geofencing to discourage users from parking on federal lands such as the Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery and National Park Service lands with enforcement up to the scooter companies. ArlNow reports that geofencing has resulted in abandoned piles of scooters on the border of the invisible barriers such as Iwo Jima and Gravelly Point.

DARK STAR PARK'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

Dark Star Park is in Rosslyn, and features unique sculptures by renowned artist Nancy Holt that include poles whose shadows align exactly at 9.32am on August 1, the day in 1860 that William Henry Ross acquired the land that became Rosslyn. This year the event will be accompanied by a live performance of a site-specific composition, followed by light refreshments. The Hirshhorn Museum will honor the artist with a panel discussion on July 31, and a screening of two films about the artist and the making of the artwork. Everyone is invited!

<https://www.rosslynva.org/feature/dark-star-park-feature>

ARLINGTON ART TRUCK

...is a curated mobile tool box for artists-in-residence who, from April – October, engage the public in interactive art projects designed to blur the line between participant and presenter. Learn about basic principles of electricity by operating a sound machine designed by artist Neil Feather in Futura Percussion 1860 that re-uses scientific and mechanical tools like switches and electromagnetic coils, all technology

developed before the 1860s. Activate the sculpture by cranking a bicycle wheel, pushing buttons and switches and turning knobs to make your own sound composition. Pentagon City Rock at the Row Thurs. July 25, 6 – 9pm, and the County Fair Aug 16 and 17.
<https://arts.arlingtonva.us/arlington-art-truck/>

BORROW TOOLS FROM THE LIBRARY'S "SHED"

In addition to taking care of your reading and viewing needs, the Arlington library system also makes sure you get your exercise in the garden. “The Shed” houses 157 garden tools that generate 700 checkouts each growing season. It is open 3 days a week, Wed (5 - 7pm); Fri (3-5pm) and Sat (10am – noon), and is located at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. The Central, Glencarlyn and Westover branch libraries also take care of flower and organic vegetable gardens, with some of the produce donated to the Arlington Food Assistance Center's food bank.

The tool library is part of the library's non-tool collection, which includes equipment for testing energy efficiency, and a makerspace with tools for woodworking, sewing, coding and 3D printing. It is part of the nationwide movement of “Libraries of Things” that allows patrons to borrow anything from neckties to GoPros to musical instruments.
library.arlingtonva.us

ARLINGTON RANKS LOW ON DRIVING SKILLS

Now we have a category that Arlington does not do well at: driving. Many of us know this already, although we are not nearly as bad as Maryland or Massachusetts. Allstate Insurance Company has ranked Arlington #168 out of 200 cities studied. Drivers go an average of 7.4 years between insurance claims, and have an average of 25.3 “hard braking events” per 1000 miles, compared to the national average of 19. I can't imagine how they come up with the most risky road to drive on. Good to know!

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

Jul 1 – 26 “Hot!” Exhibition of works on this tropical (and topical) theme. Gallery Underground in Crystal City shops, 2100 Crystal Drive.
Arlingtonartistsalliance.org.

Jul 17 – Aug 18 Treasure Island: Synetic Theater's athletic actors will bring their signature brand of bold theatricality to sword fights and high seas battles with pirates. Synetictheater.org

July 19 – 28 Disney's Newsies: Set in turn-of-the century New York City, this is the tale of Jack Kelly, a newsboy and leader of a band of teenage “newsies.” When titans of publishing raise prices at the newsboys' expense, Jack rallies newsies from across the city to strike against the unfair conditions. Encore Stage. Encestageva.org

Jul. 27 Nocturnal Senses Night Hike: Families ages 6 and up. Come experience the forest at night like nocturnal animals; hike the trails doing senses experiments to help find our way in the dark. 7:30 – 8:30. For information: 703-228-6535. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center. \$5.

Aug 11 – Sept 29 Assassins: From John Wilkes Booth to Lee Harvey Oswald, nine would-be and successful presidential assassins inspire each other to pull the trigger and change their worlds in a perverse, wry and thrillingly entertaining vaudeville. Signature. Sigtheatre.org

Aug 20 Turtle Lunch: Help prepare the food for Long Branch's recovering hospital turtles, watch them eat, and then give them worms for dessert! Age 3 – 6, 2 – 3pm. 703-228-6535. Long Branch Nature Center

Aug 24 Survival Skills: Poison and Venom ID: Learn hands-on traditional survival skills, with information about poisonous plants and venomous animals, and which ones to avoid. Ages 8 – 13. Long Branch Nature Center. 703-228-6535

ARLINGTON COUNTY FAIR**August 14 – 18****Thomas Jefferson Center, 3501 S.2nd St.**

Don't miss the 40th Anniversary of the Arlington County Fair, with competitive exhibits, midway rides and games, pig races and lots of great food! Shuttle buses are provided from several locations.

Arlingtoncountyfair.us

ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS

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