



September, 2019

# Arlington Ridge Civic Association

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

## 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

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The membership year is July 1 – June 30.

## THURSDAY, SEPT. 19 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Aurora Hills Community Center, 735 18<sup>th</sup> St. S.,**

**6:30pm Refreshments, 7pm Meeting**

**Come early to enjoy light refreshments and meet with neighbors**

### OPEN SPACE ON RIVERHOUSE'S 36 ACRES TO DISAPPEAR

JBGSmith recently filed plans with the County to build two new apartment buildings along with 187 town houses on its RiverHouse property. The new structures will in-fill almost the entire open space on that property. Altogether, the new buildings would add 975 new living units to the existing 1,676 apartments in the three tall RiverHouse buildings on the west side of Joyce Street across from Pentagon Row. We expect a JBG representative to be on hand at our meeting with an informative slide show presentation and to be available to answer your many questions. In addition, the County's new Ambassador to 22202, Matt Mattauszek, will explain the process JBG must follow to gain County approval for this project. He will also inform us about new County initiatives for assessing the coming development in 22202.

### LYNN STREET INTERSECTION WITH RIDGE RD TO BE RECONFIGURED

Also on hand will be a County staffer to show us two different plans to reconfigure this intersection at the north end of Ridge Road, to field your questions and to learn which of the two plans you think the County should adopt.

### 395 EXPRESS LANES TO OPEN SOON – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

A representative of the construction company responsible for all inconveniences we have suffered while it has been building the new express lanes will also be at our meeting to inform us when we can expect what, including significant changes in local traffic patterns, along with the appearance and completion of the sound wall along Army-Navy Drive.

### 23<sup>rd</sup> STREET PEDESTRIAN TUNNEL CLOSED ON SEPT 3<sup>rd</sup>

The 23rd Street tunnel has been closed permanently and the Virginia Department of Transportation is mobilizing a contractor to begin deconstruction of the tunnel's above-ground structures. During demolition, there will be temporary lane closures and sidewalk closures on westbound 23rd Street and southbound Route One.

## **CRYSTAL HOUSE REDEVELOPMENT'S PARK County Asks Feedback from All County Residents**

As mentioned in our July newsletter, the owners of the Crystal Houses have added two tiny parks to their redevelopment proposal which will add 798 new apartments in four additional buildings. The parks would be open to the public. Recently, the County's Parks and Recreation Department sent out a survey to the entire Arlington population, not just the adjacent neighborhoods, asking for feedback on one of the proposed parks, a 23,000 sq.ft space on the corner of Fern and 22<sup>nd</sup> Streets. "The significant additional open space will also be a crucial addition to the Crystal City community," the developer proclaimed. A decision on the plans is due in October. For more information go to:

[www.projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/crystal-houses-public-space/](http://www.projects.arlingtonva.us/projects/crystal-houses-public-space/)

## **"RICHMOND HIGHWAY" SIGNS UP ALONG ROUTE ONE!**

Arlington County Board Chair Christian Dorsey and Va. Delegate Mark Levine helped the county crew replacing the signs along Route 1 by stomping on the old sign. Arlington lawmakers had pressed for the change for several years but were stymied by law-makers in Richmond. Earlier this year Va. Attorney General Mark Herring issued an opinion that local leaders could sidestep Richmond entirely and change the name. Levine said "the event was important because the highway was named long after the Civil War (1922), and its purpose was to terrorize Virginia's black population into submitting to unconstitutional second class legal status. While it is necessary for us to honestly discuss and interpret Virginia history, I feel strongly that commemorating the president of the Confederacy...is not appropriate." Levine added that having himself and Dorsey personally take the sign down wasn't planned, but it was a satisfying delivery of symbolic justice.

## **UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND OPENING SPACE IN CRYSTAL CITY**

The University of Maryland (UMD) is expected to open a research space in Crystal City. Called the "Discovery Center" this new "campus" will occupy 8,000 sq.ft. at 241 18<sup>th</sup> St. The Center will provide space for academics, local businesses and residents to interact and exchange ideas, as well as seminar rooms, a strategic planning and creative problem solving center, and space for students to work with industry partners. UMD will benefit from the planned extension of the Yellow Line metro to Greenbelt, making a non-stop connection from the Discovery Center to the University's flagship location in College Park.

## **FREE TREES!**

Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation is providing 400 young native trees to residents at no cost this fall as part of its mission to expand and enhance the urban tree canopy. Available trees range from 2 – 4' in size; the choices are swamp white oak, sweet gum, sycamore and tulip poplar. They will be distributed on Oct. 26 and 29 in Barcroft and Westover.

<https://environment.arlingtonva.us/register-for-your-free-tree/>

## **ALMOST ARLINGTON NATIVE PLANT SALE Church of St. Clement, 1701 N. Quaker Lane, Alexandria**

Step across the county line to get native perennials, shrubs and trees for sun and shade. [www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org](http://www.NorthernAlexandriaNativePlantSale.org)

## **E-CARE**

**Sat. Oct 19, 8:30am – 3pm**

**1425 N. Quincy St, across from W&L High School**

A biannual event where residents can safely dispose of household hazardous material, bikes, small metal items and other recyclable items. Full details at:

[www.recycling.arlingtonva.us/household-hazmat/e-care/](http://www.recycling.arlingtonva.us/household-hazmat/e-care/)

**THE NEW NELLY CUSTIS PARK! 701 24<sup>th</sup> Street**

Bring your children and check out the brand new playground at the completely redone Nelly Custis Park: new equipment for ages 5 – 12, seating, benches and tables and landscaped areas.

**VOTE!**

**November 5** is voting day for 2019 – before our next newsletter, so mark your calendars. The deadline for absentee voting in person is Nov 2. All Virginia General Assembly offices will be on the ballot, as well as the Commonwealth Attorney, Sheriff, Commissioner of the Revenue, Treasurer, two seats on the County Board and School Board. [www.Vote.arlingtonva.us](http://www.Vote.arlingtonva.us)

**NEW ID POLICY FOR SCHOOL VISITORS**

Arlington Public Schools has implemented a new ID system for all visitors entering schools this year. All visitors must register in the district wide Visitor Management System, and must provide an approved form of identification. All visitors must be a parent or legal guardian and be listed in a student's online information file, and must wear a temporary printed badge at all times. [www.apsva.us/post/aps-to-implement-visitor-management-system-district-wide/](http://www.apsva.us/post/aps-to-implement-visitor-management-system-district-wide/)

**NEW SCHOOLS OPEN THIS YEAR**

Arlington has six new schools, including those with new names. They are Alice West Fleet Elementary School (next to Thomas Jefferson Middle School); The Heights Building – H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Program (1601 Wilson Blvd); Dorothy Hamm Middle School, (4100 Vacation Lane in the original Stratford building); Dr. Charles R. Drew Elementary School (3500 S. 23<sup>rd</sup> St. replacing the Drew Model School); Montessori Public School of Arlington (former Patrick Henry Elementary by the Career Center) and Washington-Liberty High School (the new name for Washington Lee High School).

**ARLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS NAMED TOP SCHOOL SYSTEM IN VA**

Ranking site Niche recently released the 2020 Best Schools list and Arlington Public Schools topped all others in the Commonwealth with an A+ ranking. Falls Church was No.2, Loudoun was No. 4 and Fairfax No. 6. Categories evaluated were academics, teachers, clubs and activities, diversity, college prep and health and safety.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

**GET A LIBRARY CARD AND WIN A KINDLE FIRE HD8!**

September is Library Card Sign-up Month, and you can win a chance on a Kindle Fire as well as access to the thousands of books, DVDs, magazines, e-books and more that come with a card. You can enter the raffle with a new card, by renewing your card or referring someone else to get one (you both will be entered in the raffle!). Deadline Sept. 30. [www.Library.arlingtonva.us](http://www.Library.arlingtonva.us)

**GRAB AND GO!**

New Express Book Checkout System Patrons will be able to snag some of the system's most sought-after books from a display near the library's main circulation desk, which will host extra copies of popular books without holds. These best-selling books can only be checked out for 2 weeks and cannot be renewed.

**LIBRARY'S MAKERSPACE HOURS EXTENDED**

The Library's popular makerspace, The Shop, is extending its hours for patrons to use its equipment 5 hours a day. The Shop allows patrons to use a variety of equipment from woodworking tools, circuit parts, 3D printers and Cameo cutters; patrons can also digitize home movies and tapes. And the latest popular workshop is one for the DIY homeowner learning to repair drywall. <https://arlingtonlibrary.org/makerspace>

**ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

Aurora Hills Community Center, 7pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov**CALENDAR**

**Thru Dec 8 Places in Paper:** The artists of the Guild of American Papercutters show their art in a special exhibit at Gallery 3700, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Dr. Free

**Sept 23 A French Hiker in UK:** Author, theater director of Le Neon Theatre, and former Arlington resident Didier Rousselet presents his hiking travels through Great Britain, weaving history with current challenges. 3 – 4:30pm Central Library.

**Sept 24 – Nov 3 Escaped Alone:** Hailed as one of the most important playwrights of our time, Caryl Churchill's Signature Theatre debut is a caustically funny and surreal afternoon of tea and calamity. Sigtheatre.org

**Sept 25 – Oct 20 The Tempest:** Synetic Theater's cinematic adaptation of Shakespeare's play features a water-filled stage and visual poetry. Synetictheatre.org

**Sept 27 Senior Center Indoor Picnic:** enjoy delicious cold picnic fixings, games and door prizes: Get a sneak peek at all the great programs in September with a free punch pass that will allow you to attend all programs for free! 703-228-5722, or email [lpaign@arlingtonva.us](mailto:lpaign@arlingtonva.us).

**Sept 27 – 29 Arlington Visual Art Studio Tour**

This self-guided free tour of local artists in their studios is a showcase for local artists in their creative space. Sat and Sun, Sep 28-29: 11am - 5pm <http://arlingtonartstudiotour.org>

**Sept 28 Crystal City Oktoberfest:** A selection of local beers and food trucks and vendors serving German fare. The Grounds at 12<sup>th</sup> & S. Eads St. 1 – 4pm

**LIBRARY USED BOOK SALE!****OCT 3 – 6**

**Bring the kids, give them \$5, and leave when they have spent it (this could be HOURS!)**

The library holds two used book sales each year, where for a pittance you can stock up on books, videos, cds and comics for all members of the family: some items are brand new, some are old, but all are cheap! Bring your bags and load up. Come early for available garage parking.



1015 N. Quincy St. Parking Garage

<https://arlingtonlibraryfriends.org/events/book-sales/>

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