



## ARLINGTON RIDGE CIVIC ASSOCIATION September 2020

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Website

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### SEPTEMBER 17 ZOOM MEMBERSHIP MEETING!

7pm

Join us for our second ARCA Zoom Membership meeting. With time we may even get good at this! Joining us virtually will be a member of the Police Department, and a representative to discuss the Livability 22202 Housing Initiative.

Guidelines and instructions for using Zoom are at the end of this newsletter, and will also be posted on our website at [arcaonline.org](http://arcaonline.org).

### LIVABILITY 22202 ROUTE 1 DISCUSSION



Over 100 people from the three neighboring civic associations joined us at the August 26 Livability22202 Zoom meeting, where we discussed planning for future improvements to Route 1 that was part of Arlington County's agreement with Amazon. One of the most ambitious transportation items in the Crystal City

Sector plan was a vision for converting Route 1 from an urban highway to an urban boulevard. It would lower Route 1 to ground level at 15th and 18th Streets, with cross streets with traffic-signalized intersections rather than the current underpasses. The Amazon bid proposes providing a bit more than half of the expected \$250 million required to do so. This massive engineering project would move existing off ramps to the center of Route 1, allowing new buildings to front onto the street and would simplify the complicated traffic signals currently in use, and add wide sidewalks and street trees.

The discussion also included innovative ways other communities around the world have handled similar issues. You can see the entire discussion

at the link below.

The community was also invited to take a survey with its about individual priorities on the issue:

[View the discussion](#)

## AIRPORT NOISE MITIGATION STUDY

Arlington and Montgomery Counties have jointly funded a study to identify, evaluate and propose mitigations to reduce aviation noise impacts on communities north of Washington National Airport. The study will be conducted by ABCx2, who will provide technical resources to elected officials, staff, and the North of Airport Committee of the DCA Community Working Group. Feedback from members of these communities is being sought as the team develops guiding principles by which future proposals will be measured.

Please Note: Helicopter noise is not part of the scope of work for this study. In addition, any flight procedures proposed to the FAA must meet flyability and safety design criteria and be endorsed by the DCA Community Working Group.

For more information and updates on the Aircraft Noise Mitigation Study, visit the [Aircraft Noise Updates](#), or email [noise2020@arlingtonva.us](mailto:noise2020@arlingtonva.us).



[Please Take the Survey](#)

## UBER, LYFT LOTS MOVED BACK TO AIRPORT

As of Sept. 1, 2020, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) has moved its staging lot for Uber and Lyft from S. Eads St.. and Fort Scott Dr. back onto the National Airport campus, where it will remain as the airport continues its \$650 million transportation improvement. With the removal of the staging function, the County plans to take down the temporary traffic signal installed at the corner of Route 1 and 27th Street South. So now, instead of waiting for 45 seconds for your Uber, it will take 3 minutes.

## CENSUS

**Deadline Sept. 30.** 88,200 Arlingtonians have filled out their census forms, 22,800 have not! This is not good enough! We need 100% as money is at stake.

Meanwhile, **if you haven't filled yours in yet, please do so NOW!** As we have told you in all of our newsletters this year, it is really important for financial support for Arlington, as well as for representative voting districts. (The courts are currently deciding whether the deadline for filling



out the census will be set back to the original deadline of October 30)

[More Information](#)

## VOTE! VOTE EARLY AT AURORA HILLS!



**703-228-3456**

We don't need to tell you how important it is for you to vote on Nov. 3! To help you, the

County has added an additional early voting site at our Community Center, even if it is not your usual voting location. It will also have a ballot drop-off box. You can check out your many voting assistance options at the [Arlington voting website](#), where you can find out recommended mailing times, confirmation that your ballot has been received, get an appointment for "vote from your car", and track your ballot. The Election Day ballot will include the names of the candidates running for each office (President, U. S. Senate, U. S. House [8<sup>th</sup> District], County Board [1 seat] and School Board [2 seats]), two Commonwealth [constitutional amendments and five bond questions](#). One amendment pertains to a re-districting commission and the other proposes a property tax waiver for personal vehicles owned by a 100% disabled veteran. The subjects of the five bond questions include metro & transportation, local parks & recreation, community infrastructure, Arlington Public Schools, and storm water. The Office of Elections conducts pre-processing checks of mail-in ballots received prior to Election Day to identify disqualifying defects. In those cases, the

Office of Elections will contact the voter and offer him/her the opportunity to correct the ballot discrepancy so the vote will count. Counting mail-in ballots does not start until 7:00 pm on Election Day (3 November). However, mail-in ballots may arrive as late as 12:00 pm on 6 November and still count.

### [Candidates Forum from the Arlington Civic Federation](#)

**Voter Registration Deadline** 13 October

**Deadline to request a mail-in ballot** 23 October

**Hours for Early Voting at Aurora Hills, Oct 17 - 31**

Monday – Fridays from 2 – 7pm and Saturdays Oct 17, 24 and 31, 9am – 5pm.

## SCHOOLS

### **BACK TO SCHOOL DOING WELL SO FAR!**

25,273 student devices are active on the Arlington Public School's network for the first day of the new school year's online schooling. They report that there were, surprisingly, only a few isolated problems. Other online School Board activities include:

[Watch the School Board Meetings Online](#)

[Open Office Hours for the 2020-21 School Year](#)

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

### "LEE" IS OUT!



**Lee Highway and Arlington House to be Renamed**  
Rep. Beyer has proposed legislation to strip Robert E. Lee's name from Arlington House: Beyer said "The choice of Lee's home for the site of a national military cemetery was intended to be a punitive measure against Lee, who said himself that he

opposed erecting Confederate monuments. Given these considerations and requests from members of the community, including descendants of enslaved people in the area, I am working on legislation to remove the reference to Robert E. Lee from the official name of Arlington House".

A name change process has also been launched for Lee Highway, which was not named after the Civil War, but in the 1920s and 30s, to “create intimidation”, said Wilma Jones Killgo of the John M. Langston Citizens Association, which represents the historically Black neighborhood of Halls Hill.

### **NATIONAL LANDING BID EXPANDS FOOD DONATION PROGRAM**

The National Landing BID (Business Improvement District) in partnership with FreshFarm, the Friends of Urban Agriculture and the Wakefield, Gunston and Hoffman-Boston parent teacher associations, has launched a new program to provide fresh produce to local families in need. Since June, the group has provided \$10,000 worth of fresh fruits and vegetables to over 150 families living in surrounding neighborhoods with students in the participating schools. A \$15 donation purchases a week of produce for a family. [Donate](#)

### **MORE SUPERLATIVES FOR ARLINGTON!**

We seem to be constantly in the news for being the best (or at least a ranking) at something: Latest news names Arlington Top Digital County (for the 4<sup>th</sup> time in a row); No.1 in Best Places to live in the U.S. (evaluating us on crime, public schools, cost of living, job opportunities and local amenities); and 3<sup>rd</sup> best for Runners (safety, accessibility, popularity of running and number of gyms).

### **ARLINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Hume School Building on Arlington Ridge Road houses the Arlington Historical Society, which is offering several online programs during the pandemic. It is collecting artifacts reflecting both the ongoing coronavirus threat and Black Lives Matter protests in Arlington. If you have a sign, homemade mask, bulletins and photos that you are willing to donate, please let them know. The Historical Society also has an On This Day in Arlington History daily on WERA, 96.7FM.

Please plan a visit when the museum reopens. The structure was built in 1891 and named for Frank Hume who donated some of the property for the school, which is the oldest in the County. We even have a local resident who was a student there... [Information](#)

### **LOCAL DRY CLEANER A VICTIM OF COVID**

Our long term ARCA business neighbor, Chantra Chet (pictured at right) of First Virginia Cleaners in the Shirley Park Shopping Center, has seen her customers reduced by 80% now that we are wearing sweats all day -- no proms, no weddings, no tuxedos! A refugee from Cambodia after the Vietnam war, she has worked hard to make her business thrive, until now. So if you have not drycleaned your winter woolies, blankets and duvets, please bring them in! She does an excellent job, and is guaranteed to remember your name even if it has been ages since you were there!



### **NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION**



## Native Trees for the Home Fri Sept 18, 10am – online.

Master Gardeners of No.Va presents best practices for caring for trees, how to assess the site's conditions for new plantings, and how to select from the many native tree species. [Register](#)

## Register for a Free Tree and Redbud Seedling

Arlington County is providing 500 young native trees free to Arlington residents. The available trees are 2 – 4" in 2 gallon containers. Pickup Oct 24, 27. [Register](#)

EcoAction Arlington and Dominion Energy are also offering free redbud seedlings, 12" long with bare root. Fill in the online form above for your free seedling. Pickup will also be at the same place as the other free native trees. The free redbuds will be available at farmers' markets between Oct. 25 and Nov 1.

## Videoconference with a Landscape Designer

Wed. Oct 22, 11am

Planning a pollinator landscape with designer Barbara Ryan of Chain Bridge Native Landscapes. [Register.](#)

## Native Plant Sale

A great selection of plants are available for purchase for sun and shade. Order ahead by Sept 24 for pickup Oct 3 at the plant nursery behind Barcroft Park. [Order](#)

## CALENDAR/ARTS EVENTS



Sept 17, 24 Crystal City Drive In Movies: Just Mercy (Sept 17) and The Goonies (Sept 24) will be shown in the empty lot at Crystal Drive & 33<sup>rd</sup> Street. Gates open at 7pm. Free. Prior registration is required to attend. Would-be attendees are encouraged to sign up for the [National Landing BID newsletter](#); a link will appear in the Monday newsletter for Thursday's movie. When registering, participants select their vehicle type or choose one of the non-vehicle spaces for those walking or biking to the movies.

Signature in the Schools is now open for high school performers and stage crew across Northern Virginia. The program will take place virtually over Zoom and culminate in an original film that will be shown to schools across the region in February. Auditions will take place over Zoom on September 24 and 25 – [sign up today!](#)

## PROGRAMS IN THE PARK

### [Register](#)

### Sept 18, 25 Beginner Line Dancing at Va. Highlands Park, 10am

Kick up your heels with line dancing! Easy for beginners, lots of fun for all. No partner needed; line up and watch as the leader demonstrates the steps.

Sept 21, 28 Tai Chi at Va Highlands. 10am.

Sat Sept 19: Fort Scott Walk: Families ages 7 and up. Built by the Union Army in 1861, this fort had a commanding view of the Four Mile Run Valley and protected approaches to Washington from the south. 1 pm. Information: 703-228-4775. Meet at Fort Scott Park, 2800 Fort Scott Drive, Arlington. Registration Required.

Oct 3, 1 – 4pm. Native Plant Sale. Long Branch Nature Center.

Oct 16- 19 Bike Scavenger Hunt: Phoenix Bikes, a non-profit and bike shop, will take riders to little-known sites in Arlington following a trail of clues. The 20 mile route can complete the route over 4 days. [Register](#)



### MODEL SLAVE SHIPS IN PUBLIC ART PROJECT

Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Blvd.

Thru Dec. 13 The Arlington Arts Center is installing a work of public art on its front lawn that will feature 25 sculptures representing slave ships. It was inspired by the artist, Lynda Andrews-Barry's research

into Matthew Fontaine Maury, the namesake of the former school building that AAC has occupied for over 40 years. A native Virginian, Maury was an astronomer, historian oceanographer, cartographer, and chief of Sea Coast defenses for the Confederacy. He made important contributions to maritime navigation that were used by ships carrying, among other things, enslaved people. The artist is a descendent of those enslaved people who made it to Virginia and Maryland, and the exhibit is a reminder that artists are often the recorders and interpreters of social change, and is part of a larger conversation of race and human relationships.

[Check out what's going on in neighboring Aurora Highlands](#), including lots of family activities at Virginia Highlands Park!

## ZOOM DIRECTIONS

First time Zoom users may access the platform via a web browser on a laptop or desktop computer using the embedded link shown below under the heading "Join Zoom Meeting." You can also use your tablet or smart phone by downloading an app from your App store (search for ZOOM Cloud Meetings). Phone attendees, please use the dial-in information highlighted below in red.

Each attendee will be admitted to the meeting individually, including the phone attendees. Please be patient, as this process will take some

time. Participants will be admitted between 6:00 and 7:00 pm. You can join the meeting at any point between those times by accessing the meeting link or by phone (as shown below); however, I encourage you to join the meeting as soon as possible after it opens in case you or we have any tech problems.

The meeting will be locked to additional participants at 7:15 pm.

Topic: ARCA Membership Meeting

Time: Sep 17, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3618310425?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3618310425?pwd=TmgwWUp0eklVY2MvVmJYQ1o3WjdXZz09)  
[pwd=TmgwWUp0eklVY2MvVmJYQ1o3WjdXZz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3618310425?pwd=TmgwWUp0eklVY2MvVmJYQ1o3WjdXZz09)

Meeting ID: 361 831 0425

Passcode: 924919

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 868 8660 1736

Password: 479723

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kc3BNP8aEp>

Nancy Springer

VP, ARCA

Cell: 760-845-6119

[nancyspringer87@gmail.com](mailto:nancyspringer87@gmail.com)