



Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O. Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202
www.arcaonline.org

ARCA JANUARY NEWSLETTER Meeting, January 19, 2023

Aurora Hills Community Center, 6.30 – snacks and chats with the neighbors, 7pm Agenda.

In person and virtual:

Google meet link: <https://meet.google.com/bve-imqm-xby>

GUEST: Gabriela Kock, Project Management Coordinator, Division of Transportation, Arlington Dept. of Environmental Services, who will discuss the Ridge Rd. and S. Lynn Street improvement

ARLINGTON NEIGHBORHOODS PROGRAM

Previously Neighborhood Conservation Program

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Arlington-Neighborhoods-Program>

Arlington Ridge has benefited from this program over the years, with support for sidewalks, curbs and gutters, streetlights, signs and park improvements. However, the County felt that the “largesse” from the program was not being distributed evenly to the many civic association areas, so has revamped its program, empowering citizens to identify and plan in their neighborhoods. ARCA proposed providing a sidewalk on a section of S. Kent St. where no sidewalk currently exists, from 18th to 23rd Streets. This stretch of S. Kent Street is frequently cited by residents as being dangerous for pedestrians, many of them Oakridge students going to and from school. It was chosen several years ago to receive a sidewalk after numerous residents reported narrowly avoiding catastrophic collisions with speeding vehicles. This plan has been held up because it requires 60% of homeowners (not renters) to approve the improvement, and some residents are reluctant to do so as they fear they will lose some of their front yard and trees. Unfortunately, without the signatures for the whole stretch, ARCA will move forward with the smaller section of sidewalk from 20th to 23rd St where it has been approved by residents. Tim McIntosh, head of the program, will join us for our March meeting.

RIDGE RD. & S. LYNN ST. INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/90dda436-2194-4054-b273-266560c13edd/DC12-280-Signage_and_Striping-Plan-Profile.pdf

This project has been in the planning stage for some time, but we are told it is expected to go construction in March or April with County Board approval in February. The goal for the project is to increase safety as there have been a high number of collisions at the intersection. Project Coordinator Gabriela Kock will update us at the January meeting.

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PAY YOUR DUES

We are working on a new online pay portal, but in the meantime, please send your \$20 annual ARCA membership dues to ARCA, PO Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202-0976. The membership year is July 1 – June 30.

GOOD TRAFFIC NEWS!**Left Turn light at S. Glebe and Mt. Vernon Avenue!**

How often have you waited to turn left with a dozen cars in front of you for at least two cycles? Imagine my surprise when I realized those days are behind me, fixed by just a little green arrow! Now how about one at Rt. 1 and 23rd Street?

PAY YOUR DUES!**ARCA Dues now a cheap \$25 per year!**

Please pay your annual dues (July – June) if you haven't already as our coffers are looking a bit threadbare! Just like everything else, our expenses have risen, and we are asking only a measly increase of \$5 per year (the price of a fancy coffee). Please send your dues to us at PO Box 2976, 22202 or fill out the envelope at our January 19 meeting at the Aurora Hills Community Center, where you will get refreshments for your donation. It is a really good investment in our neighborhood. Thank you one and all.

FY2024 BUDGET ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

<https://publicinput.com/t6636>

Send comments through Jan. 17

The County Manager is gathering feedback on what is important to the community as he develops his FY24 budget. Share your thoughts at the website.

PROTECT ARTS FUNDING FOR 2023**How do you think Arlington should prioritize spending in 2023? Here is one way...<https://publicinput.com/t6636>**

Embracing Arlington Arts, Arlington's arts advocacy organization, is urging all residents responding to the County Manager's request for input on spending for 2023, to ask for arts funding, which is always facing funding challenges. Imagine a life without theater, without art, without dance, film and video! "Ars longa, vita brevis" (art is long, life is short)

Embracing Arlington Arts Podcasts:

<https://embracing-arlington-arts.org/radio-interviews/>

ROUTE 1 MULTIMODAL FEASIBILITY STUDY**Route 1 Multimodal Feasibility Study**

<https://livability22202.org/wp-content/uploads/3-CA-Letter-to-VDOT-December12-2022.pdf>

In December, the three Civic Associations (ARCA, AHCA and Crystal City) sent a letter to the Virginia Dept. of Transportation listing their concerns about the VDOT plan as did the Arlington County Board, whose comments were similar to those of the civic associations. The County said that they want "to achieve the County's vision for the calming and humanizing of Route 1 into a corridor that is safe and welcoming for all users." This correspondence is available at the Livability22202 website. The VDOT recommendation is to bring Route 1 to grade at 15th and 18th Streets, so the street-wide underpass at 18th would be removed and replaced by a signalized intersection. It will also add a new 10th St. connection between Army-Navy drive and Long Bridge Drive – great for cyclists, drivers and pedestrians. They also recommend reconfiguration of the 23rd Street and Rt. 1 intersection, 25mph maximum speed, no right on red, and something called "Barnes Dance" signalization at 18th Street: (an intersection where traffic halts for a bit so pedestrians can cross in all directions, including diagonally.) Livability22202 also continues to recommend that VDOT collaborate with the community to explore safe crossing options for pedestrians and cyclists at 18th Street, such as a Dutch underpass. This would allow pedestrians and cyclists to easily cross Route 1 regardless of traffic flow and offer a mutually complementary opportunity to create a destination-worthy plaza for shopping and dining by the Metro exit/entrance.

MISSING MIDDLE UPDATE

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Housing/Housing-Arlington/Tools/Missing-Middle>

According to ArlNow, "The Planning Commission voted 7 – 2 to recommend the County Board advertise hearings on a series of

proposed changes to the County's zoning code, which would allow 2 – 8 unit buildings in Arlington's lowest density neighborhoods. The County Board is expected to discuss the request to advertise hearings as early as its meeting on January 21, meaning the proposal could return to the Planning Commission and the County Board for a final vote in March."

COLUMBIA PIKE CLOSURES STARTING JAN. 23 **<https://highways.dot.gov/federal-lands/projects/va/st-anc-1>**

As the Arlington National Cemetery is expanding, there will be significant realignment of both Columbia Pike and S. Joyce Streets, eliminating most of Southgate Road, creating new intersections, sidewalks, bike lanes and a new cross street. The road redevelopment is being planned by the Federal Highway Administration and will have a big impact on our neighborhood as construction begins on its Columbia Pike will be closed between Nash and Joyce. Check the website for details.

MLK TRIBUTE AT WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL **<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Parks-Recreation/MLK-Tribute>**

Sun. Jan. 15, 5 - 6:30pm

Arlington's annual tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at Wakefield High School will be produced by Encore Stage & Studio and will highlight Dr. King's visit to Arlington before the March on Washington in 1963, with live music, dance and spoken word. You can also sign up to help at Volunteer Arlington's Day of Service on Mon., Jan. 16 at Washington-Liberty High School; there are also cleanups at Barcroft Park and W&OD Trail register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/martin-luther-king-jr-day-wod-trail-cleanup-tickets-483413541917>

HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING AT MOM'S **Through Jan 31**

Recycled lights are broken down through melting and shredding to recover raw materials that are repurposed into roofing and construction materials, piping, car batteries,

other electronics, flatware, jewelry and more! Who knew? Our neighborhood Mom's for those of you who do not know, is on Mt. Vernon Avenue a few blocks from S. Glebe.

RENEWABLE ENERGY NOW POWERS ARLINGTON GOVERNMENT FACILITIES

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/About-Arlington/Newsroom/Articles/2023/County-Operations-Now-Run-Entirely-on-Renewable-Electricity>

Arlington announced its buildings, streetlights and traffic signals, leased facilities and the Water Pollution control plant and now run on electricity from sustainable sources. The next milestone for the county's Community Energy Plan is powering 100% of electricity with renewable sources by 2035. The Arlington Public Schools continue to expand their solar capacity as well, with new rooftop installations, and so far three elementary schools are considered net-zero in terms of energy use, and more are in the works

SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN **[mgnv.org/events](https://www.mgnv.org/events)**

Extension Master Gardener Help Desk at 703-228-6414

The class will help you create more harmonious, functional and pleasing outdoor spaces, building on the unique conditions of your yard.

MOVING WORDS

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Arts/Programs/Humanities/Moving-Words>
Thru February 15

The Moving Words annual competition invites poets to submit poems of 10 lines or less that will be displayed inside Arlington Transit (ART) buses between March and September, 2023. This year's competition will be judged by Arlington Poet Laureate Holly Karapetkova. Seven poems will be selected to be printed on colorful placards and displayed prominently on area buses, enlivening the ride for thousands of commuters. Each winner will receive \$250, and poets within the DC metro area over age 18 are eligible to enter. **Sample:** "She spread

herself so thin there wasn't enough wife left to butter her husband with": Deanna D'Errico

CALENDAR

A Conversation with Artist Walter Hood

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNFqkVRTzVA>

WATCH: Artist and landscape architect Walter Hood shares what drew him to the John Robinson, Jr. Town Square project and how his conversations with the Green Valley community shaped his vision for the landscape and inspired the creation of the FREED sculpture.

Thru Jan 22 Beauty and the Beast Jr.: Encore Stage and Studio. Thomas Jefferson Theatre. Encorestageva.org

Jan 19 – Feb 11 Billy and George: George Washington and his closest companion, Billy Lee, prepare for the crossing of the Delaware River. Avant Bard. Gunston Theater Two. Avantbard.org

Jan 27 – Feb 11 Boston Marriage: Dominion Stage.



Jan 31, Feb 3 Tickets are now on sale for this year's *Signature in the Schools* world premiere play: ***The Voices on Blackwell Island***, written by Dani Stoller. *In 1888, a daring female journalist goes undercover and a falsely committed inmate rebels in this riveting original play. Inspired by Nellie Bly and Elizabeth Packard, and featuring a cast and crew of area high school students with award-winning actor Holly Twyford, the most ambitious Signature in the Schools production to date descends deep into the horrors of Blackwell Island, the notorious women's asylum.*

Gunston Theatre One. Dominionstage.org

Jan 30 – Feb 24 Claim to Fame Juried Show: Gallery Underground. Arlingtonartistsalliance.org

Jan 31 – Feb 5 First Lady of Song: Ella Fitzgerald: Signature Theatre. Sigtheatre.org

Feb 9 Freedman's Village: Dr. Spencer Crew will discuss how Freedman's Village was established and succeeded, its impact on those who lived in it and its role in American history. Dr. Crew is the former Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Arlington Historical Society. In person or zoom. Arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org

Feb 11 Broadway, Spirituals and More: National Chamber Ensembles. Gunston Theater One. Nationalchamberensemble.org

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