



# *Arlington Ridge Civic Association*

P.O Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202  
[www.arcaonline.org](http://www.arcaonline.org)

## **ARCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**Thursday, JULY 20, 2023**

**Aurora Hills Community Center**

**6:30 snacks and chats; 7pm Meeting**

**In person or online:**

**Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/be-imqm-xby>**

## **ARCA EXECUTIVE BOARD SLATE 2023-4**

Each year we vote for the Executive Board at our July meeting. Come prepared to vote for these neighbors who work their fingers to the bone for the neighborhood!

**THE SLATE:** Kateri Garcia, President; Arthur Fox, Robert Jamison, Fred Zimmerman, Richard Rebh Vice Presidents; Christina Wolf, Secretary; Treasurer Bob Hyde; Maggie Gaffen, Communications; Lauren Bailey, Member and ArNAC Rep; Alyssa Marlow, Julie Farnam and John Steele, members. Thank you to Marlee Baucom, Erik Olson and Patrick Collard for serving on the Board.

## **SOUTHERN EXPANSION & HISTORY OF THE ORD & WEITZEL AND MCCLELLAN GATES**

Our neighbors Ms. Agnes Sullivan (Arlington National Cemetery) and Mr. Sean O'Brien (Federal Highways) will update us on the Southern Expansion and Dr. Stephen Carney on the history of the Ord and Weitzel and McClellan Gates.

## **CRYSTAL CITY/PENTAGON CITY PLANNING UPDATES & RIVERHOUSE NEIGHBORHOOD SITE PLAN KICK-OFF MEETING**

**Wed. July 26, time and location TBA**

Our guest, Matt Mattauszek, the Planning Coordinator for Crystal and Pentagon Cities, reports that the County will be hosting a Community Kick-Off meeting for the RiverHouse Neighborhood site plan on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. The Kick-Off will largely focus on our upcoming public review process which is expected to begin in the fall. Location and time TBA. He will also update us on current Crystal City and Pentagon City planning.

**DUES:** Our esteemed communications guru forgot to update our annual dues in the last newsletter, and in the envelopes we sent you. The new dues, voted on earlier this year, are \$25 p.a., not \$20. Sorry about that! What you do next is up to you...send us \$5, send us more than \$5, or wait till next July to pay \$25 for 2024. The annual dues cover July – June. Many thanks to those of you who already sent checks. PO Box 2976, Arlington VA 22202

## **MET PARK HOSTING FREE JAZZ, MOVIES AND WORKOUTS**

**<https://nationallanding.org/events/calendar>**

Free family friendly events will be offered all summer long at Pentagon City's Met Park: jazz performances, outdoor movie screenings, fitness classes and more. Food trucks will offer varied food, and the BID will pass out complimentary blankets to sit on. Their Fit@Met series offers a workout before the start of work from 8 – 9am, and other classes will including Boxing, yoga and something called HIIT....you probably know what it is! Check them out, they are all FREE and you can even bring your dog.

## SCHOOLS

Congratulations to **ARCA Board Member Lauren Bailey** who has been selected from over 70 applicants to serve on the Arlington Public Schools (APS) Strategic Planning Steering Committee, which will work with staff, parents, students and the community at large to create a 7-year plan of action to support and improve APS schools.

## UPDATE ON OAKRIDGE CONCERNS

Over the past several months, parents and community members have expressed concerns regarding declining academic performance and teacher retention issues at Oakridge Elementary. The 3 Civic Associations of 22202 have begun direct engagements with the School Board and APS Staff to understand the long term plan of action for improvements. While we have not received more details than parents of Oakridge students, we will continue to engage. Please email Kateri Garcia ([president@arca22202.org](mailto:president@arca22202.org)) if you would like updates on this topic or want to provide any additional information.

## MOVING THE SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAM FROM GUNSTON?

The ARCA Board was just as surprised as many of you to learn that the School Board will be voting to move the Middle School Spanish Immersion program from Gunston to Kenmore for the 2025-26 school year. ARCA is concerned about losing a program that is so advantageous to our children. The rationale given is that north Arlington students have to travel too far to get to Gunston; there has been no assessment of the travel time for our neighborhood children to the new location at Kenmore. ARCA continues to advocate for more K-12 seats in 22202, and does not believe continued boundary shifts and relocations are cost effective or good for our community. We are interested in hearing your thoughts on this proposed change and encourage members to email the School Board ([school.board@apsva.us](mailto:school.board@apsva.us)), our assigned ARCA liaison, Mary Kadera ([mary.kadera@apsva.us](mailto:mary.kadera@apsva.us)), and to CC ARCA ([president@arca22202.org](mailto:president@arca22202.org)). **More information**

**from ArlNow** on the Immersion move at [https://www.arlnow.com/2023/07/07/aps-mulls-moving-spanish-immersion-program-from-gunston-to-kenmore-middle-school/?mc\\_cid=4fe2fc588b&mc\\_eid=efd807b342](https://www.arlnow.com/2023/07/07/aps-mulls-moving-spanish-immersion-program-from-gunston-to-kenmore-middle-school/?mc_cid=4fe2fc588b&mc_eid=efd807b342)

## MISSING MIDDLE APPLICATIONS UPDATE

### Applications Available online

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Building/Permits/EHO/FAQ>

Since the first day of accepting applications, Arlington County has so far received 15 permit applications for Missing Middle housing proposals in R-5 and R-6 districts. Applications can be tracked on the County's website. The homes proposed for redevelopment, all "teardowns", are primarily concentrated in or near Metro areas in the central part of the County, mostly along the Rosslyn Ballston corridor. Two are in 22202. Arlingtonians for our Sustainable Future reports that the prices for the new townhouses are 28% higher than the houses they replace. You can follow along on the County's website, which is updated as applications are received.

## NATIONAL LANDING BID ANNUAL MEETING

The National Landing Business Improvement District (BID) held its annual meeting on 21 June. Some milestones highlighted were the completion of 570 multi-family units since the beginning of 2022, the new Potomac yard Metro station, and office and retail spaces in Amazon's Met Park. They also noted progress on the multi-modal connection between Crystal City and DCA, and the Virginia Tech Innovation Campus. The BID assessed that the National Landing's development pipeline has produced \$64M of positive net fiscal impacts across County operations, with an additional 57M in years to come (source: <https://online.flippingbook.com/view/620587084/>).

## SYNETIC THEATER LEAVING CC

<https://synetictheater.org/update-synetic-home/>

Synetic Theater has been a wonderful asset to Crystal City for many years, and now must

move from its theater after the 23 – 24 season as part of the JBGSmith redevelopment. For the next 10 months, Synetic will be working to find a new local space. Their **Cyrano de Bergerac opens July 14**, followed by this season's *The Tell Tale Heart*, *The Snow Maiden*, *The Tale of the Fisherman and the Golden Fish* and finally, *Romeo and Juliet*. We will keep you up to date as we find out more.

## COUNTY FAIR

**August 16 – 20**

**<https://www.arlingtoncountyfair.us/about-us/>  
Thomas Jefferson Community Center,  
3501 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St.**

Don't miss the Arlington County Fair, an institution for the past 40 years. It will feature stage performances by local and regional artists, FREE Kids Court activities like fitness classes and obstacle courses, thrilling amusement rides and midway games, and other programming you won't want to miss. Last year they had pie eating contests and goat yoga: no confirmation if that they on the schedule for this year, but you might want to come and find out. And this year, with your help, the event will be ZERO WASTE!

## YET MORE EFFORTS TO REDUCE HELICOPTER NOISE!

**“The Reduce Excessive Decibels and Unwanted Commotion and Emissions to Heighten Enforcement and Limitation of Intrusive Chopper Operations to Protect Towns and Enhance Residents from Noise Act”  
(perhaps we should have an act to reduce excessive words in all acts)**

**<https://beyer.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=5924>**

Our Congressional representative Don Beyer has introduced legislation to take federal action to rein in the growing helicopter noise in our neighborhood and elsewhere. The noise is more than a mere nuisance; it is a quality of life issue, shaking homes, disturbing sleep, and can even lead to an increase in cardiovascular disease. The legislation will establish a

complaint database to receive, collect and access information.

## ArNAC UPDATE ON S. KENT STREET SIDEWALKS

ARCA's plan to build sidewalks on S. Kent Street through the ArNAC (Arlington Neighborhood Advisory Committee) program has been waiting a long time to come to fruition, due to many of the Kent St. owners unwillingness to sign on. Finally it has been approved for one block only (3 blocks were asked for), from 20 – 21<sup>st</sup> Streets. Despite personal pleas, home visits, lots of paper, that is all that has been approved. If you are one of those who either missed the notifications, or would like to change your mind, please contact Lauren Bailey, our ARNAC representative at [laurenabailey12@gmail.com](mailto:laurenabailey12@gmail.com), or [arcaneighbor@gmail.com](mailto:arcaneighbor@gmail.com). It's not too late!

## PICKELBALL AT FORT SCOTT

Arlington's Parks and Recreation is working to address the “booming increase in pickleball” across the County; Arlington's program even got a picture on the front page of the New York Times last week! They will be re-striping 2 of the Fort Scott tennis courts for pickleball between June and September, weather permitting. Hours of play are the same as for tennis (until 10pm) and will be available for reservation on either game. Questions? Contact Tim McIntosh at [tmcintosh@arlingtonva.us](mailto:tmcintosh@arlingtonva.us), or 703-228-3332.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY PLANT TALKS

**<https://arlingtonurbanag.org/garden-talks-2023/> Weds. At 7pm. Central Library**

Sponsored by the Friends of Urban Agriculture and Extension Master Gardeners. Free. No registration needed. The talks will cover a wide range of topics, from growing in a hot sun, vegetables in fall and winter, cover crops, foraging for wild edibles, garden herbs and fruits.

**CALENDAR**

**Thru Aug 20 A World in a Zip Code: Columbia Pike Documentary Project:** The exhibit includes photos, videos and oral history by a team of photographers and storytellers whose work captures the evolving life of Arlington's historic corridor. Museum of Contemporary art. [Mocaarlington.org](http://Mocaarlington.org)

**Thru Aug 13 Cyrano de Bergerac:** Syntetic Theater's clowning, commedia-inspired adaptation of the timeless masterpiece, reminding us that in the end, love is the only truth that matters. [Syntetictheater.org](http://Syntetictheater.org)

**Jul 21 – 30 Freaky Friday:** A musical based on the popular novel by Mary Rogers about a mother and daughter who swap places for a day. Encore stage. Thomas Jefferson. [Encorestage.org](http://Encorestage.org)

**Jul 22 Reinvention Garage:** Artist Chris Combs showcases once-obsolete household electronics transformed into new useful devices. Arlington Farmers Market. 8am - Noon

**Jul 23 Circulo/Circle:** Encore Stage presents a bilingual circus adventure performance for young people with circus adventures. Free. Lubber Run Amphitheatre. 11am

**Jul 25 – Aug 13 Disco Fever:** The music of Donna Summer, Gloria Gaynor, Diana Ross, The Bee Gees and more comes alive to the syncopated beat of "Stayin' Alive," "Hot Stuff," "Last Dance," "I Will Survive" and "We Are Family." Signature Theatre. [sigtheatre.org](http://sigtheatre.org)

**Jul. 29 Seven Voices: A Tribute to Patsy Cline.** Lubber Run Amphitheater. 8pm. Free. <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Arts/Programs/Lubber-Run>

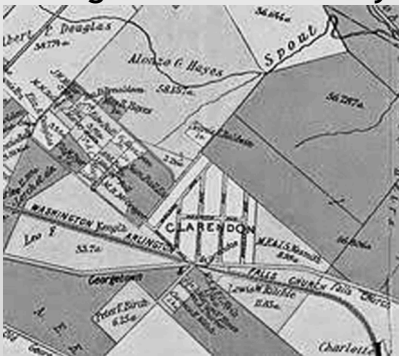
**Aug 5 Ardmore:** Traditional celtic melodies with folk, bluegrass and rock. Lubber Run Amphitheater.

**Aug 8 – Sept 17 Bridges of Madison County:** Sweeping musical romance of desire and sacrifice based on the best-selling novel. Signature Theatre. [Sigtheatre.org](http://Sigtheatre.org)

**Aug 11 The 257<sup>th</sup> Army Band. Lubber Run Amphitheater. 8pm. Free.**

**Aug 16 – 20 Arlington County Fair.** Thomas Jefferson Center.

**Arlington Historical Society  
WHEN CLARENDON WANTED TO BE A  
TOWN  
JULY 18, 6:30PM  
Arlington Central Library**



One hundred years ago Arlington was larger and its population smaller (16,000), and in 1922 Clarendon petitioned to become its own town.

The Virginia Supreme Court denied their aspirations because the County was "continuous, contiguous and homogeneous". Arlington resident and historian Sean Dennison has researched this, and will clarify the issues at a fascinating presentation, in person and online.

**RSVP:**  
<https://arlingtonva.libcal.com/event/10638019>

**ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS****President**

Kateri Garcia: [katerigarcia@mac.com](mailto:katerigarcia@mac.com)

**Vice President**

Arthur Fox. [alfoxii@verizon.net](mailto:alfoxii@verizon.net)

**Vice-Presidents**

Fred Zimmerman: [Fredcorgi1@gmail.com](mailto:Fredcorgi1@gmail.com)

Richard Rebh: [Richard.rebh@gmail.com](mailto:Richard.rebh@gmail.com)

Robert.d.jamison@gmail.com

**Members at large**

Patrick Collard: [Patrickcollard1@gmail.com](mailto:Patrickcollard1@gmail.com)

Erik Olson: [eaobadgers@gmail.com](mailto:eaobadgers@gmail.com)

Christina Wolf: [vakissy@hotmail.com](mailto:vakissy@hotmail.com)

Alyssa Marlow: [alysammarlow@gmail.com](mailto:alysammarlow@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

Marlee Baucom. [marleekbaucom@gmail.com](mailto:marleekbaucom@gmail.com)

**Communications**

Maggie Gaffen. [mimgaffen@gmail.com](mailto:mimgaffen@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Bob Hyde. [robghyde@gmail.com](mailto:robghyde@gmail.com)

**NCAC Rep**

Lauren Bailey. [laurenabailey12@gmail.com](mailto:laurenabailey12@gmail.com)

ARCA History Dick Herbst

Beautification Rich Kelly

CCCRC Reps Susan English; Jeffrey Williams