



Arlington Ridge Civic Association

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

ARCA MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, Sept. 21, 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>

GUESTS: **Mike Dowell** will update us on the Livability22202 reboot and the opportunity for new community members to join the process

Natasha Atkins, horticultural expert and neighbor will discuss the County's Tree Canopy Fund and how you can have a tree planted on your property, FREE!

Rich Fernicola, Senior VP Development at Brookfield Development will talk about development plans for the 12th Street Landing

STATE & COUNTY ELECTIONS

Voting Day Nov. 7

<https://vote.arlington.gov/elections>

The November 7 vote is for Arlington County and State office holders, and some constitutional amendments and bond questions. Arlington's 9 Drop boxes left over from the last election will be open till 7pm on election day, access to them begins 10 days before the election: check the website for locations and all election details. Early voting begins Sept. 22; last day to register to vote Oct. 16; last day to apply for a mail ballot Oct. 27.

RIVERHOUSE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Site-Plan/RiverHouse>

The existing site development includes 3 multifamily buildings with surface parking lots. The development plan will keep the existing buildings, and construct infill development for a total of 3,554 dwelling units and 27,700sq.ft. of retail. The applicant will work with staff to provide the following community benefits: expansion of Virginia Highlands Park; a "green ribbon" throughout the site and an additional 2.5 acres of public space. Residents are encouraged to learn more at the next Virtual Open House on **Thursday, Sept. 21 from noon – 1:30pm**. Please share your thoughts, good or bad, with us so that we can take them to the County's Long Range Planning and Site Review Committee. See the website for details.

LYNN ST. ARLINGTON RIDGE RD & 1-395 INTERSECTION

We have waited a long time for this work – it is now underway and we look forward to its completion. Unfortunately the County has not updated the website so we can't give you any more information, such as how long it will take, but we think they mentioned 8 months in a previous letter to us. In the meantime, proceed with caution at the new intersection at S. Lynn Street and Arlington Ridge Road.

SPEED HUMPS PILOT AT GUNSTON

This fall the County will pilot speed humps in "school slow" zones at Gunston: these zones are permanently 20mph on neighborhood streets within 600' of school access. The humps will reduce speeds in the zones where data shows the introduction of the 20mph speed limit has not worked. The humps are easy to install and remove, cost effective, durable and made from 100% recyclable material. They will be installed on Lang Street in the fall, and staff will monitor and collect the data on their effectiveness throughout the winter.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

The Alliance for Senior Programs is looking for more adult volunteers to help lead the walking school buses at elementary schools round the County. The first walking school bus was such a success at Oakridge that they would like to expand around the County. More information at http://guide.saferoutesinfo.org/walking_school_bus/

WORDS FOR THE WORLD: AN ANTHOLOGY

The works of young Arlington poets
<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Arts/Programs/Humanities/Words-for-the-World-Anthology>

This book, a collection of poems by 38 Arlington high school students, was collected by Arlington's Poet Laureate Holly Karapetkova. The poems are described as "moving and striking", and it "encourages readers to believe in the future of our community". Local poet E. Ethelbert Miller says "Here is the light that survives the darkness". Listen to some of the poems, and order a free copy on the website.

ARLINGTON HISTORIANS COLLECTING DOCUMENTS FOR LATINO COMMUNITY HISTORY

Arlington's Center for Local History is collecting artifacts to document the rich, vibrant history of the Latino community in Arlington. Between 1990 and 2000, the Latino population increased by 53%, and today makes up 15.7% of it, but the archives did not grow at the same

rate. This multi-year collecting initiative, dubbed REAL (Re-Enuentro de Arlington Latinos), is looking for materials from people, businesses, civic groups, schools and government. "These archives play a vital role in documenting all voices in a community. Understanding the diverse experiences of everyone is vital to understanding Arlington's history, with four decades of rich community history it is vital to capture this story", says Judy Knudsen at the Library. For more information or to donate material, contact her at jknuds@arlingtonva.us, or 703-228-5965.

LIVABILITY REBOOT

<https://livability22202.org/files/Livability22202-Action-Plan-v1.0-12-Nov-2019.pdf>
 Livability22202 is a coalition of our 3 civic associations (Aurora Highlands, ARCA and Crystal City) who face common pressures from rapid commercial and residential development. Community leaders, including our guest Mike Dowell, came together in 2018 to tackle these challenges, creating working groups, workshops and public meetings to draft the Livability22202 Action Plan. Recently Arlington County asked the Crystal and Pentagon Cities Council to prepare a list of the highest priority public amenity projects in the community, and a group of Livability leaders met to evaluate the current framework and draft new recommendations. Mike Dowell was one of the original people spearheading Livability22202 and is a really knowledgeable neighbor who will update us on all this. (many thanks to AHCA president Cory Giacobbe for much of this input).

EHO UPDATE ("MISSING MIDDLE")

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

The County's website gives an extensive overview of the program and even list those who have received permits. It notes that the applicant must obtain zoning approval before a permit is issued; permits do not authorize construction. No more than 58 permits will be issued each calendar year, and it is recommended that applicants meet with the County

to determine eligibility. So far only one has been approved in our neighborhood (2612 S. Fern), three are being assessed at 921 S. 22nd; 2108 S. Joyce and 900 S. 20th).

CC2DCA MULTIMODAL CONNECTION STUDY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Transportation-Projects/CC2DCA-Multimodal-Connection-Study#PublicProcess>

Public Hearing Sept. 19, Aurora Hills Recreation Center. 5 – 7pm.

The study is available for review on the County's website: Please read the report and make your comments till **Oct. 3**. The project explores the possibility of providing a safe and convenient multi-modal connection between Crystal City and National Airport for use by those walking, biking and using micromobility devices.

STORMWATER UTILITY FEE IMPLEMENTATION

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/stormwaterutility>

You have probably received information on the County's change in how it is funding its Stormwater Management program: starting in 2024 the fee will be based on the amount of impervious area on your property. The website has an extensive overview on the new fee: applying for credits and calculating your fee using an online tool. Questions at 703-228-5577, email: stormwaterutility@arlingtonva.us.

TREE CANOPY FUND

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Sustainability-and-Environment/Trees/Tree-Canopy-Fund-Program/Register-for-your-Free-Tree>

The current free tree program **closes Sept 13**, but will open again in Oct. for spring planted trees. We will remind you well in time to apply. Stay tuned.

RECLINING LIBERTY

The Museum of Contemporary Art has a eye-catching sculpture on its front lawn at 3550

Wilson Boulevard. The artist responsible is Zaq Landsberg, and it takes its inspiration, he says, from the giant reclining statues of Asia which represent the Buddha on the path to enlightenment. The sculpture was previously in Manhattan, and will be in Arlington till July 2024. The artist says he is asking the viewer to contemplate the status of the ideals the Statue of Liberty represents. The 25 foot statue can be climbed on, leaned on, sat on, and "interacted with". Check it out, you don't have to wait for the museum to be open.

SUGGEST A SCOOTER CORRAL **arlingtonva.us/report a problem**

No more tripping over those dratted scooters on your sidewalk, now you can suggest a location to receive a scooter corral, through the County's Report a Problem portal on its website at arlingtonva.us. Corrals provide a safe place to park scooters and bicycles, upright out of sidewalks and roadways. Arlington County is installing them throughout neighborhoods, in underutilized street space, like spots too small for parking a car. Suggestions will be reviewed and a determination made for their suitability.

SUPERLATIVES! THIS IS US! (according to "All in Arlington", our new County branding)

#1 Most sought after city by US Renters

#1 Fittest City

#4 Best park system in America

Platinum walk friendly community

#2 Happiest place in the US. Happy now?

ENGAGE WITH APS ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Arlington Public Schools published the Pre-Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Report that recommends priorities for the School Board to consider in developing the next CIP. It makes recommendations about boundaries and swing space, to include moving the immersion program from Gunston Middle School. Residents are encouraged to engage with APS through the Community Table Sessions and ThoughtExchange Interactive Platform (<https://www.apsva.us/engage/>).

CALENDAR

Sept 16 Rock-n-Recycle Open House: Explore the world of recycling, trash-to-energy, the big machines (The Rock Crusher, the Tub Grinder), sit in the driver's seat and meet the experts who keep Arlington clean and sustainable. 8am – 1pm, Trades Center, 4300 29th St. S. arlingtonva.us/rock-n-recycle

Sept 22 AVAST@3700: Opening reception 5 – 7pm. Artworks from last year's visual arts studio tour. Gallery 3700, 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive. Arlingtonartstudiotour.org

Sept 29 – Nov 5 The Tell Tale Heart: With a mix of laughter, dread and gleeful macabre, Synetic Theatre sneaks into the world of Edgar Allen Poe's nightmarish tale. 1800 Bell Street. Synetictheater.org

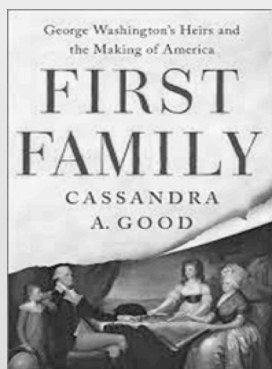
Sept 30 Paws on the Pike: Pet friendly fun with vets, trainers, pet-sitters, dog walkers, groomers 1 – 5pm. Penrose Sq. 2501 S. 9th St. Columbia-pike.org

Oct 14 Los Quetzales Dance: Celebrate the rich cultural traditions of Mexico with dance traditions and culture. 7pm Gunston Theater 1.

Oct 20 – Nov 4 Misery: Based on the novel by Stephen King, just in time for Halloween. Dominion Stage. Gunston.

Oct 21 Home Maintenance Workshops: Including plumbing, electrical, energy efficiency, drywall, painting. Arlington Career Center, 816 S. Walter Reed Dr. 10am – 1pm. Classes limited to 20. <https://tinyurl.com/2uvvam4m>

Oct 24 – Jan 7 Ragtime. Signature. Sig-theatre.org

FIRST FAMILY: by Cassandra Good

Oct 12 Arlington Historical Society: First Family: George Washington's heirs and the making of America.

Award winning historian Dr. Cassandra Good shows how the outspoken step-grandchildren of George Washington played an overlooked but important role in the development of American society and politics from the Revolution to the Civil War. In person at Marymount University or via zoom. 7pm. Arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org

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