



Arlington Ridge Civic Association

P.O Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202

www.arcaonline.org



ARCA MARCH 2024 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 6:30 snacks, meet the neighbors, 7pm meeting
Aurora Hills Community Center

VIDEO LINK TO ONLINE MEETING

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

Join us for the March membership meeting when we will present and vote for the 2024 ARCA Nominating Committee, discuss and vote on bylaws updates, and hear a presentation from Matt Levine, founder of Arlington Trails about the development of a temporary bike skills park in James Haley Park.

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PAY YOUR DUES

We are working on a new online pay portal, but in the meantime, please send your

\$25 annual ARCA membership dues to
ARCA, PO Box 2976,
Arlington, VA 22202-0976
The membership year is
July 1 – June 30.

ARCA BYLAWS VOTE UPDATE

ARCA By-Laws are in need of updating. Please come and vote in person on this important issue.

A recent ARLnow article on civic engagement in the county noted that current ARCA membership by-laws require being a property owner for membership, with renters who live within the association boundaries and wish to join must be approved by the executive board. That provision discourages a large number of current residents who rent. Please note that renters are members of our community, are welcome to attend our public meetings, and we would like to encourage them to join without an additional approval process. The process to amend ARCA's by-laws requires an **in-person vote** by 2/3 of members present with notice of proposed changes must be sent to the membership ahead of the meeting. We will be discussing the membership rules change at the March meeting, we hope to see you there, 7 - 9 pm.

The following is the existing by-law text with the portions to be amended struck through:

ARTICLE II BOUNDARIES AND MEMBERSHIP

Section 2. Regular Membership. All ~~adult property owners~~ adults who ~~also~~ reside within the boundaries of this Association shall be regular members of this Association. All adults ~~owning and~~ residing in property on any street which is a common boundary between this Association and any contiguous association shall be regular members of this Association or of the contiguous association, as they may elect; provided, however, that such persons shall not be eligible for membership in both associations.

~~REMOVED Adults residing in the Association area who are not real property owners may request regular membership subject to approval by the Association's Executive Board.~~

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO OUR COMMUNITY?**New board members + tech intern needed**

Each year ARCA has to vote on its Executive Board, and this year we have to replace two retiring members. If you have a little time to devote to keeping our neighborhood the wonderful place it is, and are interested in the various ways we do that, please think about joining the board: when we sign up we become experts in transportation, connection to the County staff, the environment, recreation issues, schools, development, and more. Contact us at arcaneighbor@gmail.com if you are interested. We are also looking for an **intern - a tech helper** who knows how, or is willing to learn to update and maintain Wix websites so we can get our new website live (soon, we promise!).

NEWSLETTER DELIVERER FOR FOREST HILLS NEEDED

If you live in or adjacent to Forest Hills, and are in need of a little exercise, we need someone to take the helm of their newsletter deliveries – getting them to block captains every 2 months. Some very important people live there!

Arcaneighbor@gmail.com if you can help with this!

COUNTY BOARD CANDIDATES NIGHT WITH CRYSTAL CITY AND AURORA HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

Wednesday, April 17, 7 – 9pm

Amazon Visitor Landing, 545 15th St. S.

Parking: Visitors parking entrance on Elm, around the corner from 15th St. & Amazon HQ.

Amazon will host the panel meeting of prospective County Board candidates in its community room. Candidates so far: Julie Farnam, JD Spain, James DeVita, Tenley Peterson and Natalie Roy.

CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSN. HYBRID MEETING

March 20, 7 – 9pm

251 S. 18th St. (Wells Fargo Bldg)

<https://www.crystalcitycivic.org/2024/02/20/march-ccca-general-meeting/>

Zoom at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpdOmraqzwiHdQi2280DYkycKNkLNIMDVof#/registration>

ARCA members are invited to this meeting where the Monumental sports arena in Potomac Yard and Virginia Passenger Rail/4th Track project will be discussed. This is an opportunity for us to bring up our stadium concerns: traffic, Rt. 1 congestion, parking, emergency services, and more. Join in person at 251 S. 18th Street (Wells Fargo Building) or by zoom

“HOT SPOTS!” IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Transportation/Vision-Zero/Maps-and-Safety-Data#section-5>

Arlington's **Vision Zero** identifies “hot spots” in the County that have a relatively high crash rate, using data from 2018 – 22, so crash mitigation measures can be taken. Hot spots are identified for vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian crashes. **22202 and adjacent location spots** are (no surprises here!) Rt. 1 and 23rd St.; S. Hayes & Army Navy Dr; S. Glebe and the 395 off ramp; S. 15th and Eads St.; S. Glebe and 26th Rd. S. 395 off ramp. Check the County's website for full details.

MISSING MIDDLE CASE HEADED TO TRIAL

<https://www.arlnow.com/2024/01/16/arlington-county-loses-pretrial-appeal-in-missing-middle-suit/>

A group of 10 homeowners sued Arlington on its Missing Middle zoning amendment, arguing that the county violated state law and didn't properly consider its impact on individuals. Arlington County appealed this decision to allow the suit to go forward saying the 10 residents did not have standing to sue. Arguments over standing, and attempts by the county to dismiss the lawsuit, have failed, and a trial is set to begin July 8. Funding the litigation is the group Arlington Neighbors for Neighborhoods.

LIVABILITY22202 REBOOT UPDATE

<https://livability22202.org/two-theater-venue/>

The three civic associations who comprise the Livability22202 coalition sent a letter to Senator Adam Ebbin on our concerns with the proposed Monumental Sports and Entertainment campus. “While there are many concerns”, they write, “The greatest are transportation and safety...the transportation management plan is woefully insufficient and does not consider impacts beyond Alexandria, using Arlington to absorb the expected increase in traffic”. See the livability website for the complete letter.

Two-Theater Venue is also an issue for us as the lease on the Crystal City space being used by prize-winning Synetic Theater has not being renewed by JBG. The advocacy group **Embracing Arlington Arts** has identified a potential investor/financial partner seeking to fund a cultural project that also includes housing units. In the past, Arlington County has been helpful to the arts community in identifying developers who might fall

into this category – for example the Rosslyn Spectrum and Signature. (With the much vilified Artisphere, the County made serious mistakes after the space had been given to it rent free for 15 years, unfortunately during a time of budget downturn and staff cutbacks.) Remember: **Ars longa vita brevis** (art is long, life is short)

SPRING 2024 E-CARE

Sat. March 23, 8:30am – 3pm

Wakefield High School, 1325 S. Dinwiddie Street

The free spring environmental collection and recycling event is held rain or shine, and allows residents to safely dispose of household hazardous materials and old electronics. This year it will not have bicycle donations, nor business and commercial waste. There is a fee only for old style cathode ray tvs (\$20) and computer monitors (\$15). (We will pause here for you to tell your children what they are).

WAKEFIELD ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Order at <https://wakefieldpts.org/plantsale>

Don't waste your time at Home Depot, buy your new plants at Wakefield! Flowers, vegetables, herbs, hanging baskets and more! This is their major annual fundraiser; please support your local high school. Order till 3/31 and pick up the plants on April 20, 10am – 2pm.

PROVIDE INPUT ON APS BOUNDARY PROCESS

<https://apsva/is/engage/boundaries-policy>

APS is soliciting input on a revision to the boundary policy, governing when school attendance boundaries can be changed. 22202 is projected to have significant growth in upcoming years, so this policy will impact our current and future students. Share your thoughts on how APS can best serve our students and families.

LONG RANGE PLAN TO RENOVATE EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES

<https://www.apsva.us/departments/facilities-operations/long-range-plan-to-renovate-existing-school-facilities/>

The Facilities Condition Assessment (FCA) Report uses the framework and guidelines developed jointly by Arlington Public Schools staff and the Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC). This project is a system-wide evaluation to study 41 APS facilities. APS aims to provide optimal learning environments, and this project will identify and assess facilities to allow APS to prioritize its capital investments.

ARLINGTON 2050

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/County-Board/Arlington-2050>

Imagine you live, work or play in Arlington in 2050 – and you love it. What makes it great? What's new? What's the same? What does the ideal Arlington look like to you? At the Arlington2050 kickoff event on February 5 four non-government panelists looked ahead on climate, business, demographic and educational challenges: **Hamilton Lombard, demographer**: "Up to 50% of jobs will become remote meaning much less demand for housing". **Jason Samenow, meteorologist** warned of "heat islands due to reduction in trees and green space"; **Steve Hartnell, Amazon VP**: Arlington would turn into a true tech hub; and **Dr. Gregory Washington, GMU President**: "AI will shape our workforce in possibly unimaginable ways." Join this group with your predictions. Share your input:

<https://publicinput.com/arlington2050>.

ARLINGTON THE HARDEST WORKING CITY!

Gold Level Bicycle Friendly

We just can't quit! We are the fittest, the second happiest, the best city to live in America, the most educated, and now hardest working! Described as a "model of productivity and efficiency", judged on hours worked, factoring in those working at home (27%) as well; average 41.1 hours a week! Arlington is "either a powerhouse of skilled and motivated workers or a town full of workaholics", says an article in *Arlington Magazine*.

And the League of America Bicyclists recognized Arlington a **Gold Level bicycle friendly community**: for its commitment to building quality biking infrastructure as part of its transportation network and implementing programs that welcome and encourage all riders.

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/About-Arlington/Newsroom/Articles/2024/Arlington-Spins-Gold-as-a-Bicycle-Friendly-Community>

BALL SELLERS HOUSE OPENING

Sounds and Sights of a Colonial Farmhouse

5620 3rd St. S. April 6, 1 – 4pm

<https://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/visit/ball-sellers-house/>

The Ball Sellers house opens for the season with a celebration in music of the colonial era with the Monumental City Ancient Fife and Drum corps from 1:30 – 2:30pm and songs from the era by the Guillotine Theatre. Bring a chair and enjoy the show as you are transported back in time.

CALENDAR

Thru May 26 Solace and Sisterhood: The work of 3 artists of African descent, digging deeply into historical and contemporary perspectives on African American life. Museum of Contemporary Art. <https://mocaarlington.org>

Thru May 31 Ways of Seeing Time: I work created by artist and scientist Kristen Orr who assembled her favorite ways of seeing time into a zine. 3700 S. Four Mile Run Drive.
<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Programs/Arts/Events/Gallery-3700/Ways-of-Seeing-Time>

Mar 23 Art of Pink: Celebrate cherry blossoms in Met Park, to celebrate artists and makers. 1331 S. Elm St. 1 – 5pm

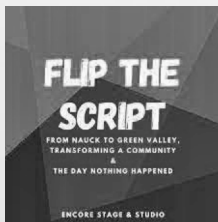
Mar 27 Women in the Kitchen: A Va. Coop. food volunteer will demonstrate recipes from some talented women chefs. 1:30 – 2:30. Aurora Hills Senior Center. Register # 913501-04

Apr 2 – 26 Inspired by Nature: A solo show by Cindy Donohoe of works inspired by the artists travels to France, the Eastern Shore and Ohio. Gallery Underground. 2100 Crystal Drive. Arlingtonartistsalliance.org

Apr 16 – Jul 7 Hair: The sensational groundbreaking rock musical bursts with the raging rebellion of the 60s. Signature. Sigtheatre.org

Apr 27 Aurora Hills Trash and Treasure Sale: Bargain prices on household goods, small appliances, games, toys, jewelry, luggage and more. 9:30am – 1:30pm. (drop off donations from neighbors welcome on Apr. 24 & 26)– no books, clothing, electronics or cds)

Apr 27 Live in Arlington Information Fair: Information, education and referrals for home buying, maintenance, health, and affordable housing. Walter Reed Community center, 2909 16th St. S. 11am – 4pm.



Encore Theatre's *Flip the Script* program works with local student writers to develop original theatre pieces focused on Arlington's African American voices and to encourage community conversations.

The Day Nothing Happened explores the 1959 desegregation of Arlington's Stratford Junior High School, the first school to desegregate in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Inspired by the Green Valley neighborhood, the play *From Nauck to Green Valley*, looks at the history of one of the country's oldest African American communities through the eyes of four fictional characters. This contemporary story explores and celebrates the entrepreneurial spirit that thrives there today.

Theatre on the Run (3700 S. Four Mile run Drive Arlington, VA 22206) encorestage.org

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(Crystal and Pentagon City Council)