



March, 2017

Arlington Ridge Civic Association

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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Page 1

◆ Topics & Speakers

Page 2

◆ Neighborhood News

Page 3

◆ Neighborhood Conservation

◆ Neighborhood News

Page 4

◆ ARCA Meetings

◆ ARCA Points of Contact

◆ Calendar of Events

Judge William T. Newman as Oedipus in "The Gospel of Colonus" performed by Avant Bard at Gunston Theatre 2 thru Mar 26



MEMBERSHIP MEETING, Thursday, MARCH 16, 7pm Oakridge School Library, 1414 S. 24th Street

REMINDER!! We thank Oakridge Elementary School for its continued hospitality in agreeing to host our membership meetings while the County renovates the Aurora Hills Community Center. We hope to be back there for the May meeting.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE FORUM

The health of Arlington's school system is in jeopardy and three candidates for one open seat on the School Board will be competing in a Democratic Primary in May for the right to appear on the ballot in November. The three candidates are: James Lander (incumbent), Maura McMahan, and Monique O'Grady.

Our 7 pm meeting at Oakridge Elementary School this coming Thursday will be your opportunity to learn how each of these candidates proposes to solve the overcrowding problems we are currently experiencing, problems that will become severe in the coming decade, both here in 22202 and throughout the County. We have invited, and will be joined by all concerned citizens living within Oakridge's current boundaries.

If you have questions about capacity, redistricting, assessments & testing, block scheduling, school options, transfer policies or any other issue affecting students of all ages residing in 22202, plan to attend. You should also attend if you simply own a home whose value will be affected by the quality of the education your neighbors' children will receive in the coming years.

To submit questions in advance: Visit <https://goo.gl/forms/VI5Qd0IYhzQIIIGXD2>

Virginia law requires all candidates for school board to qualify for the ballot as independent candidates, although they may be supported or endorsed by a political party.

DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY FOR COUNTY BOARD CANDIDATE

The Democratic nominee to replace Jay Fisette on the County Board will be selected via party caucus at the same time as the School Board candidate. Announced candidates for County Board are Erik Gutshall, Peter Fallon, Kim Klingler, Vivek Patil and Audrey Clement. The caucuses will be held on Tue. May 9 at Key Elementary from 7 – 9pm; Thurs. May 11 from 7 – 9pm at Drew Elementary, and Sat May 13, 11am – 7pm at Washington Lee High School.

More information on both School and County primaries on the County's voter website at <https://vote.arlingtonva.us/elections/>



You can pay your \$20 annual ARCA membership dues online using PayPal! www.arcaonline.org, by check or cash. Send to ARCA, PO Box 2976, Arlington, VA 22202-0976
The membership year is July 1 – June 30.

RIVER HOUSE EXPANSION PLAN “ON HOLD”

Vornado's proposal to build roughly an additional 1,000 apartments on its River House property was put “on hold” in early February following Vornado's merger in late 2016 into a company that now calls itself JBG/Smith. The County's official notice informed that “[w]hile the applicant has indicated that they do not intend to withdraw or modify their application, the Planning Division's 2017-2018 work program will note the site plan application as inactive.” Whether or when it may be reactivated, no one currently knows. ARCA can only speculate as to the reasons for this development. It may be that JBG/Smith management wishes to familiarize itself with their new, DC-based real estate portfolio, estimated to be valued at \$8.4 billion dollars, and then proceed deliberately to formulate an overall, cohesive strategy for handling it. It is also possible that they may be concerned about the market's current weakness. As the *Washington Post* recently reported, the millennial migration to the DC area has abated and even reversed in some locations, while the *Wall Street Journal* has observed that the supply of apartments in many cities has reached a point where it exceeds demand. So also may mounting traffic and congestion in 22202 be a factor, along with the capacity of its multi-modal transportation infrastructure to handle significant growth. ARCA will keep you apprised of developments when we learn more.

LOCATION FOR A NEW HIGH SCHOOL?

The Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) is Tackling the County's Big Needs Within Its Limited Space

Members of the JFAC will hold a series of small interactive roundtable discussions on the opportunities that Arlington County has to acquire new land and the land use recommendations that the JFAC will be making over the next six months. Members of the public will have an opportunity to give JFAC their recommendations on land acquisition and use to the County and School Boards, including specific uses of the Buck property on N. Quincy Street, a potential land

exchange involving property on Shirlington Road and the Va. Hospital Center's Carlin Springs/Lee Highway/16th St. N. sites.

Roundtables will be held on **March 21**, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Shirlington Library, Conference Room; **March 23**, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m., Washington-Lee High School, Room 1011; **March 25**, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Langston-Brown Community Center, Room 109. Registration is free but required. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/roundtable-tackling-arlington-big-needs-with-limited-space-tickets-32053602187>

CRYSTAL HOUSE TO ADD INFILL DEVELOPMENT

Although Crystal House is not within the ARCA civic association boundary, many of us pass it on our way to the Crystal City Metro – and some of us even take a short-cut through its parking lot. However, this will no longer be possible as their plan for infill development will include the construction of a new apartment building on this parking lot, adjacent to the existing apartment buildings at 18th & S. Eads Streets. The developer plans to build a 5 story building with 252 new residential units, and underground parking for 424 vehicles.

GUNSTON FIELD UPDATE

Synthetic Turf or Grass?

Arlington County is planning to renovate the Gunston Diamond Field to bring it up to current standards, including ADA accessibility. The Arlington Sports Foundation asked to fundraise to cover the difference of converting the field to synthetic turf; if they cannot raise the funds it will be renovated, as originally planned, as a grass field. Some residents have questions about the safety of the county's current use of synthetic turf; for more information on this issue, see <https://parks.arlingtonva.us/synthetic-turf-fields/>

LIONS AND TIGERS REGULATIONS ON THE WAY!

Libby Garvey notes in her recent email to us all that in Arlington it is illegal to have chickens, but lions and tigers are OK. The County Board is on the case, and new regulations to prohibit exotic species are in the works! Pheww!

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION

Now that our children no longer have to labor on the family farm during the summer, we want to help them use the time to try new experiences that help them grow physically, mentally and socially. Whether that is to refine a sports skill, go fishing, be in a play, learn magic or music, play mind-adventure games or just "hang," Arlington has something to offer. The county's camp catalog is available at <https://parks.arlingtonva.us/programs/summer-camps>

CRYSTAL CITY SUMMER CAMPS

Crystal City Art & Technology Camp offers painting, digital art & design, fabrication, performing arts and creative writing through partnerships with ArtJamz Underground, TechShop, Synetic Theater and Gallery Underground). More information at http://www.crystalcity.org/_files/docs/cc-camp-document_final.pdf

FY2018 COUNTY & SCHOOLS BUDGET

County Budget Hearings March 28 & 30

Schools Budget Hearings March 23, 7 – 9pm

The County Manager has recommended a 2 cents increase in the residential tax rate for next year, with increased spending on schools, Metro, street maintenance and public safety.

Information: <https://budget.arlingtonva.us>

E-CARE

Sat April 15, 8:30am – 3pm

Thomas Jefferson Middle School

The biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling event allows residents to safely dispose of hazardous materials, small metal items, electronics, shoes, clothing and more. Exchange old light bulbs for new LED ones, courtesy of AIRE, the initiative to rethink energy. Last September's E-Care effort saw residents drop off 36.2 tons of hazardous materials and 31 tons of recyclable electronics.

HOME SHOW & GARDEN EXPO

Sat Apr 22, 10am – 5pm

Thomas Jefferson Community Center

Homeowners, prospective buyers, builders and landlords can learn through free exhibits, seminars and chats with experts: County staff will be on hand with information about zoning, permits and more. Arlingtonhomeshow.org

BORROW A LED BULB SAMPLER KIT

Arlington's Rethink Energy Program's energy lending library now can lend you a LED bulb sampler kit to help you figure out which LED bulbs will work best for you. You can borrow a case of various bulbs to test at home, and all of them are dimmable. 10 lights are included in each box, with standard bulbs of different brightness levels and colors, track lighting, chandelier bulbs, 3 way bulbs, a night light and outdoor flood light bulb.

www.library.arlingtonva.us/a-z-list/aire-energy-lending-library/led-bulb-sampler

SPRING NATIVE PLANT SALE

Apr 29, 1 – 4pm

Long Branch Nature Center at Glencarlyn Park

It's time to go native with a great selection of plants that are accustomed to local climate and wildlife, for sun and shade and even deer resistance. Pre-order for best selection.

www.parks.arlingtonva.us/2017/03/2017-spring-native-plant-sale/

FOUR MILE RUN STREAM RESTORATION

During the 60s and 70s, Four Mile Run had significant flooding and residents in high rises on Mt. Vernon Avenue had to be rescued by boat, houses on S. Glebe Road were destroyed, and shops in the Arlandria shopping center burned down. Thereafter, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a flood control channel to contain the increased flow. In 2000, Arlington, Alexandria and the Northern Va. Regional Commission began to explore the stream's water quality and recreational potential, and came up with a Four Mile Run Master Plan. It will naturalize the banks through overlooks and terracing, replace stone on the banks with native plants, create small breakwaters with wetlands plants, and rebuild the trail with an observation platform. The construction will last through Fall 2017.

ARCA BI-MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**Oakridge School Library, 7pm****3rd Thursday, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sept/Nov****CALENDAR**

Thru Mar 26 The Gospel of Colonus: Avant Bard transforms the last days of Oedipus with poetry and music, starring Judge William T. Newman as Oedipus. Gunston Theatre 2. Wscavantbard.org

Thru Mar 27 Modern Makers, Modern Quilts. An exhibition of quilts from the DC Modern Quilt Guild & Arlington Costume Lab. 3700 S. Four Mile Run Dr.

Mar 19 IBIS Chamber Music: Free concert with music by Schoenberg & Brahms. Lyon Park Comm. Center, 414 N. Fillmore St. ibischambermusic.org

Mar 25 MOVE ME Festival: Celebration of arts & culture with 20 artists and dance groups performing and hosting workshops. Kenmore Middle School. 1pm. Presented by Bowen McCauley Dance

Mar 26 The Four Seasons of Vivaldi and Piazzola, with a reading of the Vivaldi sonnets. National Chamber Ensemble. Rosslyn Spectrum. 7:30pm nationalchamberensemble.org

Mar 29 – Apr 26 Money Talk: A financial course for women in 5 classes. Central Library. 703-228-6417

Mar 31 – Apr 9 Godspell: Jesus' parables, performed by Encore Stage. Theatre 1 at Gunston. Encorestageva.org

Apr 8 Family Poetry Fest: Performances, poetry bookmaking, community chalk poems, with guest Arlington Poet Laureate Katherine E. Young. 12pm, Central Library

Apr 14 – 30 She Loves Me: Two perfume shop employees who don't get along fall in love when they become pen pals. Arlington Players. Thomas Jefferson Theatre. Thearlingtonplayers.org

Apr 21 – May 21 I Ought to be in Pictures, by Neil Simon. A poignant comedy about the sudden reappearance of a daughter in her father's life. Theatre on the Run. Peters Alley Theatre. Petersalley.com

ARCA OFFICERS & CONTACTS

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Comments and questions

to ARCAneighbor@gmail.com

Neighborhood Conservation comments/questions to arca.ncac.representative@gmail.com

“WEDNESDAY NIGHT SPINS” Subterranean Bike Races



Crystal City BID's bicycle race series in a parking garage returns with races for young and old, women and men, amateurs and "elites", competing for weekly prizes. The course, laid out in an empty parking garage, is "fast and dry with many turns and no dismounts". For those too timid for the saddle, you can sip the beverage of your choice in the adjacent bar. **Weds in March, 6 - 9pm**
201 S. 12th Street, Levels G3 & G4
crystalcity.org/do/wednesday-night-spins