



Newsletter
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November 2019

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Inside this Issue:

Given the editor's time limitations this month, the links to articles have not been included. Happy perusing.

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Civic Association Issues

November General CCCA Meeting and Elections

Save the Date: Our **November 13** meeting will be organized around development updates for Crystal City, with representatives from JBG Smith and our Crystal City County Planner Matt Matauszek (who will talk on the SPRC process). You'll hear about both current and upcoming projects.

We will have brief elections for four offices at the beginning of the meeting: President, Secretary, Membership Liaison, and Communications Director.

In addition, BID President Tracy Gabriel will give a brief explanation of the BID's expansion to Pentagon City and Potomac Yard/Arlington.

As usual, meeting time is 7-9 pm at 1805 Crystal Drive, Crystal Park Community Room.

Elections

The CCCA Election Committee received four nominations by the October 29 deadline for officers to be elected at the upcoming November 13 Annual General Meeting:

Carol Fuller for President: I am a founding member of the CCCA and was initially elected Secretary in 2014. In 2015 I filled the vacant Communications Director position, updating the website and



Facebook pages, and serving as external Secretary as well. Since 2017, I have served as President but continue to write the monthly Newsletter that is distributed to all CCCA members since I believe strongly in the power of information sharing. I have lived in Crystal City since 2005 and in 2011 completed a diplomatic career of 27 years in the U.S. Foreign Service (Department of State). I enjoy negotiations and trained many younger officers in the diplomatic skills needed in getting to "yes" answers. These skills will be tested in the next few years as we face many development challenges and prepare for the coming of Amazon to our community. I believe strongly in the importance of civic engagement and always strive to run CCCA meetings that are short, crisp, and clear—focused on the issues that are of most concern to our Crystal

City members. My goal for the next two years is to recruit younger members to serve as officers and carry the CCCA forward into the future. I will continue to call on various Members to delegate responsibility for individual issues as they come up, or simply to help out with organizational or logistical matters.

Patricia Heath for Meeting Secretary: *I have lived in Crystal City for 30 years, with great enjoyment. I have been involved with the Civic Association since the first meeting in a volunteer capacity, attending CCCA Executive Committee Meetings, assisting with CCCA General Meeting arrangements, and serving on the election committee and as back-up Meeting Secretary.*



Before my retirement from the Postal Service in 2006, I was frequently called upon to take minutes and maintain archives of varied labor-management meetings. Thus, I am familiar with and experienced in the tasks that would be involved in serving as Meeting Secretary, and looking forward to taking on this responsibility in continuing to contribute to our Association.

Jacquelyn Bianchi for Communications Director: *I've lived in Crystal City for almost a decade. Over the years, I've come to know and love my neighbors - the many movers and shakers, artists and entrepreneurs*



that make up Crystal City and the surrounding area. I've seen the neighborhood change drastically already, and there is much more change on the horizon. I want to be a part of preserving our community along the way. When new buildings go up, so do rents. When new development appears, open spaces disappear. I want to make sure that as our surroundings change, the needs of the residents who live here are represented and heard, loud and clear.

Zach Komes for Membership Liaison: *I have lived in Crystal City for four years and have appreciated the opportunity to serve as an At-Large Board Member and Membership Liaison since being appointed in early 2019. Our neighborhood will undergo dramatic transformation over the next several years,*

providing an incredible opportunity - and responsibility - to proactively advocate to ensure that this growth benefits our residents, neighborhood, and wider community. As our civic



association's voice continues to grow in importance and relevance, we must, as Carol has encouraged, build a "next generation" of civically engaged residents who are actively involved in our work. In particular, we must focus on growing our diversity of renters/homeowners, ages, races, and perspectives, ensuring our voice represents our full community. To do this, I will work with our Board and partners to expand our membership recruitment efforts, while creating new learning and advocacy opportunities for existing members to get engaged on issues from housing affordability to neighborhood amenities. As someone who works in the community development field in DC and who has built coalitions across diverse backgrounds, I look forward to the opportunity to give back to Crystal City and to help each of you find ways to get more involved in our association.

Livability Framework

Recognizing that the pace of development in the 22202 area is expected to surge from mid-2019 onwards, and that recent community forums have shown that livability is a primary concern in our neighborhoods, the leadership of Crystal City, Aurora Highlands and Arlington Ridge Civic Associations coordinated to develop a "Livability Framework" ([click here to download](#)). This document articulates a vision for an integrated, holistic approach to achieving a highly livable community across our diverse neighborhoods and defines a set of livability themes and specific elements. The goal is to encourage a collaborative engagement among residents, the County, developers, property owners and businesses and other organizations to develop and implement an integrated holistic approach to achieving livability across our community. It's a "living document" and we welcome feedback to our email address: board@crystalcitycivic.org.

The Washington Business Journal published an [article](#) October 28 on our Livability22202 work. The article is subscription only, but here are some highlights:

"The civic associations in the three communities closest to Amazon's new headquarters — Crystal City, Arlington Ridge and Aurora Highlands — had watched closely as Arlington officials courted the tech giant, and many welcomed the news that Amazon would bring 25,000 employees to their backyards. But they feared what the spate of new development would mean for existing residents and, crucially, they harbored doubts that the county could mitigate any negative impacts."

"The partnership has helped community members take their needs directly to Amazon, and the company's main developer and landlord in the area, JBG Smith. All involved, from the companies to the organizers, hope it will result in better outcomes for the area (colloquially known by its zip code, the 22202) than if they'd simply relied on Arlington's usual processes for managing growth."

"The county is glad to see the community engaging directly with the private sector. Matt Mattauszek, Arlington's planning coordinator for the area, wrote in an email that county staff "strongly support the community having those discussions, even if they occur outside of an official county meeting."

"The civic groups have drafted a "livability action plan," with a final version to be released soon, with both broad ideals and more specific goals."

Amazon in Crystal City

Arlington Officials Not Satisfied with Amazon's Plans for Going Green

Arlington officials are asking Amazon to go back to the drawing board for its proposed headquarters in Pentagon City to put a greater emphasis on sustainability. The 2.1 million-square-foot proposed office complex at the corner of 15th Street S. and S. Eads Street, is currently pending review by Arlington's Planning Commission and County Board. If plans are finalized on schedule by the end of 2019, demolition is

due to start early next year, according to JBG Smith's Vice President of Development Matt Ginivan, with excavation then lasting through the end of the year.

[Read more here.](#)

Managing the "Amazon Effect"

Nearly a year after the joint effort from Arlington and Alexandria that led to the winning Amazon bid for HQ2, the neighboring communities are showing no signs of slowing their collaborative efforts. On October 1, Arlington and Alexandria laid the groundwork at a joint work session for cooperating to support inclusive growth and address the impact that Amazon's HQ2 and the planned Virginia Tech Innovation Campus is already having on the two communities. In a joint meeting of the Arlington County Board and Alexandria City Council, the two legislative bodies voiced support for a Statement of Principles to guide their partnership on key policy issues, including developing and protecting affordable housing; assisting small, woman- and minority-owned businesses; and expanding workforce development. The discussion also centered around ensuring new facilities will serve everyone in the communities. [Read more here.](#)

Amazon now has a timeline for the first HQ2 towers

If all goes according to plan, work on the first two Amazon HQ2 towers should be underway in 2020, according to Matt Ginivan, a senior vice president of real estate development at JBG Smith Properties (NYSE: JBGS), Amazon's development partner for its second headquarters. Amazon employees could be working in a fully completed 2.1 million square feet by the first three months of 2023, Ginivan said October 14 during the third and final Site Plan Review Committee meeting for the Metropolitan Park project.

During this meeting, Amazon and its development partners presented updates to the site plan and took questions and listened to comments for the better part of two hours on a range of topics — the loading docks were of particular interest to the community. Amazon and JBG Smith executives promised this wouldn't be the last time the companies heard the community out during the building process.

The project should next head to the Arlington Planning Commission and then the county board.

Amazon HQ2 Could Help Boost The Struggling D.C. Hotel Market

The D.C.-area hospitality market has experienced a decline in key performance metrics this year, but hotel owners see a significant demand boost coming from

Amazon establishing its second headquarters in Northern Virginia. Featured Speaker Thomas Penny, President, Donohoe Hospitality Hotel, occupancy in the D.C. Metro area during the first seven months of this year was down 2.2% from the same period last year, according to STR. Revenue per available room, or RevPAR — the hotel industry's leading performance metric — was down 1.2%. But hotel developers and brokers are optimistic the region's hospitality market will improve, beginning with the Northern Virginia area. Arlington hotels are already benefiting from the spotlight Amazon HQ2 has put on the area, said Donohoe Hospitality President Thomas Penny, who will speak Oct. 30 at Bisnow's Hotel Leadership, Investment & Management Summit in D.C. Donohoe owns three Residence Inn by Marriott hotels in Arlington's Rosslyn, Courthouse and Ballston neighborhoods. [Read more here.](#)

Virginia Tech's Temporary Potomac Yard Campus Approved

With a new special use permit in hand, the first iteration of Virginia Tech's planned campus in Potomac Yard is one step closer to reality. The plans were approved as part of the consent calendar at the Sept. 14 Alexandria City Council meeting. The school will initially be located in the former Dressbarn and Rack Room Shoes spaces and, according to a staff report, will have an enrollment of up to 400 students with a maximum of 55 employees. Those students will be spread out with roughly 25 students per class, and no more than 100 students on-site at any given time. [Read more here.](#)

Here's how much Virginia Tech's first Alexandria campus building is expected to cost

Virginia Tech is looking to start building the first part of its \$1 billion innovation campus — a 300,000-square-foot academic building — by August 2021. The demand for more tech-savvy graduates requires "rapid execution of this project," the university wrote in documents soliciting a construction manager at-risk. The school expects construction to be completed by February 2024, according to an accelerated timeline Virginia Tech issued in July. The design for the school is expected to be finished by September of next year. The estimated total cost for the building: \$275 million. That's roughly \$208 million for the construction, and about \$67 million toward design, inspection, buying furniture and other fees, said Virginia Tech spokesman Michael Stowe.

[Read more here.](#)

Crystal City in Development

New Arlington Community Coalition

The Arlington Community Coalition, a diverse group of residents, local businesses, community leaders, and non-profit organizations, has come together to support National Landing's transformation, and to advocate for the benefits these projects will bring to Arlington and the entire region. The benefits are far-reaching: new housing choices, including affordable units; better education, with multiple universities locating campuses nearby; upgraded infrastructure; and an overall boost to the entire local economy.

Our Guiding Principles:

- Promote long-term economic growth and jobs in both Arlington and the entire region.
- Advocate for an inviting sense of community that joins together office, residential, retail, open space and cultural activities in our neighborhoods.
- Support multimodal access and integration, including improved transit, bike lanes, pedestrian facilities and roads.
- Speak out for a mix of housing that adds new options for residents of all income levels without disrupting the preservation of existing units.
- Provide information to educate the community on initiatives that will help transform National Landing

What the Arlington Community Coalition will do:

- Work together with a diverse group of civic, charitable and business groups on advancing the principles of the Coalition
- The Coalition will keep members informed on the progression of various development projects
- Be a resource for residents, media, government officials and others to learn about National Landing's transformation
- Provide Coalition members the opportunity to support initiatives that will advance National Landing and support our guiding principles. Examples of ways Coalition members may express their comments and support include:
- Send comments and letters of support to Arlington County Board
- Author or sign supportive letters to the editor or op-eds
- Testify in support of projects at public hearings

- Sign petitions of support

JBG Smith is advancing its transformation of Crystal City. Here's an in-depth look at the plans.

Plans for JBG Smith Properties' ambitious redevelopment of a half-dozen buildings in Crystal City is coming into focus — and it includes an unusual, V-shaped pair of towers that would stand as a stark contrast against the rest of the neighborhood's skyline.

[Read more here.](#)

JBG Smith Announces Massive Redevelopment Plan for Crystal City

Property owner JBG Smith announced late Tuesday afternoon a major new redevelopment push in Crystal City in the wake of Amazon's arrival. The developer says it is planning to redevelop "approximately 2.6 million



square feet of space across five multifamily buildings and one office building." The buildings include 2000 and 2001 South Bell Street (formerly 2001 Richmond Highway), 223 23rd Street, 2300 Crystal Drive, and 2525 Crystal Drive, which are all within a half mile of the Metro and Amazon's new

headquarters," the company said in a press release. That's addition to JBG's existing plans to renovate an office building at 1770 Crystal Drive, add new apartments to the Riverhouse complex in Pentagon City, and build twin apartment towers at 1900 Crystal Drive. [Read more here.](#)

JBG Smith's New Development Plans Include Twin Residential Towers Along 20th Street S.

A preliminary site plan filing reviewed by ARLnow includes a 688,223 square-foot residential development in Crystal City — a pair of towers at 2000 and 2001 S. Bell Street — replacing an existing building at 2001 Richmond Highway and an adjacent parking lot. That's in addition to four other new, planned buildings — at 223 23rd Street S., 2300 Crystal Drive, and two towers at 2525 Crystal Drive — that were announced late Tuesday afternoon. In all, JBG Smith announced five new residential buildings and one office building — "all within a half mile of the Metro and Amazon's new headquarters." The two S. Bell Street towers will be located across the street from one another on a new, re-

aligned portion of Clark-Bell Street, bounded by 20th Street to the north and the newly renamed Richmond Highway to the west. The proposed buildings include a combined 762 housing units and 54,215 square feet of retail space. [Read more here.](#)

JBG Smith is Adding Thousands More Apartments: What About a School?

The public elementary school that serves the area, Oakridge Elementary in the Arlington Ridge neighborhood, already is facing significant overcrowding. While apartment buildings catering to younger workers are unlikely to generate an abundance of students — in 2015 it was reported that the entire 1,670-unit Riverhouse complex in Pentagon City only housed 30 Oakridge students — the redevelopment plans are still raising an eyebrow among those monitoring school capacity issues. Local officials tell ARLnow that there are no specific plans in the works for building a new school to accommodate new students in the area. There has been past discussion, however, of Vornado (now JBG Smith) providing a site for a new school. [Read more here.](#)

Crystal Drive between 26th and 27th Streets now two-way

On Friday, Oct. 4, Crystal Drive between 26th and 27th Streets South changed from one-way northbound to two-way traffic. 27th Street between Crystal Drive and South Clark Street also changed to two-way operations. Crystal Drive from 27th Street all the way up to 12th Street is now a two-way street.

Crystal City Apartment Tower Approved

Crystal City's Verizon site will be redeveloped with a 19-story apartment tower within walking distance of Metro that will include 12 affordable housing units, under a plan approved October 19 by the Arlington County Board. The Board voted unanimously to approve the vacation of a portion of the right-of-way for Old South Eads Street, a rezoning and site plan amendment for the proposed redevelopment. Developer LCOR has agreed to provide on site seven two-bedroom and five one-bedroom affordable units that will be contractually committed to remain affordable for 30 years. Two units will be fully accessible. The developer also will contribute \$1.059 million to the County's Affordable Housing Investment Fund. The building will achieve a Leadership in Energy Efficiency and Design (LEED) Silver certification.

The approved tower, located at 400 11th Street South on a nearly one-acre site, will front County-owned property (the "Teardrop Parcel") and 11th Street South to the

north and 12th Street South to the south. The building will be divided into two sections at the 11th floor, with an offset between the upper and lower sections, and will include a 19th-floor terrace for residents. The apartments will be built above ground floor retail and a three-level underground parking garage with 148 parking spaces. [Read more here.](#)

CCCA Board comment: Much of the Board discussion centered on the Teardrop park which will be moving forward soon...big win for Crystal City and the larger community. Funds contributed by LCOR for the two buildings total \$2.6M. Park planning will begin within 6 months with the usual process and community participation, and it's anticipated that the funds will be sufficient. LCOR will use the narrow southern tip of the proposed park for building construction staging so that won't interfere with park development. (Might be the best place for a fenced dog park.) The new building should be ready for occupancy in late 2022.

Dweck pitches new grocery store, other retail for Crystal City

D.C.-based Dweck Properties is pitching a nearly 16,000-square-foot "urban format grocery store" for the base of its Crystal Plaza apartments, according to plans filed with Arlington County this summer. Dweck is hoping to add roughly 38,000 square feet of retail to a plaza in front of the apartments, located at 2111 Richmond Highway. The neighborhood currently lacks many grocery options, a key concern for county officials as thousands of Amazon.com Inc. (NASDAQ: AMZN) workers prepare to move into the area. However, this new grocer would sit just a few blocks from a similar small-format store set to be included in a big redevelopment from JBG Smith Properties (NYSE: JBGS) fronting Crystal Drive between 18th Street South and 15th Street South. [Read more here.](#)

Winning Concept Selected to Create Mural on the Exterior of Synetic Theater

A dynamic mural featuring flowing line art in mint and black and a vivid pink background will soon adorn the façade of Synetic Theater, the Crystal City Business



Improvement District (BID) announced October 21. Created by artist Jay Shogo, the concept was named the winning design in the competition the BID launched in partnership with JBG SMITH, Arlington County and Synetic Theater to reimagine the exterior of the theater, which sits adjacent to 1800 South Bell Street in Crystal City. Mr. Shogo, whose inspiring murals can be found in prominent locations throughout the world, created a design that is a reflection of the vibrancy, creativity and characteristics of the overall Crystal City area. His mural will feature curving lines and connecting dots representing the flow of time that links the past, present and future, and the connections between human beings and their community. A recessed shadow wall in an eye-catching pink hue will incorporate a chain of curving lines. In enlivening the façade of one of its premier



cultural institutions, the BID hopes to amplify the pedestrian experience and draw further attention to the vital role that arts and culture play in Crystal City. Shogo is slated to start painting this month, with the mural

expected to finish by mid-November. [Read more here.](#)

Honors to BID Members

Crystal City BID President Tracy Gabriel was named to the Washington Business Journals List of 100 New Guard of Business Leaders—those who are building and growing a new class of companies or reshaping older ones. They're helping redefine our business community.

[Read more here.](#) Senior Events Manager Cassie Hurley is a recipient of the 2019 40 Under 40 awards presented by Leadership Center for Excellence. The award honors trailblazers who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in the personal or professional sphere and are devoted to creating positive change within the DC region. Ms. Hurley, along with the other honorees, will be recognized for the positive impact of their leadership today at a luncheon at Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, VA. [Read more here.](#)

Crystal City BID's CC2DCA Feasibility Study Receives Top Industry Honor

The BID's study to identify options for a direct and walkable link between Crystal City and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA) is the recipient of the International Downtown Association's (IDA) 2019 Downtown Achievement Pinnacle Award. The award was presented during IDA's 65th Annual Conference and

Tradeshow in Baltimore, MD. Each year, IDA recognizes outstanding projects as winners of the Downtown Achievement Awards which identify improvements to urban centers by dedicated organizations around the globe. The industry's highest recognition, the Pinnacle Award, represents the most creative and inspiring innovations in urban place management. The CC2DCA Intermodal Connection Feasibility Study won in the Planning category.

Want Park Benches in Long Bridge Park?

After several years of consideration, the County has now listed an opportunity for citizens to contribute to buying benches for parks. We've long wanted benches in Long Bridge Park. [Here's how you can contribute now.](#) If there's enough interest, a fundraiser might be started. The Park benches are \$3000.

Community Group Pushing for a Dog Park in Pentagon City

Pentagon City Dogs recently submitted a proposal to Arlington County officials calling for a new, 25,000 square foot dog park within Virginia Highlands Park, an 18-acre collection of athletic fields, tennis courts, and some wooded areas at 1600 S. Hayes Street, across from the mall. Currently, there are no established, public dog parks in the 22202 zip code and dogs are not permitted off-leash in Virginia Highlands Park. Supporters say a little-used portion of the park between a softball field and 15th Street S. could be an ideal location. [Read more here.](#)

New 395 Express Lanes calls for an E-ZPass® or E-ZPass® Flex

As the two I-395 HOV lanes are becoming three Express Lanes, it means big things for the way traffic moves in the area and how you move with it. If you've been driving the HOV lanes and want to continue carpooling on them, you'll need an E-ZPass® Flex. When you drive with two or more people, for a total of three or more in the car, you can switch your Flex to show "HOV ON" and ride the Lanes for free. The new Lanes also allow for individual drivers or drivers with just one passenger to use the Lanes by paying the toll. To pay a toll to use the Lanes, you'll need an E-ZPass® or an E-ZPass® Flex set to HOV OFF. All current I-395 HOV entrance ramps in Arlington County will become Express Lanes entrances, requiring an E-ZPass® or an E-ZPass® Flex. This includes the ramps from S. Eads Street and from the regular lanes to go northbound to the 14th Street Bridge into D.C. These rules apply 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If you have questions about these changes or the 395 Express

Lanes, head over to our website:

<https://www.expresslanes.com/faqs>.

To get your Virginia E-ZPass®, head over to

<https://www.ezpassva.com/>

The Little Beet Set to Open at Pentagon City Mall By End of October

Gluten-free and plant-focused eatery The Little Beet expects to open its second Arlington location by the end of the month. Little Beet is currently under construction in the food court level of the Fashion Center. [Read more here.](#)

Roasted Corn Stand "Shuck Shack" Opens in Pentagon City Mall

Florida-based roasted corn stand "Shuck Shack" has opened its first Arlington location in the Fashion Centre at Pentagon City. The fast-casual stand, which specializes in gourmet roasted corn topped with butter and/or seasonings such as Old Bay and chili powder, first opened earlier this month on the food court level of the mall next to the Forever 21 store entrance. [Read more here.](#)

New Consignment Boutique 'Agents in Style' Opens in Crystal City

A new women's luxury consignment boutique is now open in Crystal City. Agents in Style (576 23rd Street S.) features curated collections of designer clothing in sizes 0-3X, offered for a third of the normal retail price. [Read more here.](#)

Arlington County Issues

General Election November 5

Arlington voters will cast their general election ballots on Tuesday, **Nov. 5**. Offices on the ballot in Arlington will be Senate of Virginia (30th, 31st, and 32nd Districts), Virginia House of Delegates (45th, 47th, 48th, and 49th Districts), Commonwealth's Attorney, Sheriff, Commissioner of Revenue, Treasurer, two County Board seats, and School Board. You will only have 1 Senate and 1 House District that is determined by where you live. There are no bond questions or constitutional amendments on the 2019 ballot. All Arlington voters will have the remaining offices. To check your registration, log on to the [Citizen](#)



[Portal](#) at the Department of Elections or to see a sample ballot, [check here](#).

APS To Incorporate Cloud-Based Curriculum Next Year, Courtesy of Amazon

Starting next year, Arlington Public Schools will [incorporate cloud-based learning curriculum from Amazon Web Services](#) into the classroom. AWS Educate is the e-commerce giant's K-12 initiative, designed to get students comfortable with the basics of cloud computing and artificial intelligence tools. The service is available online at a fee for all educators and interested students 14 years or older. However, in late September, Gov. Ralph Northam (D-Va.) announced a partnership with AWS Educate across select Virginia universities, community colleges, and four K-12 school districts in the state, including APS. [Read more here](#).

Arlington County Board to Consider E-Scooter Regulations

The Arlington County Board will hold a public hearing and consider regulations for e-scooters and other shared mobility devices at its November 2019 Board Meeting, after receiving the [evaluation of staff's yearlong demonstration project](#) launched in October 2018.

Noting that 62 percent of e-scooter riders report always or often using bike lanes, and 24 percent reported using shared lanes with cars, staff proposed allowing scooters upon any sidewalk except along streets where protected bicycle lanes are available in the direction of travel. The ordinance would set a maximum speed of 15 mph for on-street e-scooter rides and 20 mph for power-assisted bicycles, with a maximum sidewalk speed of six mph for all devices. **Note: This would mean scooters anywhere in Crystal City where there is no bike line.** [Read more here](#).

Evaluation report on e-bike/e-scooter pilot program

This report provides the results of the evaluation of the Arlington County [Shared Mobility Devices \(SMD\) Pilot Program](#). The pilot, which started in October 2018, allows operators to deploy e-bikes and e-scooters throughout the County. [Evaluation Report \(pdf\)](#) The report includes trends in device deployment and usage as well as feedback from the community. SMD performance was primarily evaluated against the County's transportation goals, as documented in Arlington's Master Transportation Plan, pertaining to increased mobility, accessibility, equity, sustainability and efficient management of transportation options. Conclusions and recommendations offered in this report are not necessarily the final conclusions or

recommendations of staff to the County Board, but they represent the professional judgment of the evaluation team. [Read more here](#).

ACFD Urges People, Pets to Avoid Four Mile Run

The Arlington County Fire Department is working to mitigate a chemical odor and sheen on Four Mile Run near Barcroft Park. The department has been providing updates about the hazmat incident on social media, saying Thursday afternoon that the source was a leaking underground oil tank along Columbia Pike near the Fairfax County border. We are working with our neighboring jurisdictions and the State to mitigate the situation," ACFD said via Twitter. "The HazMat Team has taken steps in @ArlingtonVA County to minimize the effects on the environment." In the meantime, ACFD says people and pets should stay away from Four Mile Run downstream of Columbia Pike. [Read more here](#).

APS Proposes Major Elementary School Swap to Deal With Capacity Issues

Arlington Public Schools may shuffle nearly a quarter of its elementary school students around to combat the county's persistent overcrowding problems. During a press briefing October 30, school officials proposed moving the majority of McKinley Elementary School students to the new Reed Elementary School, among other switches. The Arlington School Board is expected to take action on one of two final proposals during its meeting on February 6, 2020. If approved, it would take effect for the 2021-22 school year, per APS spokesman Frank Bellavia. [Read more here](#).

Alexandria, Arlington take first steps to collaborate as Amazon growth looms

Alexandria and Arlington elected officials took their first tentative steps Tuesday toward working together to address the expected growth and disruption brought by the arrival of Amazon's second headquarters in the next decade. A two-hour joint meeting of the Alexandria City Council, the Arlington County Board and their two managers established that they'll prioritize working together on housing affordability, workforce development and small-business assistance. [Read more here](#).

Noise prompts Va. lawmaker to press FAA on runway changes at Reagan National Airport

Proposed changes to the routes planes take landing at or leaving Reagan National Airport will mean increased noise over neighborhoods — and that's prompted a Northern Virginia lawmaker to seek an explanation from

the Federal Aviation Administration. Congressman Don Beyer, of Virginia's 8th District, which includes cities surrounding Reagan Airport, has sent a letter to FAA Administrator Stephen Dickson saying the plan to change flight paths to accommodate U.S. Secret Service needs is being done without input from communities that will be affected by increased noise. [In his letter](#), Beyer recounted that the FAA was notified by the Secret Service in August 2018 about planes flying into restricted airspace, and asked to take action. [Read more here.](#)

RFP Released for Aircraft Noise Analysis

Arlington County and Montgomery County, Maryland, have jointly released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for consulting services in support of a study of aircraft noise proximate to Reagan National Airport. [The RFP \(20-042\) can be viewed online.](#)

Celebrating Arlington County's 100th Anniversary

2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the naming of Arlington County* -- what a difference a hundred years have made! In recognition of this anniversary, the Arlington County Board is inviting civic associations to participate in the centennial celebrations and to initiate some of their own. Beginning in early 2020, the County's new Arlington at 100 Committee plans to sponsor activities that include education, community engagement, and fun, with the theme: "Looking Both Ways: Arlington at 100, a Century of Progress." Activities will be organized around themes of community, commerce, and conservation. If you have some ideas you would like to share with the CCCA and with the County, please email the Executive Committee at board@crystalcitycivic.org.

Commemorating Arlington County's 1920 Centennial Using StoryMap

The Arlington Historical Society has unveiled the first-ever interactive "[StoryMap](#)" showcasing photos of how Arlington looked in 1920, the year a state law changed its name from Alexandria County to Arlington.

Coordinated by local columnist and history enthusiast Charlie Clark and numerous volunteers, the StoryMap shows homes, schools, churches, government buildings, stores and transportation infrastructure that would have been encountered by an Arlingtonian traveling local streets in 1920. The StoryMap presents vintage and modern photographs in a format that allows the user to adjust sizes and zoom in on locations. "The map allows you to envision the scenes in their exact locations," said AHS member Clark, who writes the "Our Man in Arlington" column for the weekly Falls Church News-Press. "And we went out of our way to include homes of all income levels in all neighborhoods, not just the storied and fancier ones." The project is part of a broader county effort that will unfold over the next year to commemorate the name change by revisiting Arlington's rich history over the past century.

Other Issues

Virginia Tech now accepting applications for Innovation Campus in Potomac Yard

Virginia Tech is accepting applications for the first degree program to be run out of its new Innovation Campus at Potomac Yard in Alexandria. The program is a new master's of engineering degree in computer science that was just approved by the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia. The university is now taking applications for spring 2020 enrollment — due Nov. 15 — and fall 2020 enrollment, which has a deadline of Feb. 1. [Read more here.](#)

The Connection Library

For events at the Pop Up Library, see the [calendar page](#).

Crystal City BID Updates

You can [subscribe to our newsletter](#), follow us on twitter or instagram@cctbid), and Like Us on [Facebook](#) for the most current information.

CCCA OFFICERS

Contact us:
board@crystalcitycivic.org

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Planning
Secretary
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Judy Freshman
Claudia Yarus
Eric Cassel
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Eric Cassel
Treasurer, CCCA
1300 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202