

CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



August 2025

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The County Board approved the 2100/2200 Conversion on Saturday, July 20th. The approval will change two office buildings into an apartment building and a hotel. The board did not include our request for a door from the lobbies to the Underground, but did approve the requirement for a policy on the Underground to be submitted before the buildings can be opened. This policy requires input from multiple sources, including the community. For more information, see our article on page 8.

The proposed expansion of the RiverHouse project continues to move forward in the permitting process. We have added our comments on several points, including making sure the Green Ribbon has adequate signage.

Several new stores/restaurants have opened or are about to open in our area. Be sure to check them out!

- Eric Cassel, CCCA President

INFORMATION AND EVENTS: ARLINGTON AND STATE

Major overhaul slated for water pollution control plant



Rendering of new solid waste recovery plant at South Glebe Road and Eads Street.

Preparations are slated to start in the fall on overhauling Arlington Re-Gen, which turns solid waste into fertilizer and natural gas. Re-Gen is part of the Arlington County Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) on South Glebe Road. The plant treats 23 million gallons of wastewater a day.

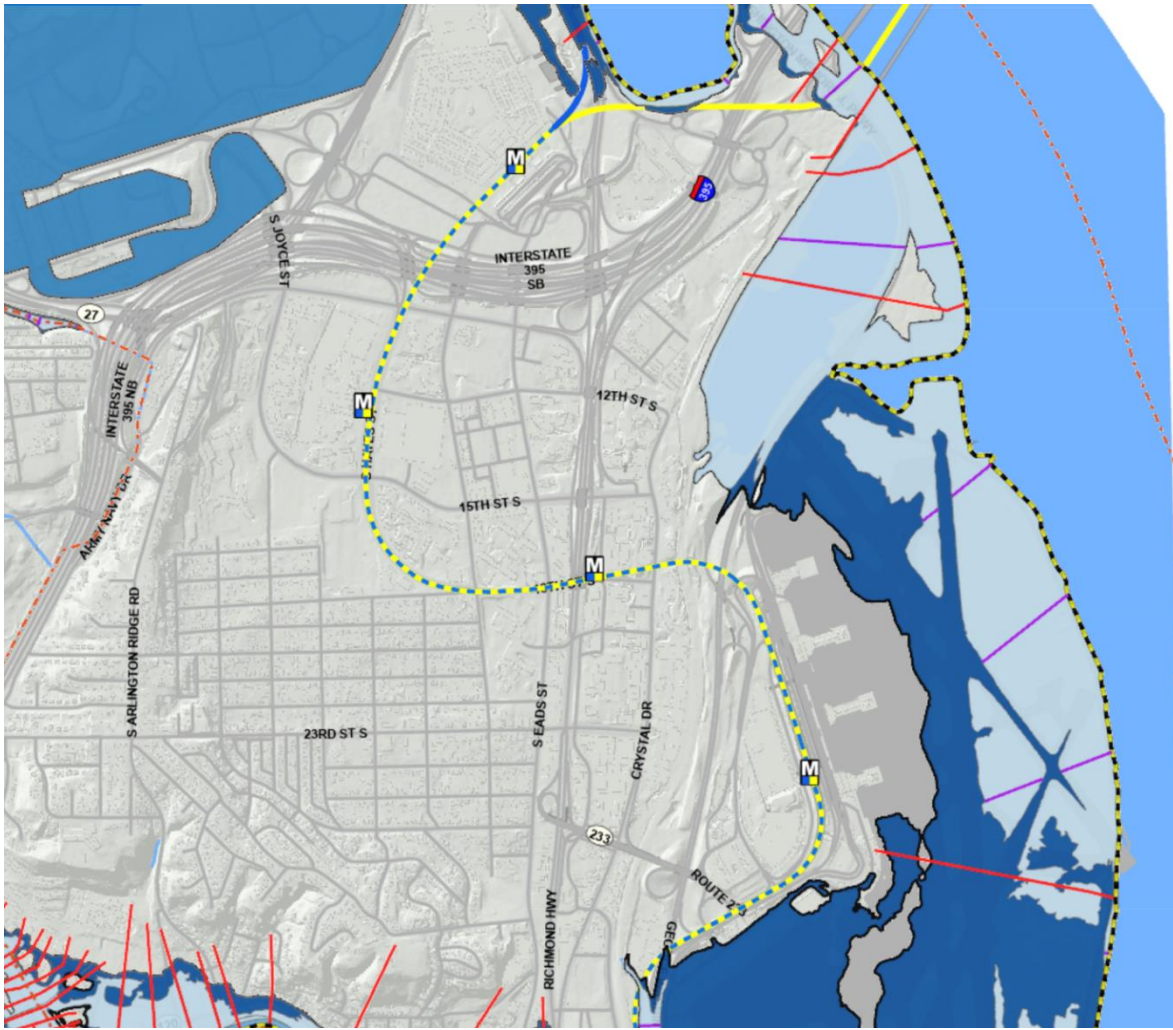
The WPCP's proposed design incorporates the same palette and materials as the surrounding neighborhood of mixed-use, multistory buildings. Vegetation and other screening will shield processing equipment from public view.

The current solids handling processes date back to the 1990s and are beyond their useful life. As shown in this [video](#), the upgrades will help with recovery of

Class A biosolids. A nutrient-rich soil enhancement that can be used for agriculture, gardens, forests, and landscaping.

Renewable natural gas. An energy source that can be used in place of fossil fuel-based natural gas or as a renewable vehicle fuel.

For details on the recovery process, watch this [video](#). Initial work will include utility relocations and demolition of defunct structures. Construction of the new facility will start next year with completion expected in 2030. For updates, visit [here](#).



Is Crystal City in danger from a flood?

The short answer is no. No part of Crystal City is in a flood plain. The FEMA map above shows the flood plain possibilities in blue. Notice they are entirely on the other side of the railroad tracks or north near the George Washington Parkway. Other flood threats are on the Pentagon side of I-395. While heavy rains can cause problems anywhere, the Potomac River does not seem to be a threat to Crystal City.

At the same time, many buildings have garages well below the base level. In addition, they have drains that may contain pressure to spout water. In other words, if we get significant rains the pressure on the drainage system gets so high that water backs up into the lowest available space. So if you hear of a significant rainstorm, avoid parking on the lowest levels of your garage.

County Auditor Wayne Scott has placed a review of safeguards against flooding on his work plan for this year. Scott will evaluate local [flood resilience](#) plans and expenditures, including whether the county has followed up on recommendations made in the wake of [catastrophic July 2019 flooding](#).

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Tax holiday on school items, appliances, and clothing

Virginia's annual sales tax holiday runs August 1-3 on such items as school supplies, clothing, and certain appliances. That amounts to a 6 percent savings for Arlington and other Northern Virginia localities. Here are highlights:

- Qualifying school supplies are \$20 or less per item and include binders, book bags, calculators, disinfectant wipes, lunch boxes or bags, notebooks, pens, pencils, textbooks, tissues, and writing tablets.
- Qualifying clothing and footwear are \$100 or less per item. Eligible items are belts, coats, jackets, diapers, dresses, hats, jeans, shoes, shorts, skirts, sneakers, and socks.
- Eligible hurricane and emergency preparedness items for the sales tax holiday are portable generators priced at \$1,000 or less each, gas-powered chainsaws at \$350 or less each, and chainsaw accessories at \$60 or less each. Qualifying under \$60 items include reusable ice, batteries, flashlights, duct tape, carbon monoxide detectors, smoke detectors, bottled water, cell phone chargers, and first aid kits.
- Eligible Energy Star or WaterSense products must be \$2,500 or less per item and be for noncommercial, home, or personal use. They include air conditioners, ceiling fans, dehumidifiers, washing machines, dishwashers, light bulbs, and refrigerators. Qualifying plumbing products include bathroom sink faucets, faucet accessories, shower heads, toilets, urinals, and landscape irrigation controllers.



For more information, visit [here](#).

Climate change battle still on in Arlington

The Trump Administration may be in denial about climate change, but Arlington County is sticking to the science:

- The [Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy](#) serves as the county's core agency for climate mitigation, adaptation/resilience programs, and community energy programs. Visit its [website](#) for details on how you can participate.
- The [GetGreen Arlington mobile app](#) encourages users to reduce their carbon footprint by using bikes or public transportation, buying locally grown food, and making energy-efficient home upgrades. The app lets you tally your impact by earning "leaves," each representing 10 pounds of carbon saved. The app is part of a partnership with [EcoAction Arlington](#).

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Once again, Arlington tops nation in fitness ranking

For the eighth straight year, Arlington has been named the fittest city in the country.

The ranking includes such factors as exercise, diet, health indicators, sleep, parks, mental health, and cycling. It is compiled by the [American College of Sports Medicine](#).

Arlington received an overall score of 85.7, compared with Washington, D.C., which ranked second with a score of 78.3. Arlington has the highest percentage of residents “in excellent or very good health” (67.2 percent), the highest percentage sleeping 7+

hours per day (76.4 percent), and the lowest percentage of smokers (3.3 percent).

Arlington, however, scored below average on mental health, with just under half of its residents recorded as having poor mental health in the month prior to the survey.

Tenants get added protections under new state laws

New state laws affecting renters went into effect on July 1, among other legislation. Here are highlights:

- Payment methods. Landlords cannot charge tenants any fee for the collection or processing of any payment of rent, security deposit, or any other matter, unless they offer an alternative method of payment that does not include an extra fee.
- Lease renewals. A landlord who owns more than four rental dwelling units or more than a 10 percent interest in more than four rental dwelling units, whether individually or through a business entity, must provide written notice of nonrenewal to any tenant.

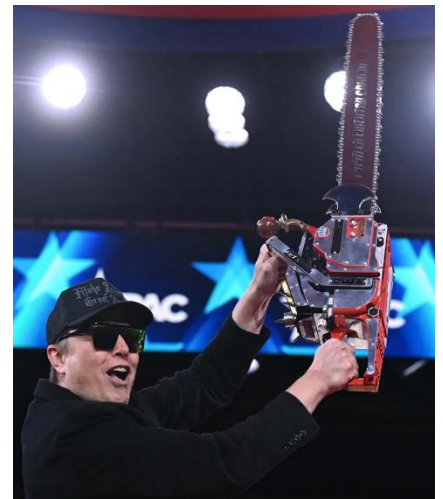
As jobless rate rises, new fund helps sacked workers

With county unemployment rates on the rise, [Arlington Thrive](#) is helping out-of-work federal employees who are in dire financial straits.

The nonprofit’s new Federal Workers Resilience Fund provides direct aid for rent, utilities, and other essentials for workers who lost their jobs because of Trump administration cuts. To be eligible, beneficiaries must be Arlington residents who have a bank balance below \$1,000 and have been at or below 80 percent of the area median income for three months. For details, visit [here](#).

In May, according to the latest figures available, Arlington’s unemployment rate was at its highest point in nearly four years. The Virginia Employment Commission reported 5,061 Arlington residents seeking jobs that month – the most since the 5,523 recorded in July 2021 in the midst of Covid.

In May 2024, the jobless rate stood at 2.2 percent, with 3,380 Arlington residents counted as unemployed. For updated stats, visit, [Virginia Works](#).



Elon Musk wields chain saw at Conservative Political Action Conference in February.



Is this the future inspecting sidewalks?

The county is test driving a fleet of robots equipped with scanners to inspect the condition of sidewalks. As part of a 20-day pilot program, the robots are roaming sidewalks in Ballston and Rosslyn. If the pilot proves a success, the robots will be used in the next countywide sidewalk assessment, slated for 2028.

Police to engage public about safety, scams, and services

Want to learn how to thwart the latest scams, find out about how the county is making roads safer, or question a cop? The police department invites the public to two summer quarterly community meetings:

- August 7, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center
- August 12 6:30-8 p.m. at the Lubber Run Community Center

For details, visit [here](#).

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DEVELOPMENT

County approves conversion of office buildings into apartments, hotel



Now: Looking south at 2100/2200 Crystal Drive. The office buildings are vacant. Future: A hotel and apartments in rendering below.



actions by JBG Smith to shutter the retail uses in the Underground in 2024, and this proposed change,

The vacant office buildings at [2100 and 2200 Crystal Drive](#) will be converted into a 344-room hotel and 195 units of apartment living, respectively. The County Board last month unanimously approved the project, the first under a new adaptive reuse provision that streamlines proposals to find new lives for empty office buildings.

The board also stipulated that the developer, JBG Smith, undertake a study of the Underground. The conversion project closes off two access points from Crystal Drive to the Underground. JBG Smith has committed to providing a new access point near 23rd Street South and Crystal Drive.

The Crystal City Civic Association had asked the board to allow for at least access by key fob to the Underground for apartment and hotel residents.

The Underground, which runs from 12th Street to 23rd Street, is now used primarily for pedestrians, after JBG Smith last year pushed out all but a handful of remaining business.

“The conversion of these two vacant office buildings will provide active residential and hotel uses on this block with enlivened building presence on both Crystal Drive and at the block’s upper internal courtyard,” according to a Planning Commission report to the County Board. “That said, with recent

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there's a growing need for a comprehensive vision for the Underground's future To address this need, a condition of approval has been proposed by staff that will involve JBG Smith in working with others to develop and share with the County, a clearer plan for the future of the Underground, based on future conditions and stakeholder input."

The CCCA is surveying residents [here](#) about the future of the Underground.

The CCCA has also expressed concerns about parking for both buildings and how the new hotel will accommodate the pickup and drop off (PUDO) of hotel guests. During its presentation, the developers said that highlighted spaces on Crystal Drive would be used for PUDO and that no changes to existing parking or loading were being proposed at this time. In response to board member Maureen Cody's inquiry about parking assignments, JBG Smith said that specific spaces would be delineated in the garage for apartment residents and hotel guests.

Developer has another office conversion plan in the works

JBG Smith is pitching a new conversion project, this one just north of the one just approved by the County Board. Using the same adaptive reuse process, designed to speed approvals, the developer wants to transform [two office buildings](#) into apartments and retail:

- 129 apartments at 1800 South Bell Street with retail.
- 186 apartments at 1901 South Bell Street with retail.

The 11- and 12-story office buildings on [South Bell Street](#) were constructed in the late 1960s as part of Arlington's Crystal Mall development. JBG Smith has ditched previous plans to replace 1800 South Bell with a new building.



Are apartments in the future for 1901 South Bell Street?

Park, Green Ribbon connection envisioned for RiverHouse project

A one-acre park between South Lynn Street and South Joyce Street is planned as part of the overhaul of RiverHouse. Planners say it would be designed to serve both RiverHouse residents and their neighbors, as well as to encourage the flow of pedestrians through the Green Ribbon, a pedestrian and bike trail snaking through Arlington. The first phase of the project would cover about 0.38 acres, emphasizing seating areas. The full buildout would include a stairway, terraces, a lawn, and a plaza.

The RiverHouse project would nearly double the size of the existing development. Plans call for up to 2,785 housing units, bringing the total number of residences up to 4,461, along with 14,793 square feet of retail. Developer JBG Smith is in the process of collecting comments in a series of Site Plan Review Committee meetings. For more on the project, visit [here](#).

JBG Smith to develop more than 760 units of housing in Potomac Yard

JBG Smith is moving ahead with plans to build 750 multifamily, town home, and committed affordable units in the south part of Potomac Yard, just over the border in Alexandria and close to the Potomac Yard Metro station. Plans call for:

- 550 units of multifamily residential spread across two 7-story buildings.
- 100 units of on-site dedicated affordable housing.
- 116 single-family for-sale townhome units, consisting of 80 that are 16 by 42 feet and 36 that are 20 by 42 feet.

Doctor office in The Grace caters to the four-legged set

[GoodVets](#), a veterinary care chain, has opened a Crystal City branch on the ground floor of The Grace apartments at 1900 Crystal Drive. The office offers primary, urgent care, surgery, and virtual appointments. As an opening special, first-time customers can bring their pets in for a free exam.

Harris Teeter to close store in Potomac Yard

The Harris Teeter in Potomac Yard is expected to close on August 4. The grocery chain has a lease on the space until the end of next year and is prepared to “eat” the rent. The site is at 3600 S. Glebe Road next to Four-Mile Run on the Alexandria/Arlington line. The closing is bad news for the people in the Eclipse on Center Park condo community, which shares the building with the commercial space. The site plan for the development specifies that a grocery store occupy the space. But other grocers may shy away from the space, given low-price competition from the nearby Amazon Fresh store. Artemis Real Estate Partners, the owners of the commercial space, have contacted the CCCA about amending the site plan to allow other uses, such as a trampoline company or other non-traditional retail. Take our survey [here](#).

Ruling revives ordinance promoting multi-family units

The Virginia Court of Appeals has withdrawn a June decision reinstating Arlington’s “Missing Middle” ordinance, deciding that it needs more time to consider the arguments. The ordinance would allow developers to build multi-family units in areas zoned exclusively for single-family homes. The [appeals ruling](#) in June did not address the legal arguments in the lawsuit, but rather said that developers who had taken advantage of the ordinance should have been included in the legal proceedings. See [ARLnow](#) for more.

TRANSPORTATION

Borings, staging work begins on new rail bridge over Potomac



Work on the long-awaited rail and pedestrian/bicycle bridges over the Potomac near Long Bridge is about to become visible. The Virginia Passenger Rail Authority this month is launching three projects:

Geotechnical borings to collect samples of soil and bedrock, essential for ensuring the structural integrity of the bridges. So far, three holes have been drilled in the Washington Channel in Southwest DC to support final design work. Over the coming months two additional borings will take place in Arlington near the Mount Vernon Trail and in the river.

Construction near Gravelly Point of access points to stage equipment and materials for the bridge project.

Underground foundation work in East Potomac Park. Crews are using a large drill rig and crane to create and test support systems like shafts and micropiles. The work will help engineers finalize designs to secure and stabilize the bridge for years to come.

Additional construction on the District side is focused around Maine Avenue and Maiden Lane. For more details, read the project's [summer report](#) or visit [longbridgeproject](#).

County offers vouchers toward e-bike purchases

The county is offering a limited number of discount vouchers toward the purchase of an electric bike from a participating bike shop. Some 250 vouchers will be distributed to Arlington residents, ranging in value from \$600-\$1,650. The program offers two types of e-bike vouchers – Standard and Enhanced. Enhanced E-Bike Vouchers are also paired with a voucher toward the purchase of an e-bike lock. Residents can apply for an e-bike voucher during a 2-week period this month. Visit [here](#) for exact dates and more details.

County lowers speed limits on five key corridors

The County Board has reduced the speed limit on five key corridors where the [Vision Zero](#) initiative showed that speeding was a major factor in severe crashes.

Once signs are installed, speed limits will be reduced from 30 mph to 25 mph on the following:

- South Carlin Springs Road between Arlington Boulevard and the county line
- Washington Boulevard between North Glebe Road and North Kirkland Street
- Fairfax Drive between Little Falls Road and Langston Boulevard
- South Four Mile Run Drive between Shirlington Road and Columbia Pike
- South Arlington Mill Drive between Shirlington Road and South Walter Reed Drive



Under changes to the county code, transportation staff can reduce speed limits to 20 mph on any street designated a bike boulevard without county board approval, provided an engineering study has been completed. Bike boulevards are lesser used streets that have additional signage alerting travelers to the presence of large numbers of cyclists. They are typically located alongside major commercial corridors. Visit the [Speed Limit Dashboard](#) on the Vision Zero Page.

What works, what doesn't in making roads safe: The results are in

The county performed before and after evaluations of traffic mitigation strategies outlined in Arlington's Vision Zero Action Plan. For details, visit [here](#). Among the highlights:

Curb modifications. Minor decreases in right-turn vehicle speeds; more effective when markings accompanied by flex posts and when bike lane not present.

Hardened centerlines. Significant decreases in left turn speeds and percentage of vehicles crossing the yellow line while turning; more effective when both mini speed humps and flex posts are installed for hardening.

Tactical Speed humps. Significant decreases in speeds and speeding in school zone corridors; more effective when placed away from STOP signs.

Speed limit pavement markings. Resulted in minor decreases in average 85th percentile speeds but helpful in reducing vehicles traveling above 30 mph.

No-turn-on-red signage: Resulted in moderate reduction in vehicles turning right on red; some locations showed an increase in the amount of pedestrian/vehicle conflicts on the vehicular green/concurrent walk signal phases.

Capital Bikeshare raises the price to pedal

[Capital Bikeshare](#) price increases go into effect this month. Here is how members are affected:

- Annual membership price up from \$95 to \$120 a year.
- The 30-day pass price up from \$20 to \$25.
- Day pass price up from \$8 to \$10.
- Ebike fees up from 10 cents to 15 cents per minute.

Unchanged are the 5 cents per minute rate for classic rides longer than 45 minutes and the \$2 cost to dock e-bikes outside of a station.

Here is how nonmembers are affected:

- The per-minute rate for classic bikes goes from 5 cents to 15 cents per minute.
- The per-minute rate for e-bikes goes from 15 cents to 35 cents.
- The cost to park e-bikes outside of the station is \$3.

For details on discount rates for corporate, university, and low-income members, visit [here](#).

E-bike riders must be 18+; free options offered

Riders must be 18 years of age or older to use most shared e-scooter or e-bikes. Those under 18 have other options, including using non-motorized bikes/scooters or taking transit. Arlington residents enrolled in K-12th grade are eligible for a free iRide SmarTrip card. Learn more [here](#).



Under 18?
There are other options!

✓ **USE YOUR OWN WHEELS!**

Ride personal, non-motorized bikes and scooters.

✓ **RIDE THE BUS!**

Kids ride ART and Metrobus for free with an iRide card.

* Capital Bikeshare users can be 16+ with parent or guardian approval.

VISIONZERO
ARLINGTON COUNTY

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PARKS & RECREATION



Guide offers opportunities to exercise mind and body

Sewing to swimming, science to slime, history to harmonies – find something for all ages and interests in the fall Enjoy Arlington guide, published by the Parks and Recreation Department. Browse all that the catalog has to offer through the [PDF](#) and [flipbook](#) versions.

Among the more unusual offerings: Bootlegger’s Guide to Rosslyn, Artillery Games, and the Amazing Hummingbirds of Arlington.

Registration begins August 5 at noon. For more informations visit the [Enjoy Arlington classes webpage](#).

Art, fitness, social events featured in 55+ Guide

Explore the [Summer 55+ Guide](#) for programs including art classes, fitness programs, and social events. Activities include a lecture explaining AI, a board game night, and a workshop on preparing your garden for fall. Programs begin in June, but check the [55+ Guide](#) for specific start dates.

Wondering where to walk or cycle? Download a map

The county is offering detailed brochures for pedestrians and walkers: the [BikeArlington](#) Bicycle Comfort Level Map and WalkArlington’s [Walkabout Maps](#), which features 22 self-guided walks around the County.

DOINGS IN CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)

Artisan market to pop up at Water Park

The second of three pop-up events for artisans is slated for August 16 from 5-9 p.m. at Water Park, 1601 Crystal Drive. The Landing Local Artisan Market will spotlight more than a dozen vendors, ranging from candlemakers to jewelers. The event will also feature live entertainment, a mobile bar car, and – as usual – the food and beverages from the Water Park’s kiosks. The final artisan market takes place on Sept. 20.

Eclectic lineup performs at Fridays at the Fountain

Fridays at the Fountain features free concerts by Washington area bands ranging from soul to salsa at Water Park on Crystal Drive. Enjoy the music while grazing the area’s only outdoor food hall. Sponsored by National Landing BID and Pipkin Creative. On tap: August 1, Human Country Jukebox; August 8, Femi and the Foundation (funk, hip hop); August 15, Orquesta Manpleza (classic salsa); August 22, Rock Creek Kings (rock, folk, funk); August 29, Ari Voxx (indie pop). Register [here](#).



Meet me at the fair

Carnival rides, live entertainment, food, community exhibits, and competitive exhibits are on tap at the Arlington County Fair, August 13-17 at Thomas Jefferson Community Center. For information on parking, entry deadlines for competitive events (including baked goods), and other fair highlights, visit [here](#).

Farmers market open Tuesdays and Saturdays

The twice-weekly farmers market continues at Met Park, 1400 South Eads St., through October. Some 50 vendors offer goods including fresh fruits, vegetables, artisanal breads, teas, baked goods, and more. Produced by [Eat Loco](#), the farmers market is held Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., and Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Besides stocking up on goodies, visitors can connect with local farmers and artisans, learning the stories behind their creations. Find the updated weekly layout of the Saturday market [here](#) and of the Tuesday market [here](#).

MoCA on the Move brings art and music to Met Park

[MoCA on the Move](#) hosts free family events Sundays, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the central green of Metropolitan Park. Sponsored by the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington, the spring series features live music, light snacks, and art-making activities. In case of rain, the program will be held indoors, at MoCA Arlington's Innovation Studio + Store, 525 14th S. Coming up:

August 3: Pressed Tissue Paper Ice Cap Landscapes, inspired by current exhibition [Christina Lorena Weisner, Sea Marks: From the High Arctic to the Atlantic](#) /Music from Scott Ricker

August 10: Shadow Boxes, inspired by current exhibition [Portals](#) / Music from [Duck Chuck Goose](#)

August 17: Collage Windows /Music from [Rook Richards](#)

August 24: Artist spotlight on [Zhenya Parish](#), Collaborative, Abstract Painting /Music from Evan Herring & Zack Broach

August 31: Coming of Age Flip Book, inspired by current exhibition [Kelli Williams, Kids in America](#) /Music from [Caleb Hacker](#)



From Portals exhibit at MoCA

Met Park hosts outdoor movies on select Fridays

[Metropolitan Park](#), 1330 S Fair St., hosts free outdoor movies every other Friday through Sept. 19 starting at 6 p.m. Coming up: August 8, "Lilo and Stitch"; August 22, "The Parent Trap"; Sept. 5, "Moana"; Sept. 19: "The Wizard of Oz." Bring your own lawn chair, but keep it on a sidewalk or hardscape. Pets must be on a leash. Food and drinks are offered by local vendors and stores. Restrooms are located next to Toby's Ice Cream.

Start the week with a peaceful stretch at the Water Park

The Water Park, 1601 Crystal Drive, hosts guided yoga sessions on Sunday mornings at 8 a.m. in the stage/grass area. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mats and water. All ages welcome.

For more activities, visit ...

- **[Events at National Landing](#)**
- **[Arlington Parks and Recreation](#)**
- **[Arlington arts events](#)**
- **[Arlington Convention and Visitors Services](#)**
- **[Events for Kids](#)** Library activities including Family Game Night, Take & Make Crafts, and Sensory Story Time.

DINING IN CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)

Bar Colline serves up a slice of Paris on Crystal Drive



Whether you want steak frites or a simple omelet, [Bar Colline](#) offers a slice of Paris on Crystal Drive. The restaurant is owned by the brothers Ian and Eric Hilton, whose H2 Collective also includes Café Colline on Langston Blvd. and Chez Billy Sud in Washington.

The stylish restaurant seats up to 230 and offers outdoor and private dining. A 50-foot wraparound bar serves up wines, cocktails, and local beer. A daily happy hour from 3 to 6 p.m. features wine at \$6 a glass. The restaurant, which is open for lunch and dinner, is part of the new retail and dining offerings at the Grace and Reva apartments.

Bar Colline is located at 269 19th Court S., but fronts on Crystal Drive.

Bookstore/café to open in Mah-Ze-Dahr site

Buy a book, order a salad or smoothie, and sit down and escape the rush. That's what [Daydrift](#), a combination café, market, and bookstore, is promising for the space vacated by Mah-Ze-Dahr at 1550 Crystal Drive. The store will be operated by Episcopo Hospitality, a food hall operator in the Water Park across the road. Here is how Episcopo's website describes the venture: "A café, market, and bookstore all in one, Daydrift is an outpost for fresh, nourishing ingredients and a slower pace." The store is expected to open this summer.

What about the scaled-down [Whole Foods](#) slated to open next door at the corner of 15th Street South? Work is underway inside but still no timeline.

Vietnamese restaurant team moving from Annandale to Restaurant Row

The team behind Balo Kitchen is moving from Annandale to Restaurant Row this fall. Owners Huy Nguyen and Long Lai are expected to prepare the menu for the Scapegoat Beer Garden at 556 22nd Street S. At Balo, they offer banh mi and dishes like dan dan noodles, papaya salad, and pork belly with rice. In the planning since January, Scapegoat Beer Garden will serve pan-Asian comfort foods.

Hot specials for summer restaurant week

Four Crystal City restaurants are among participants in the semi-annual [Metropolitan Washington Summer Restaurant Week](#), August 18-24. Restaurants will offer brunch for \$25, three-course lunch menus for \$25/\$35, dinners for \$40, \$55, and \$65. Local restaurants include:

- [Makers Union Arlington](#) 1450 South Eads St., Suite 65
- [Matchbox Pentagon City/National Landing](#) 1100 S Hayes St, Suite H20
- [McCormick & Schmicks](#) 2010 Crystal Drive, Suite B
- [Wiseguy Pizza Pentagon City](#) 710 12th St. South

Tapas restaurant to open in Pentagon City next month

A Spanish tapas restaurant is set to open in Pentagon City's Westpost shopping center in August. [El Mercat Bar de Tapas](#), 1301 S. Joyce St., will move into the space vacated by Asia Bistro. "People that are from Spain, or they've been to Spain ... they come to our restaurant and they usually say, 'Hey, it's like I was transported back to Barcelona, or transported back to San Sebastian,'" chef George Rodrigues told [ARLnow](#). Rodrigues opened the first El Mercat three years ago in Rockville, Md., with a menu offering 30 different kinds of tapas, or Spanish-style small plates. An open dining room with views of the kitchen can seat 120. The restaurant will offer lunch and brunch menus.

ABOUT CCCA

The Crystal City Civic Association (CCCA) was formed on Jan. 28, 2014. We are a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization with the express purpose of advancing the common interests of the residents of the Crystal City neighborhood in Arlington County, Virginia. CCCA gives a voice to our residents. CCCA officers represent community members at County meetings, function as liaisons to state and local lawmakers, coordinate with the Crystal City BID on important issues and projects, and ensure the needs of residents are met.

CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD

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Vice President Tarsi Dunlop

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Communications Director Andrew Damitio (by appointment)

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