



AURORA HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

MAY NEWSLETTER

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Pentagon City Development Ramps Up

Yet another development proposal has been submitted, this one to raze two office 12-story buildings across from the Pentagon City metro and replace with a mix of four office and residential buildings up to 26 floors high. Combined with Pen Place, Met Park, and Crystal House, this is now the fourth major redevelopment proposal this year. Together, these will fundamentally change the Pentagon City skyline, but they can also have positive and negative impacts to livability qualities like housing costs, transportation, school needs, public safety, trees, and air quality. Be sure to come hear and talk to the Planning Commissioners at this month's meeting to understand how the county and residents can influence these changes.



Branding for "National Landing" Area

The Crystal City BID invited representatives from AHCA and the Crystal City Civic Association to a meeting to discuss the branding effort for the new Amazon-centric development. The BID has hired Pentagram, the design consultants who marketed the High Line and Hudson Yards in NYC. It looks as though "National Landing" is here to stay, though residents who attended pointed out the need to keep the neighborhood names and to focus on how to integrate the different communities better. Pentagram and the BID will be holding further meetings in May.

Recap of April 6 Eco Teen Event

Last month, students from around the region celebrated the announcement of the *Teens Dream Global Co Lab Network* video contest and viewed the locally produced film *StyrofoamMom*. The event was the first to use the name "National Landing", hosted by JBG Smith in their market center, and was a #ZeroWasteEvent.



Next Meeting: Wed, May 15

7pm, 735 18th St.

*Aurora Highlands Community Center
Childcare provided!*

1. Arlington County Planning Commission

Elizabeth Gearin and James Schroll from the Arlington County Planning Commission will share their insights and perspective on developments in our area that are in progress or in planning. They will specifically discuss the 4.1 process and share a broad view of how projects move through the system and how the community can make their voices heard. Other conversation highlights include:

- What Amazon means for area-planning
- Development at Pen Place
- Changes to the Met Park buildout
- River House
- Crystal House III

2. Black Box Theatre Initiative

Embracing Arlington Arts founder Janet Kopenhaver will present on the possible Black Box theatre being planned for 22202. Read on for details from a recent meeting.

Stay Informed!



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P.O. Box 25201 Arlington, VA 22202

Free Shade Trees!

Help increase tree canopy coverage and make our neighborhood cool! Trees are typically 7-8 ft tall and it will be planted by a professional landscape contractor. Preference is given to locations that will help shade streets, sidewalks, and driveways, but trees have been planted in back and side yards as well. If interested, please contact our neighbor volunteer Kathy Landis at [703-864-4415](tel:703-864-4415) or landis59@gmail.com. Kathy can meet with you to review locations and help select an appropriate tree. Applications due by June 24. Trees will be planted this Fall. More info: ecoactionarlington.org/community-programs/trees/

Mark Your Calendar

Senior Center Programming

Check out the calendar and sign up: parks.arlingtonva.us/senior-centers/ or call 703-228-7369.

Fridays at the Fountain!

Starting May 3, enjoy free live music at the Crystal City Water Park! Food and drink available for purchase. Lineup & more info: crystalcity.org/do/fridays-at-the-fountain

May 19 - Oakridge Spring Fling!

Silent auction, bouncy houses, great food, games, cake walks, music and more! Spring Fling is the school's biggest community event and its PTA's most important fundraising platform for funding enriching extra-curricular program for students.

Register to vote by May 20!

Primaries for State Delegate & Commonwealth Attorney: June 11
Last day to apply for an absentee ballot: June 4
Find more information: vote.arlingtonva.us/elections/

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Loss of a Champion

Our neighborhood lost a champion last month. A magnificent White Oak tree came down, taking another oak with it, on the grounds of Our Lady of Lourdes church. The tree, 110 feet tall and 184 feet in circumference, was listed as a County Co-Champion for its girth, height, and crown spread, tying two others. It probably was over 200 years old, already mature when the Civil War ended. The surviving champs can be seen in north Arlington at the corner of 16th and N. Kensington, and in Arlington National Cemetery. For more on Arlington's Champion Trees, visit environment.arlingtonva.us/trees/support-trees/makes-tree-champion/.



Possible Black Box Theatre in Crystal City

Representatives from AHCA, the Crystal City BID and Civic Association, Synetic Theater, JBG, and the new non-profit Embracing Arlington Arts have been meeting about developing performing space in Crystal City. The idea is to submit a concept plan to the County before the site plan gets developed. AHCA has encouraged the inclusion of youth in whatever theater and other performance opportunities develop.

CLASSIFIEDS

Advertise with the Aurora Highlands Civic Association Newsletter and reach over 1,000 of your neighbors! The newsletter is delivered to houses in the neighborhood and posted on our website and NextDoor every month. Please send inquiries to newsletter@aurorahighlands.org

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