



AURORA HIGHLANDS CIVIC ASSOCIATION SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER

A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Neighbors,

I hope you had a delightful Summer! As you can tell by the schedule we have a PACKED program and many updates inside this newsletter—including the Sewer Treatment response on page 2— first we will hear from our library branch manager of the Aurora Hills Library to understand better how the library can be a community hub and more about their programs. This is also a time to give feedback! Second, construction has begun for Crystal House 7 and 8 and significant impact is expected on Eads, Fern, and 18th. EYA is coming to share their construction transportation plan so we understand how to navigate the construction. Third, but not last, Ben D’vanzo the new chair of the Crystal and Pentagon Cities Council, will give us an update on the work of the council and also accept feedback.

If there are questions for any of the presenters but you cannot make it to the meeting please send them to info@aurorahighlands.org

Finally, AHCA elections are coming up- if anyone is interested please let a member of the board know! We will also discuss our fall activity and recognize some community contributors during our AHCA business.

Yours,
AHCA Pres. Rachel

Calendar

- [Fit @ Met Park](#) | Wednesday 8am - 9am | Sept 3 - Oct 22
- Sept 9- Arlington County Board convenes in closed session
- Sept 11 - Arl. Historical Society Event Details on back page
- Sept 12- Native Plant Sale at Aurora Hills Community Center
- Sept 13- County Board meeting
- Sept 13- Halls Hill History Walk, 10am-1pm
- Sept 19- Family campfire activity at Gulf Branch at 6pm
- Sept 24- Open house for Arlington Public Spaces Master Plan Refresh, 7pm, Lubber Run Community Center
- Sept 27- Amazon Community Day, Met Park from 9-1pm
- Oct 14- Arl. Historical Society Banquet: arlhist.org/annual-banquet/
-

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 10

At: Aurora Hills Recreation Center
735 18th St S, Arlington, VA | 7:00-9:00 pm

AGENDA

- 7:00 pm - Call to order, approve June Minutes**
- 7:05pm - AHCA Business**
- 7:15pm - Library Presentation**
- 7:50pm - EYA Crystal House Update**
- 8:20pm - CPCC Update**
- 9:00pm - Adjourn**

Optional: Register via Zoom
<https://bit.ly/4ksfslt>

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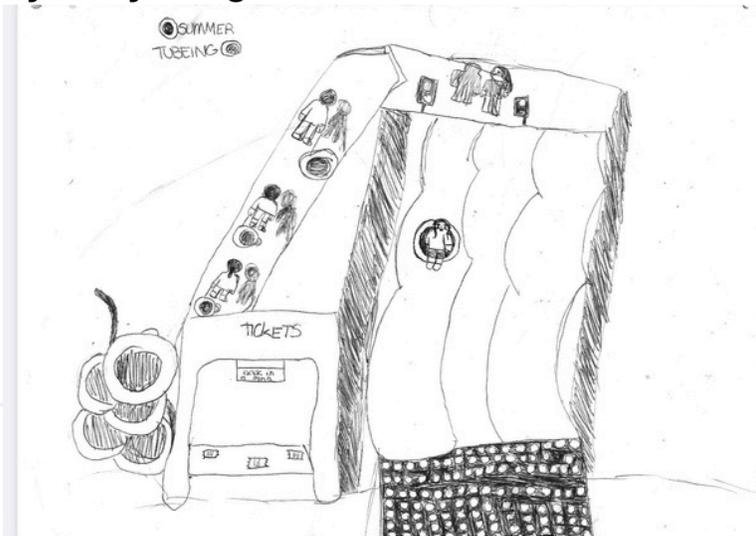


P.O. Box 25201 Arlington, VA 22202



Local Listserve: 4D-A
<https://groups.io/g/4D-A22202>

Art Appreciation: Summer Tubing by Anaya S. grade 5



Construction and Roads

Construction on Mt. Vernon Bridge from the intersection with Glebe to the southern end, is expected to begin in late summer of 2025 and be complete in summer of 2027.

Street maintenance (micro-surfacing and crack sealings) is scheduled this month. Map of planned maintenance available at this webpage: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/v/1/water/documents/2025-mico-surfacing-crack-sealing-program.pdf>

Art Appreciation: Tiny Aurora by Lyon



Sewer Plant Updates

The pollution control plant met with AHCA in June and addressed concerns of odors originating from the plant. Mary, who presented, wrote an email to follow up and informed AHCA of many things she said-

On the ammonia smell, the pollution control plant made recent upgrades to the system that were completed a week or two following the AHCA meeting. This involved upgrading their sodium hypochlorite dosing to the odor control scrubber system. In a few years, they expect they will no longer be using lime, and ammonia odors from the Dewatering Building will be eliminated. On the sulfur smell, the plant made changes to its Preliminary Treatment Building (bar screens area) foul air handling system last year.

In addition to these changes, we believe that is still an opportunity to (1) improve our odor control and (2) understand our impacts. First, we have made staff aware of AHCA's concerns. We are focusing on keeping process building roll-up doors closed and enhancing our housekeeping at the dump pad, making sure that all loads delivered there are quickly hosed into the influent channel so that odors are contained. Second, we think that real-time monitoring is a good next step. We want to thank the AHCA residents for making this suggestion. We understand that sulfur odors quickly dissipate when leaving the site, but it would be good to quantify our odors and determine if additional sampling, dispersion modeling and/or odor control would be beneficial. Please understand that sulfur odors originating a mile or more away from the plant are not coming from our site. We encourage people to report these issues to the County through the [Report A Problem portal](#), so that the team that manages the sanitary sewer system can investigate.

As a reminder, The Shift Supervisor's phone is monitored 24/7 and can be reached at 703-585-6851. If an odor complaint is received, they log it and a notification goes out to staff for follow-up.

Paul, our neighborhood representative is also going to follow up!



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Community Updates

The annual 17th St. Block Party will be held on Saturday, September 27 at 5pm. Neighbors from 16th, 17th, and 18th between Lynn and Ives are welcome to join!

The Arlington County Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (CDCAC) is seeking applicants to fill the Low or Moderate Income (LMI) Neighborhoods or Organizations category of their membership. If interested, please reach out to AHCA (president@aurorahighlands.org) to be connected to CDCAC staff. More details here: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Commissions-and-Advisory-Groups/Community-Development-Citizens-Advisory-Committee>

Join WalkArlington September 13 learn about Halls Hill, a historically African American Arlington neighborhood known for its strong community. The walk will begin at the Segregation Wall at 17th and N. Culpepper Sts., at 10 a.m. Registration details here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/halls-hill-history-walk-tickets-1601656029299>

Excavation for the Dominion Energy Glebe Electric Transmission project will take place over two separate occasions from July to December 2025, lasting approximately three weeks total. Work zone includes the southbound lane and sidewalk of S Eads St. between 31st St South and Fort Scott Drive. During this time, you may notice increased noise during the day from excavation, hydro-vacuuming, and welding. Overnight work will be minimal and crews will use noise blankets to help reduce sound levels.

The Arlington Historical Society Student History Contest closes October 3. AHS is looking for Arlington students in grades 8-12 to participate in a student contest by choosing an event that could be the most important Arlington story that links to America's story and share it in an essay, poem, video, or design of a new memorial about the event. Learn more at <https://arlhist.org/student-history-contest/> Questions? Email Cathy Hix at APScathy@gmail.com

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Photo/Art Appreciation:

Theme: Autumn

Officers will select one entry to be published in the March Newsletter! Mail or email your entry by October 1 to the AHCA P.O. Box or info@aurorahighlands.org

Report a Problem

If you see problems you can report them to the County. Try it: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Topics/Report-Problem>

Engage Arlington: Visit [this site](#) frequently for new opportunities to give the County feedback!

2025 AHCA officers

President Rachel Hicks
1st Vice President Stacy Meyer
2nd Vice President Vacant
Treasurer Ben Watts
Recording Secretary Nick Giacobbe
Corresponding Secretary Lexi Tinker
Editor Alix Hess

You and your neighbors and friends are invited to the free monthly AHS event Thursday, September 11 at 7:00 to learn about how the Metro shaped Arlington. This event is available in person at the Marymount University Reinsch Library Auditorium and on Zoom. Event details are on the website: <https://arhist.org/event/the-metro-and-arlington/>



AHCA Membership Dues for Calendar Year 2025

Dues are \$20 per household. Mail a check to AHCA at P.O. Box 25201, Arlington, VA 22202, or via PayPal at <https://bit.ly/AHCAdues>
Find out your membership status by emailing: treasurerahca@gmail.com
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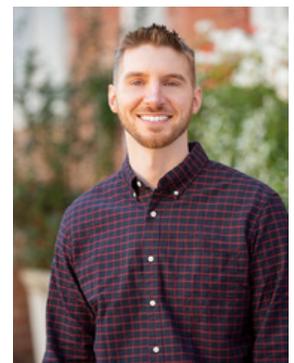
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