County Completes Arlington Mill Community Center

The new Arlington Mill Community Center (AMCC), a state-of-the-art facility, opens this month on the west end of Columbia Pike, with diverse multicultural and multigenerational programs.

AMCC is the result of a long-term collaboration with the community. Part of the County’s ambitious efforts to improve services, preserve affordable housing and create a “Main Street” environment along the Pike, it brings together — on a single site — a high-quality, multiuse community center and affordable housing.

The County finished construction in August and invites the community to a ribbon-cutting celebration Sept. 21 at 5 p.m. Construction on Arlington Residences, 122 units of affordable apartments on the site’s north end, is expected to be completed this winter.

Designed by Davis, Carter, Scott LTD., the $34.9 million AMCC is built to achieve LEED silver certification in energy efficiency. Its energy-saving features include a rain harvesting system, a green roof, low-flow water fixtures and more. The easily accessible facility has a Capital Bikeshare station and can be reached by foot, bicycle, car, bus and eventually, the Columbia Pike Streetcar.

AMCC will offer all the programs available in the original Arlington Mill, with room to grow. Construction costs were paid for with voter-approved bonds.

The facility’s new features include:

- Senior room
- Teen lounge and game room
- Full-size gym and fitness room
- Teaching kitchen
- Four multipurpose rooms
- Five classrooms
- Outdoor public plaza
- Playground
- Retail space
- Parking garage

The center will offer family education, bilingual programs and services, job skills training and job placement assistance. Older adults will find daily activities for social involvement, fitness and creativity, including a nutritious congregate meal program. Families, youths and teens will enjoy sports, fitness, a game room, arts classes and camps. The center also will offer comprehensive education, health, nutrition and parent services for low income children and their families plus English classes. As funding becomes available, additional programming will be determined through community input.

Be on the lookout for an invitation to our open house this winter.

Andy Warhol: Silver Clouds Coming to Artisphere

One hundred and fifty of Andy Warhol’s mesmerizing Silver Clouds are floating towards the Washington, D.C. region for the first time and will land at Artisphere in Arlington on September 12. This uplifting installation defies the traditional perceived constrictions of art as the Silver Clouds interact with the viewer and each other, inviting response and igniting a sense of wonder.

First exhibited in 1966 at the Leo Castelli Gallery in New York, Silver Clouds has at its origin the then groundbreaking intersection of art and technology. In 1964, artist Andy Warhol reached out to Bell Labs electrical engineer Billy Klüver to create a floating light bulb. What resulted from the collaboration was a Silver Cloud — a metallic material called Scotchpak folded and heat-sealed, then filled with helium. Klüver founded Experiments in Art and Technology, or E.A.T. — an early forum for bringing artists and scientists together. This connection between creativity and innovation is at the core of Silver Clouds’ origins and central to Artisphere’s focus on connecting audiences to artists at the forefront of utilizing new technologies in their work.

Andy Warhol: Silver Clouds, curated by Artisphere’s Executive Director José A. Ortiz, will be on view in Artisphere’s 4,000-square-foot Terrace Gallery from Thursday, September 12 through Sunday, Oct. 20, 2013 with a free opening reception held on Thursday, September 12 from 7 to 10 p.m. The exhibit is free and family friendly. One of the largest installations of Silver Clouds ever presented on the East Coast, the exhibition is on loan from The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and on view with permission of the Andy Warhol Foundation for Visual Arts.
A Library Premiere: Streaming Movies

With an Arlington Public Library card and the web, you’re never more than a moment away from movie time.

The library now features IndieFlix, a collection of thousands of art-house- and festival-quality films that come to you. Titles stream to your computer, most smart phones, tablets and set devices like Roku and Xbox.

There are no credit cards, waiting lists or return dates involved. It’s as free and convenient as the library’s digital magazines, available through the Zinio system. In fact, if you have a Zinio sign-in for magazines, you’re already set for IndieFlix.

The new streaming movie collection fills the recognizable gap on Library shelves, providing the kind of off-beat independent films that weren’t licensed for public libraries on DVD. IndieFlix also offers a large selection of shorter films that might not have reached an audience except at festivals and special screenings. And with IndieFlix, the filmmakers are paid for each viewing of their work.

IndieFlix titles do not carry ratings from the Motion Picture Association of America but each film receives one of three designations: “All Ages,” “Ages 13+,” or “Ages 17+.” Parents should guide younger viewers.

The IndieFlix collection can also be sorted by genre such as “foreign” or “documentary,” country, festival and running time. And users can build a queue of films you want to watch later on. We told you it was convenient.

Arlington Public Library has long given buffs and beginners a vast array of movie experiences from Mary Pickford and Bollywood to Godard and Adam Sandler. Now there are thousands more titles to explore in a format that’s hard to beat.

See you at the movies — wherever you choose to screen them.

Modernizing Arlington’s Streetlights

LED lighting costs 75 percent less

Residents will see Arlington in a whole new light, thanks to an effort underway to modernize our streetlight system, an important aspect of safety in our neighborhoods. Beginning in 2010, Arlington began converting streetlights to state-of-the-art, intelligent Light-Emitting Diode – known as “LED” – lights, which have a projected annual cost savings of nearly 75 percent.

Environmental benefits

The energy-efficient streetlights also support our environmental goals, by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and meeting industry standards for reducing light pollution to protect wildlife. The LED lights are also eco-friendly, since they do not contain mercury, lead, and harmful rays, found in some older bulbs.

The goal of our multiyear effort is to convert our inventory of ~18,000 streetlights, nearly all of which, use an outdated, expensive and inefficient high-pressure sodium technology. Of these, the County owns ~6,000 streetlights; at the end of 2012, the County has already converted ~4,500 of these to LEDs. The program is funded by the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) at a total estimated cost of $12 million. Once the conversion is complete, the County will save nearly half of current electric bill costs, every year.

In future years, we will be developing a strategy to convert the remaining street lights, which are owned by Dominion VA Power, and hope to complete the full conversion by 2033.

Fire Safety Tips

Did you know that cooking is the No. 1 cause of home fires and injuries, and smoking is the leading cause of fire deaths? Don’t wait until it’s too late — follow these tips:

- Install and maintain smoke alarms: Install them on each level of your home and outside each bedroom. Replace batteries twice a year, when you change the clocks or when the alarm chirps. Remember to test them once a month.
- Plan and practice your escape: Plan two ways out of every room and remember fire escape routes must not include elevators. Choose a meeting place outside where everyone should gather. Once you are out, stay out!
- Be careful cooking: Keep cooking areas clear of combustibles, and don’t leave cooking unattended. Keep your pot handles turned inward so that they can’t be knocked or pulled over the edge of the stove. If grease catches fire, carefully slide a lid over the pan to smother the flames and then turn the burner off.
- Avoid using candles in bedrooms and sleeping areas. Extinguish candles after use and before going to bed.
- Stop, drop and roll: If your clothes catch fire, don’t run. Stop where you are, drop to the ground, and roll over to smother the flames. Cover your face with your hands to protect your face and lungs.
- Call 703-228-4644 for more information.

OCTOBER IS
FIRE PREVENTION MONTH

Come to the Annual Arlington County Fire Department Open House, Saturday Oct. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at all Arlington Fire Stations. Find a fire station near you by visiting www.arlingtonva.us; search “find a fire station.”
**Streetlight Upgrade**

Installation and programming of 290 LED energy-efficient streetlight units along the Pike is complete. These lights offer a 30-year life expectancy, reduce light pollution, and dim automatically based on the time of day. The energy savings will pay for the cost of the lights and construction in an estimated five to 10 years. For a more completed discussion on LED streetlights, see pg. 2.

**Utility Undergrounding and Street Improvements**

Construction for the utility undergrounding is nearly complete from S. Wakefield St. to S. Four Mile Run Dr. Over the next several months, Dominion Virginia Power, Verizon, and Comcast will pull new underground lines to make required power connections and remove existing utility poles. The County’s contractor is moving forward with the Street Improvement phase that includes realignment of South Four Mile Run, Minor, wider sidewalks, street trees, and street lights. In August, crews permanently relocated the Columbia Pike westbound bus stop to east of South Buchanan Street. Completion of this project is anticipated for fall 2013.

**Bike Boulevards**

To provide safe and convenient bike routes along the Pike, Arlington County will create two bike boulevards parallel to Columbia Pike on low-volume and low-speed (25 mph) streets. Over the summer, the County began placing street markings and signs on the 9th Street S. and 12th Street S. side of the bike boulevards. Future improvements will include updated curbs, medians, ADA compliant ramps, sidewalk re-alignments and a HAWK (High-intensity Activated crossWalk) signal. Following this design phase, the project team will meet with the community to discuss these new features.

**New Student iRide SmarTrip Card**

Arlington Transit now offers a Student iRide SmarTrip card for middle and high school students. The card is pre-programmed with the 75-cent fare for riding ART buses and can also be used as a regular SmarTrip card to ride Metrobus, Metrorail and other regional bus systems. The student fare only applies to ART.

Cards are available for $3 purchase at Commuter Stores located at the Ballston Metro, Rosslyn Metro, Shirlington Bus Station, Crystal City Mall and the Mobile Commuter Store. Students must be present at the time of purchase. The card will expire on the student’s 19th birthday. The card design was drawn by Arlington student Daniel Grumbles, who attends Swanson Middle School.

Visit www.arlingtontransit.com for more information and for Commuter Store locations.

**E-CARE**

Come by our Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) to safely dispose of your household hazardous materials (HHM) Saturday, Oct. 12 at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. HHM include items such as automotive fluids, fluorescent tubes, household cleaners, paint products and propane gas cylinders. During last year’s E-CARE, Arlington residents safely recycled more than 80 tons of HHM. This biannual event also provides residents the opportunity to recycle bikes, electronics, furniture, and clothing and much more. For a full list of accepted items, visit www.arlingtonva.us/search “E-CARE.”

**NEWSBRIEFS**

**Rosslyn Metro Construction Update**

The new entrance to the Rosslyn Metrorail Station is opening this fall. The entrance, located next to N. Moore Street, includes: three new high-speed, high-capacity elevators that provide increased station access for people with disabilities and riders with strollers or luggage; emergency evacuation stairwell for improved safety; additional entrance mezzanine and connecting passageway for better commuter flow, and new station manager kiosk and fare collection equipment to make transactions easier. The $32 million project was completed with state and federal partners, and Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

**Pentagon City Multimodal/ Crystal City Two-Way Conversion**

Construction continues in the median areas of South Hayes Street from Army Navy Drive to 15th Street South. Drivers can expect traffic pattern variations and potential delays in the corridor during this construction work, which is expected to last until early winter 2013. The roads on Crystal Drive that are located between 12th Street South and 15th Street South are now operational in two directions. These roads include 12th Street South, 14th Street South, 15th Street South and the non-elevated portions of South Clark Street.

**ARTtests for PAL Contest Winner**

Congratulations to Annemarie Dougherty, an 8th grade student at St. Agnes Catholic School, who is the winner of the ARTtests for PAL Bus Design Contest. Arlingtonians voted for Annemarie’s design to wrap an ART bus that was revealed in August. The bus will be traveling throughout Arlington reminding people to “Share Our Streets – Be a PAL” (Predictable, Alert and Lawful) when walking, biking and driving.

Arlington middle and high school students submitted 26 designs for the contest. The County narrowed these designs down to three finalists, and then more than 1,700 residents voted to choose the final design.

**Stuff-an-ART Bus Food Drive**

Help fill an ART Bus with non-perishable, unopened food items such as canned proteins, dry beans, rice, low-sodium soups and low sugar cereals. Food will be donated to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Drop off your goods Sept. 27-29 at the Giant Food Grocery Store, 3115 Lee Hwy, at the corner of Spout Run and Lee Hwy.

**Construction Update**

**Columbia Pike**

To provide safe and convenient bike routes along the Pike, Arlington County will create two bike boulevards parallel to Columbia Pike on low-volume and low-speed (25 mph) streets. Over the summer, the County began placing street markings and signs on the 9th Street S. and 12th Street S. side of the bike boulevards. Future improvements will include updated curbs, medians, ADA compliant ramps, sidewalk re-alignments and a HAWK (High-intensity Activated crossWalk) signal. Following this design phase, the project team will meet with the community to discuss these new features.

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Looking for a reliable afterschool program for your child in kindergarten to fifth grade? The Kids in Action program gives kids a safe haven to get their homework done and focuses on encouraging a healthy lifestyle, emotional well-being and thoughtful social skills.

"The staff is friendly and kind and the children really enjoy them. My daughter has tried new foods and gets most of her play time and physical and social activities at the program." – Parent of Participant

The program leads participants by modeling positive and responsible behavior promoting healthy lifestyle; bullying awareness; problem-solving, decision making and conflict resolution; interpersonal competence; cultural competence and diversity; self esteem; positive adult relationships and role models; service to the community; learning engagement; and cooperation and teamwork. Kids in Action participants:

- Stay active and on top of school work, through 30 minutes of physical activity daily in the form of sports and cooperative games.
- Receive 30 minutes of homework help and reading support as well as activities in art, nature, nutrition, reading and wellness.
- The Capital Area Food Banks, Kids Café program provides nutritious meals or snacks for participants.

Registration is now underway. The program runs September 9, 2013 to June 13, 2014, Monday–Friday from 3-6 p.m. at the following community centers: Carver-1415 S. Queen St.; Charles Drew- 3500 23rd St. S.; and Lubber Run-300 N. Park Dr.

“I love the way my children and the staff interact. When I come to pick them up they never want to leave!” – Parent of Participant

For more information or to register, visit www.arlingtonva.us; search “kids in action.”

The happiest, healthiest place to learn, grow and play

Dogtober Day and Barker's Bash

Join us for a doggone good time, Oct. 5, 2013, 1-3 p.m. [registration starts at 12:30 p.m.] at Lacey Woods Park, 1200 N. George Mason Dr. This year’s categories include Best Kisser, Best Tail Wagger, Cutest Costume, Most Adorable and Fastest Pooch. We’ll also have doggie games for you and your pup. Prizes and ribbons for all events. Local exhibitors include: Animal Welfare League of Arlington, dog rescue groups and pet stores. For more information visit www.arlingtonva.us; search “dogtober.”

Bill Thomas Award

Do you know an outstanding volunteer or community group that has gone above and beyond the call of duty? Nominate them for the Bill Thomas Outstanding Park Service Volunteer Award. Nominations are being accepted until Feb. 14, 2014.

The Bill Thomas Outstanding Park Service Volunteer Award was established to pay tribute to lifelong Arlington County parks community for more than two decades. He became a member of Friends of Arlington Parks when the organization was established more than twenty years ago and was appointed to the Park and Recreation Commission in 1995. This award not only honors his legacy but also recognizes residents who demonstrate a passionate dedication and support for our dynamic programs, natural resources and public open spaces. The Bill Thomas Award is open to all County residents and dedicated groups. Excluded from nomination for the award are currently serving members of the Arlington County Board, and Arlington Park and Recreation Commission and Arlington County staff.

Nominate or learn more about the Bill Thomas award. Visit www.arlingtonva.us; search “Bill Thomas.”

The Glebe & Randolph Park Is Now Open

Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation has completed improvements including two bocce courts, site furnishings, accessible paths and flowering shrubs that support a variety of butterflies, birds and insects. The park is located at the southeast corner of the Ballston Common Mall, one of Arlington’s most vibrant urban villages. Bocce courts will be scheduled for reserved play as well as drop-in fun. For more information or to reserve a court, visit www.arlingtonva.us/dpr.
REGISTER TO VOTE ONLINE

Need to register or update your address? You can now register online. To check your status and register or change your address visit www.arlingtonva.us; search "vote." The deadline is Oct. 15 for the Nov. 5 election. Or call 703-228-3456 for more information.

Events Around Arlington

SEPTEMBER

1. Becca Kallem Sweet and Tough: Arlington artist Becca Kallem’s recent paintings and drawings focus on symbols, fragments and wonders. Sourcing a wide variety of imagery, the works are ultimately semi-autobiographical contemplations of identity. “Sweet and tough” refers to personal traits, but also to the artist’s lingo for certain formal concerns—the “sweetness” of a color mixed just right and the “toughness” of a painted surface that has been scraped and re-worked over the course of the painting process. Free. Artisphere Mezza Gallery www.artisphere.com. Thu, Oct. 19

23rd Annual Roslyn Jazz Festival: Highlights include multiple Grammy-winning percussionist Ponch Sanchez and guest saxophonist James Carter; New Orleans 2nd Line tradition meets hip-hop in the Soul Rebels; Naomi Sheldon and the Gospel Queens; and DC’s own trumpeter Kenny Rittenhouse Septet. 1-7p.m. Free. Gateway Park, 1300 Lee Highway, 703-228-1850. www.roslynva.org or www.arlingtonva.us

Sergio Albiac – Three Generative Video Portraits: Visual artist Sergio Albiac uses computer code as one of his artistic mediums. He writes his own computer programs that create visual results in form of still images or video. The portraits included in the exhibition have been created using an innovative generative technique that he has developed called “generative video painting.” During the exhibition Andy Warhol: Silver Clouds, Artisphere will present three works by Albiac on the Town Hall Video Wall. Two previously created pieces (‘Living Icon’, based on Marilyn Monroe and ‘Content is Queen’ based on Queen Elizabeth) plus a new piece, commissioned by Artisphere that debuts here for the first time: ‘Michelle’ based on First Lady Michelle Obama. Free. Artisphere. Town Hall Video. www.artisphere.com. Thu, Oct. 20

Dance Exchange – Dance Workshop: Dance Exchange will conduct a public workshop amongst the Silver Clouds that truly connects people to the creative process, informing of the creation of an original work. The workshop engages dancers and non-dancers alike, stretching the boundaries between the studio, stage, and other environments to make dances that are rooted in the particularity of people and place. 11 a.m.-1 p.m. $10. Artisphere Terrace Gallery + Black Box Theatre. www.artisphere.com

21. Naucz Pride Day: Join us at Naucz Civic and Community Pride Day to embrace the community, build cultural awareness, educate and celebrate! Events will include entertainment, a health fair, information booths, retail vendors, food vendors and special games and activities for children, teens and adults. The event is sponsored by the Naucz Civic Association. Free. Noon-5 p.m. Drew Model School, 3500 23rd Street South.

Comics Making Studio with Members of the DC Conspiracy: Members of the D.C. Conspiracy, a comics-creating collaborative, will be working on their actual page submissions for the Spring 2014 edition of Magic Bullet, a free, semi-annual comics newspaper distributed throughout the greater Washington, DC area. There will be “blank” comic pages available if you want to try your own hand at making a comic and leave it behind where it will be hung in the Gallery and posted to a Facebook album you can tag and share. Free. Artists’ onsite residency hours: Thursdays 6:30-9:30 p.m. + Saturdays 1-4 p.m. (+ Wednesday September 18) Works in Progress Gallery Artisphere. www.artisphere.com. Thu, Nov. 3

22. Sidi Touré: From Bamako in the Songhai region of Northern Mali, world renowned songwriter and guitarist Sidi Touré’s sound both captures and challenges his roots, blending the signature blues-inflected guitar and plaintive vocal melisma of Songhai folk with modern western folk and blues guitar playing and scales. 8 p.m. $15. Artisphere Dome Theatre www.artisphere.com

Inaugural Eight-Thirteen Ball: The theme is “Gatsby” 1920s. This literary-themed evening of dancing, cocktails and silent auction supports Arlington Public Library’s early literacy initiatives. Artisphere. Get tickets at library. arlingtonva.us/fit-up/813-ball

23. LatinoAmerican Festival: Celebrate the best of Latino culture during Hispanic Heritage Month. Live music, authentic food, local vendors, and artistic performances from different countries. Shuttles from Ballston Metro, Free admission. 1-5 p.m. Kenmore Middle School 200 S. Carlin Springs Rd. 703-228-3329. www.arlingtonva.us/dpr

OCTOBER

4. Roberto Fonseca: Instrumental in the global renaissance of Cuban music, Roberto Fonseca is a world-renowned pianist famous for fusing Latin jazz, urban music and African rhythms with the sounds of his Cuban heritage. 8 p.m. General admission $19 in advance, $23 day of; Lounge Level (balcony art gallery with private bar) $32. Artisphere Ballroom. www.artisphere.com

11. Sergio Albiac – Three Generative Video Portraits: Visual artist Sergio Albiac uses computer code as one of his artistic mediums. He writes his own computer programs that create visual results in form of still images or video. The portraits included in the exhibition have been created using an innovative generative technique that he has developed called “generative video painting.” During the exhibition Andy Warhol: Silver Clouds, Artisphere will present three works by Albiac on the Town Hall Video Wall. Two previously created pieces (‘Living Icon’, based on Marilyn Monroe and ‘Content is Queen’ based on Queen Elizabeth) plus a new piece, commissioned by Artisphere that debuts here for the first time: ‘Michelle’ based on First Lady Michelle Obama. Free. Artisphere. Town Hall Video. www.artisphere.com. Thu, Oct. 20

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7. Night of 1,000 Andys with March Fourth Marching Band & Javelin: Night of 1,000 Andys is an evening dance party celebrating the legendary pop artist Andy Warhol in conjunction with his Silver Clouds installation on view in Artisphere’s Terrace Gallery. Don silver wigs and black turtlenecks because the evening will feature an Andy Warhol look-alike contest in addition to creative pop art play stations, and lively entertainment. 8 p.m. $15. Throughout Artisphere www.artisphere.com

13. Pop Art Fun: From art activities to a Studio 54 disco dance party for kids, Artisphere has fun planned for the whole family to celebrate the legendary pop artist Andy Warhol. Noon-4 p.m. Free. Throughout Artisphere. www.artisphere.com

26. Not So Silent Cinema Presents Nosferatu: Max Shreck’s legendary 1922 silent-film Nosferatu is accompanied by Not So Silent Cinema’s live Klezmer quintet—blending a haunting tapestry of Klezmer motifs, Gypsy grooves, avant-garde textures and classic horror effects. 8 p.m. $15. Dome Theatre. www.artisphere.com

Medicare D and Medicare Advantage Open enrollment

Open enrollment is your opportunity to make changes to your Medicare D or Medicare Advantage Plan – it runs from October 15 through December 7. Changes are effective January 1. It is important to review your plan each year. Plans may make changes to premium costs, deductibles, co-payments and list of drugs covered. Many people save money by changing plans.

If you live in Arlington and Alexandria and would like help making changes to your Part D plan form 2012, contact the Aging and Disability Services Customer Service Center at 703-228-1700 and ask to speak to a VICAP Medicare Counselor. ■

Senior Spotlight

Ballston Mall to Host 14th Annual 50+Expo

The area’s annual 50+ Expo – featuring expert speakers, health screenings, entertainment and information for older adults and their families — returns to Ballston Commons Mall Sunday, Oct. 6 from noon to 4 p.m.

The free event includes award-winning columnist Bob Levey, as the keynote speaker, and WUSA9 News anchor JC Hayward as the event’s emcee. Ms. Senior Virginia 2013 Debbi Miller will sing Broadway tunes and other popular songs.

Free blood pressure and glaucoma screenings and hearing tests will be provided. Dozens of exhibitors – government agencies, nonprofits and local businesses – will offer information and answer questions about retirement communities, financial planning, healthcare, travel, fitness, senior services and government resources.

Free giveaways and door prizes will also be plentiful.

The 50+Expo is presented every fall as a community service by The Beacon Newspapers and is supported by several Arlington County agencies. For more information, or to volunteer for the event, call 301-949-9766 or check the website at www.theBeaconNewspapers.com. Businesses interested in exhibiting or sponsoring the event may also call that number.
AFFORDABLE HOUSING 101

Housing is affordable when rent or mortgage, plus utilities, is no more than 30 percent of a household’s gross income. Committed Affordable Units, or CAUs, are housing units that must be affordable to households with incomes below certain thresholds.

Promoting Independent Living
Meet Esther and Chris


AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS IMPORTANT

WHY AFFORDABLE HOUSING IS IMPORTANT

It maintains a diverse, vibrant community with individuals from all backgrounds.

It secures local jobs and benefits our community’s economy.

It supports better transportation choices so residents can live near where they work and play.


September is Affordable Housing Month
County Board Chair J. Walter Tejada will proclaim the month of September 2013 as Affordable Housing Month in Arlington. All members of the community are urged to join the County Board in understanding the importance of affordable housing to our collective sustainability. For more information, visit www.arlingtonva.us search “Affordable Housing Month.”

Resident Secures Housing and New Career
Meet Rebecca

When she was four years old, Rebecca Oteng escaped from her home and walked into the Principal’s office at the Oakfield Elementary School. She announced to the principal, that she was ready to go to school. At 12, when her parents volunteered to help their neighbors’ houses to help her mother make ends meet. Virginia Gardens is very kid-friendly, and we like the after-school programs, said Mrs. Vigil. “The schools in Arlington are secure, affordable place to live. “It is a nice neighborhood, you feel safe and happy.”

The Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8).

The program gave Rebecca new skills, but her family did not have the financial means to keep up with the rent. She decided to work for the first time.

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AFFORDABLE HOUSING BY THE NUMBERS

$55 million
Money set aside for programs and efforts to meet affordable housing needs in FY2014.

15%
Percentage of all apartments in Arlington are Committed Affordable Housing Units (CAFs).

1,189
Low-income, disabled persons and working families annually receive rental assistance through Arlington’s Housing Grants program.

35%
Decrease in the number of unsheltered homeless persons since 2010.

Arlington Residents Can Age in Place
Meet Bonnie

Bonnie Jenkins retired from a 30-year career as a nurse’s assistant and worked with disabled persons in Arlington Public Schools for 12 years. After long work days, she had little time to focus on her home after work. She received help navigating health insurance and got her health care needs met by the Crisis Assistance Bureau and the Employment Center.

For more information on Rebuilding Together’s home repair program, contact 703-528-1999 or rebuiltogether@fairfax.org.
September is National Preparedness Month. This year, Arlington is organizing a “Community Preparedness Week.” What does this mean? Between Sept. 22-28, we are asking that you take at least one action to prepare for an emergency. Here are some ideas of what you can do:

### Make a Plan

- Make a preparedness plan for your family at sites.arlingtonva.us/oem
- Learn about the emergency plan for your business
- Test your communication plan with your family
- Check your emergency supplies
- Know when to shelter in place and when to evacuate. If you are safe where you are, stay where you are until you get more information. Visit sites.arlingtonva.us/oem
- Important documents: keep them together, safe and accessible — include insurance policies, photos of your home, home floor plan and personal property inventory. Tip: Put on a flash drive and leave with a family or friend.
- Medication: ask your doctor for samples — put in your supply kit; Have backup plans for oxygen or batteries.

### Get Involved

- Learn more about emergency preparedness volunteer opportunities at sites.arlingtonva.us/oem

### What You Can Do

### Important Numbers

| Emergency | Call 9-1-1 |
| Police and Fire | 703-558-2222 |
| Non-Emergency Number | 703-558-2222 |
| Power Outages | Dominion Virginia Power 1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357) |
| Natural Gas Emergencies | Washington Gas 703-750-1400 or 800-752-7520. If you smell gas, leave and call 9-1-1. |
| Trees Down | 703-228-6525 |
| Street Flooding, Water, Sewer and Storm-sewer | 703-228-6555 (emergency hotline) |
| Traffic Signal Outages | 703-228-6511 |

### Emergency Information

Listen to 1700AM or call 1-415-655-0811 (long distance charges apply)

### Tell Us

- Go to sites.arlingtonva.us/oem; search “survey” and answer a brief survey.
- Post a comment on Facebook (fb.com/arlington) or Twitter (@arlingtonva).
- For questions or to schedule a preparedness program, contact Debbie Powers at 703-228-3314 or dpowers@arlingtonva.us.

### Mark Your Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 20: Power Outage Webinar, 12 p.m.</td>
<td>Attend at connect.ksnv.gov/arlington (requires Internet Explorer).</td>
<td>For more information, visit sites.arlingtonva.us/oem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 24: Community table top exercise with representatives from Dominion Virginia Power, Verizon, Arlington Public Schools and public safety officials.</td>
<td>7 p.m. Central Library Auditorium, 1015 N. Quincy St.</td>
<td>703-228-6511</td>
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### Trivia Nights

Join the fun and try your luck with preparedness trivia. Prizes for winning teams. Thanks to Trivia King and Teams.

### Trivia Nights

- Target for their sponsorship.
- Thanks to Trivia King and Teams.
- Preparedness trivia. Prizes for winning teams.

### Coming to a smart phone near you

There is a new national emergency alert system that sends loud, highly visual warnings directly to your cell phone. You do not need to register to receive these free notifications. You will automatically receive alerts if you have a WEA-capable phone and your wireless carrier participates in the program. However, only mobile phones bought in the last year or two have the technology to receive them.

- There are three different kinds of alerts:
  - Extreme weather and other threatening emergencies
  - Amber alerts for a missing child
  - Presidential alerts during a national emergency.

Unlike cell phone calls, wireless emergency alerts are not affected by network congestion because they use different technology. While you do not sign up for them, you can opt out by visiting www.ready.gov/alerts.

### Emergency Alerts

- You will automatically receive alerts if you have a WEA-capable phone and your wireless carrier participates in the program. However, only mobile phones bought in the last year or two have the technology to receive them.

### Are you Ready for a Home Evacuation

Twice-a-year drills can help you prepare

Many people have supplies and plans in place, hoping they will never have to leave their home for an emergency. What if you did have to evacuate in a hurry? What if a few minutes are all the time you had to evacuate your home and to decide what you’d bring with you? Do you think you could get everything you need in five minutes or less?

- Here are some things to think about before you have to leave in an emergency:
  - What items you will want to take with you. Are they all over the house? If so, how will you grab them and go?
  - What will the kids want to take?
  - Who will be responsible for getting the pets out?
  - Are all your documents in one easily accessible place?

The American Red Cross recommends every family run through an evacuation drill where you will not be able to return home and only have a few minutes, twice a year. The more you practice, the better the odds you’ll get really good at it.

### Test Your Commute Day — Sept. 26

You’re totally prepared at home; with a three-days’ supply of emergency drinking water, food, flash lights, batteries and your first aid kit is ready for any emergency. Have you thought about how you’d travel around Arlington if a disaster struck and you weren’t able to drive? Have you explored the different transit options, like ART bus, or Capital Bikeshare? Do you keep a SmarTrip card in your wallet even when you drive? Now is the time to make and test an emergency transit plan.

Thursday, Sept. 26, has been declared “Test Your Commute” Day, as part of National Preparedness Month. On this day, everyone is encouraged to try getting around on an alternative mode of transportation. For more information about transit options in Arlington, visit: www.arlingtontransit.com.

### Mark Your Calendar

September 26 is National Preparedness Day, and Arlington will be celebrating with an “emergency preparedness social and photo booth,” followed by a movie at the Cinema Draft House.

### Test Your Commute Day — Sept. 26

To test your commute, you can use the Arlington Transit app or the Arlington Smarttrip website. This will help you plan your route and determine how long it will take you to get to your destination.

### Are you Ready for a Home Evacuation

You can prepare for an evacuation by creating an emergency plan and gathering essential items. Here are some tips to help you get started:

1. **Create an Emergency Plan:**
   - Identify an emergency contact person who can help you and your family during a disaster.
   - Create a family emergency plan that includes escape routes, meeting places, and contact information for family members.

2. **Gather Essential Items:**
   - Pack an emergency kit that includes water, food, first aid supplies, and necessary medications.
   - Include a flashlight, batteries, and a radio with batteries in your kit.

3. **Stay Informed:**
   - Follow local news and weather reports to stay informed about potential disasters in your area.
   - Use emergency alerts and notifications to receive important updates.

4. **Practice Your Plan:**
   - Regularly practice your emergency plan to ensure you know what to do in a crisis.
   - Conduct a family drill at least once a year to test your response and make necessary adjustments.

5. **Be Prepared for Different Scenarios:**
   - Plan for different types of emergencies, such as floods, hurricanes, and earthquakes.
   - Consider the needs of family members, especially children, elderly, and individuals with special needs.

By taking these steps, you can increase your chances of survival during an emergency. Remember, being prepared can make all the difference in the world.
Growing, Eating Healthy Foods

Arlington's Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners and Master Food Volunteers are helping Arlingtonians be more successful at growing and eating healthy foods. “We don’t just help people find space to grow food, we help them learn which plants to grow and how to prepare them,” said Kim Haun, Arlington’s community garden coordinator. The County’s existing Community Gardens are in high demand, and there is little space in public lands to expand. So this year, with funding from the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth, Arlington’s Healthy Community Action Team is using four grants to develop more community gardens in non-traditional spaces, like multifamily housing complexes, church properties, and other nonprofit spaces. Food Volunteers provide free nutrition training to the new community gardeners, helping them to learn healthy ways to prepare all of the produce they are growing.

“Master Food Volunteers have used the Westover Library garden to teach teens in the Teen Parenting Program how to cook and garden,” said Jennifer Abel, senior extension agent. Master Gardeners have appointed an on-call resource for each of the new community gardens and have created a CD-based set of gardening resources. Three more garden grants will be awarded for the 2014 growing season; groups can apply in December for new grants.

Grant funding also is helping the County expand its training to community members to become Master Gardeners and Master Food Volunteers. For more information, go to www.alexandriava.us or call 703-228-6400.

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Signs That Buildings Are Going Green

What’s our favorite color? It’s green! Many Arlington County facilities are “green” buildings – certified to be environmentally-friendly by the U.S. Green Building Council, under its LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) program. You can find a building’s LEED plaque near the front door – it certifies that the building has met specific green building standards. Arlington’s green building program, part of AIRE (Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy), makes it easy to learn about green features. In addition to the LEED plaque, look for AIRE educational signs describing the environmentally friendly features in these buildings. Signs explain green building components, such as solar panels, vegetated roofs, and water efficient restroom fixtures.

Some of the less-obvious green features are also highlighted — e.g., energy-saving light sensors, floors made from cork, walls made from recycled products, construction material recycling, rain gardens and more. These green features make our buildings healthier for occupants, reduce environmental impact in the community, and generate less waste.

Green building signs are now posted at Langston-Brown School and Community Center, Westover Reed Library, Walter Reed Community Center, and Washington-Lee High School. Signs are coming soon to Yorktown High School, Wakefield High School and Arlington Mill Community Center.

Some buildings have a self-guided tour that you can download from freshAIREva.us, or the front desk can give you a green building brochure. You will need an appointment to tour any of the schools. If you’d like an official tour or more information, call 703-228-0628.

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ESTÁ PREPARADO PARA EVACUAR SU HOGAR?

Mucha gente tiene provisiones y planes con la esperanza de no tener que abandonar su hogar en caso de emergencia. ¿Qué sucedería si tuvieran que evacuar con prisa? ¿Qué sucedería si solo tuviera unos minutos para evacuar su hogar y decidir qué cosas llevarse? ¿Cree que podría tomar todo lo que necesita en 5 minutos o menos?

Aspects to consider antes de tener que evacuar su hogar en caso de emergencia:
- ¿Qué objetos le gustaría llevarse?
- ¿Están por toda la casa? Si así fuera, ¿cómo los tomará y se irá?
- ¿A los niños qué objetos les gustaría llevarse?
- ¿Quién será el responsable de sacar a las mascotas?
- ¿Los documentos se encuentran en un lugar de fácil acceso?

La Cruz Roja Americana recomienda que todas las familias realicen un simulacro de evacuación dos veces por año en el cual no puedan volver al hogar y solo tengan unos pocos minutos. Cuanto más practiques, más fácil será el proceso.

DÍA DE PRUEBA DE SU TRANSPORTE, 26 DE SEPTIEMBRE

Usted está totalmente preparado en su hogar, tiene una provisión de agua potable para tres días para casos de emergencia y comida apartada, linternas y baterías, y el kit de primeros auxilios está listo para una emergencia. Pero, ¿ha pensado cómo viajaría por Arlington si nos azotara un desastre y no pudiera conducir? ¿Ha analizado las diferentes opciones de transporte, tales como autobús ART, o quizá Capital Bikeshare?

¿Tiene una tarjeta SmarTrip en la billetera incluso cuando conduce? Llegó el momento de realizar un plan de transporte de emergencia y ponerlo a prueba.


Compara sus planes con nosotros en Twitter o Facebook. ¡Nos vemos en el autobús!

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ARLINGTON SE PREPARA 2013

Septiembre es el mes nacional de la preparación. ¿Ha pensado que puede hacer para estar preparado en caso de una emergencia? Para ver más información visite: www.vaemergency.gov/listovirginia
Gearing Up for another Successful Year of Learning and Achievement

By Dr. Pat Murphy, Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools

The start of each school year comes with a refreshed feeling of starting anew, establishing new routines, reconnecting with friends, and building new relationships with peers and teachers. It is a positive experience as we prepare our students for their future as vital members of our community, our society and our nation.

Over the summer, in addition to our Summer School program which served more than 6,000 students, we focused on many reading initiatives to prepare our children for the best school year possible. Each student was equipped with a summer reading list to keep the learning going—just one more way we are challenging and engaging students to excel. Arlington Public Schools offered library hours at many of our schools, a “Traveling Trolley” in select neighborhoods, and many other initiatives to ensure that learning continued throughout the summer.

Before we take a look ahead, let’s take a moment to look back on some of last year’s accomplishments.

• 66% of our seniors graduated with an advanced diploma this year, a 3% increase over past years
• APS seniors received more than $27 million in scholarships
• APS graduates beyond graduation: 20% of graduates will pursue two-year college degrees
• 30% of graduates will pursue four-year college degrees
• 2% will begin military careers
• 8% will move directly into the workforce
• Drop-out rates continue to decrease, by more than 53.2% since 2010, and on-time graduation rates have increased over six percentage points since 2008.

We are very proud of these results. They demonstrate our continued commitment to achieving the goals outlined in our Strategic Plan. But the APS story is best told by our students who aspire to excel:

• Washington-Lee grad Nazia Khan came from Bangladesh to APS where she began 9th grade in the High Intensity Language Training (HILT) Program. Nazia is an incredibly diligent student who graduated this year and is on her way to NOVA. She earned Arlington Community Foundation and Project Discovery awards to assist in her college journey.

• Victor Gomez, a Wakefield graduate, was involved in several programs including the Wakefield Cohort for Minority Males and the Wakefield Leadership Team. He was also captain of the track and field team. Victor’s achievements helped him secure scholarships from the Arlington Rotary Education Foundation, Arlington Community Foundation, Wakefield Foundation and the Thomas Jefferson Middle School PTA, to support him at Yale University.

We will continue to address our growing enrollment needs through the next phases of our “More Seats for More Students” initiative and our Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). We will also continue to focus on upgrading the technology systems that serve families and staff.

This fall we will open the new state-of-the-art Wakefield High School and complete the Yorktown High School project. We are grateful to our community and families for supporting these projects. Construction will also commence at Ashlawn Elementary and the new elementary school at the Williamsburg Middle School campus.

As we gear up and prepare for another successful school year, we are excited to welcome back our APS families on the first day of school. If you have children in our schools, we look forward to reconnecting as partners. If you do not have children enrolled in APS but want to support our students, we welcome you as partners in this exciting journey of learning and achievement.

The All-New ParentVUE

Online access to student information

Over the summer, APS launched its new student information system, Synergy@APS, along with Synergy’s ParentVUE and StudentVUE. ParentVUE is a web-based communications tool that gives parents and guardians the ability to access targeted student information online.

Parents and guardians can update their contact information such as email, phone numbers and language preferences, as well as emergency contact and medical information.

Families of secondary students will also be able to view student schedules, class attendance, class assignments, grades and report cards. This information will also be available online for students through the new StudentVUE.

The system’s many new features will help APS strengthen data management to support instruction and will expand communication options for families. More information about this new system is available online at www.apsva.us/familyaccess and families can watch for future announcements through APS School Talk.

APS Mobile App

With the start of the new school year, APS is excited to announce the launch of a FREE APS mobile app for smartphones and other mobile devices, provided by the vendor ParentLink.

The new app is customizable to your school and preferences. It features news and headlines, upcoming events, sports scores, social media integration, and easy access to popular APS services like MySchoolBucks, the Extended Day portal, lunch menus, calendars, and the brand-new ParentVUE.

The APS app is available for Android devices and iPhones; search for “Arlington Public Schools.”
Wakefield Students Begin School Year in New Building

Community invited to dedication and open house Sept. 22

The Traveling Trolley

APS, in collaboration with Arlington Public Libraries, launched a new initiative to promote summer reading for the Carlin Springs, Drew Model and Hoffman-Boston communities. Families boarded the Traveling Trolley for an interactive ride to the Glencarlyn and Columbia Pike Libraries, where they participated in activities including read-alouds, getting library cards and checking out books, registering for the summer reading program, and participating in the Library’s summer reading challenge.

Wakefield Students Begin School Year in New Building

For freshmen, the start of high school can be difficult—not knowing where classes or your locker are. But this fall, all Wakefield students will be learning the layout together as they begin the 2013-14 school year in a brand new building.

The new four-floor, 403,940 square foot building will have many state-of-the-art and LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) features including:

- Geothermal HVAC system
- Solar hot water panels
- Rain garden landscape feature for on-site stormwater management
- Low-emitting materials to improve indoor air quality
- Waste heat from mechanical system used to heat the pool
- Energy efficient windows to reduce energy consumption
- CO2 monitors to regulate fresh air flow
- Daylight harvesting - light sensors that dim artificial light to respond to natural light levels
- Reforestation adjacent to existing mature forested areas using native vegetation

Phase I includes the completion of the new school instructional facility and aquatics center. Phase II will include demolition of the old building and installation of geothermal wells and the outdoor sports facilities.

Celebrate the Opening of Wakefield

The community is invited to attend a dedication ceremony and open house on Sun, Sept. 22, from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Details will be available on the APS website.
El Condado cumple construcción del centro comunitario de Arlington Mill

El nuevo centro comunitario de Arlington Mill (AMCC), un establecimiento de vanguardia, abre este mes en Columbia Pike y contará con diversos programas multigerenciacionales y multiculturales. AMCC es el resultado de una colaboración a largo plazo con la comunidad. Es parte de los esfuerzos del Condado para mejorar los servicios, preservar las viviendas asequibles y crear un entorno de “calle principal” en la Pike, y además reúne, en un único sitio, un centro comunitario de alta calidad y múltiples usos y viviendas asequibles.

El Condado finalizó la construcción en agosto e invita a la comunidad a la ceremonia de inauguración el 21 de setiembre a las 5:00 p.m. a la ceremonia de inauguración en agosto e invita a la comunidad asequibles.

El establecimiento de fácil acceso tiene una estación Capital Bikeshare y se puede llegar a pie, en bicicleta, automóvil, autobús y en el futuro mediante el tranvía de Columbia Pike. AMCC ofrecerá todos los programas disponibles en el centro original Arlington Mill, con espacio para crecimiento. Los costos de construcción fueron pagados con bonos aprobados por los votantes.

Las características del establecimiento incluyen:
- Sala para personas mayores
- Salón para adolescentes y sala de juegos
- Gimnasio
- Una cocina para clases
- Cuatro salones de usos múltiples
- Cinco aulas
- Plaza pública al aire libre
- Patio de juegos
- Tiendas minoristas
- Garaje

El centro ofrecerá educación para la familia, programas y servicios bilingües, capacitación en habilidades laborales y ayuda para la búsqueda de empleo. Los adultos mayores encontrarán actividades diarias de participación social, gimnasia y creatividad, incluido un programa de comidas nutritivas en comedores. Las familias, los jóvenes y los adolescentes disfrutarán los deportes, gimnasia, una sala de juegos, clases de arte y campamentos. El centro también ofrecerá servicios integrales de educación, salud, nutrición y servicios para padres para niños con bajos ingresos y sus familias, como también clases de inglés. A medida que surja financiación, se determinará una programación adicional según las sugerencias de la comunidad.

Quede a la espera de una invitación para nuestra jornada abierta en diciembre.

Consejos de seguridad contra incendios

¿Sabía que cocinar es la causa principal de incendios y lesiones en el hogar, y fumar es la causa principal de incendios y lesiones en el hogar? No espere a que sea demasiado tarde – siga estos consejos:

• **Instale y mantenga alarmas de humo**: Instálalas en todos los niveles del hogar y añada de todas las habitaciones. Cambie las baterías dos veces por año, cuando cambie los relojes o cuando la alarma chirría. Recuerde probarlas una vez al mes.

• **Planifique y practique escape**: Planifique dos formas de salir de cada cuarto y recuerde que las rutas de escape en caso de incendio no deben incluir elevadores. Seleccione un lugar de reunión fuera de la casa donde todos deberán reunirse. ¡Una vez que salga, quédate afuera!

• **Tenga cuidado al cocinar**: Mantenga las áreas de cocina libres de combustibles, y no descuide la cocina. Coloque los mangos de las ollas hacia adentro de tal forma que no puedan llevarse por delante en el borde del horno. Si la grasa llega al fuego, coloque cuidadosamente una tapa sobre la olla para extinguir las llamas y luego apague el fogón.

• **No use velas en las habitaciones y áreas de descanso**: Apague las velas después de usarlas y antes de acostarse.

• **Deténgase, tírese al suelo y ruede**: Si se le prende fuego la ropa, no corra. Deténgase donde esté, tírese al suelo, y ruede para extinguir las llamas. Cúbrase el rostro con las manos para protegerse el rostro y los pulmones.

Para obtener más información, llame al 703-228-4644.

Festival latinoamericano

**SEPTIEMBRE**

¡Celebre lo mejor de las culturas latinoamericanas de Arlington durante el mes de la Herencia Hispana! Este evento GRATUITO incluye música en vivo, presentaciones artísticas, comida típica, vendedores locales y más! Disfrute el folklor de distintos países de América Latina. Algo más! Disfrute el folklor de distintos países de América Latina. Algo más! Disfrute el folklor de distintos países de América Latina! 1-5 p.m. Para más información, llame a 703-228-3329. Kenmore Middle School. 200 S. Carlin Springs Rd. 22204

OCTUBRE

**MES DE PREVENCIÓN DE ENCENDIDOS**

Venga al evento anual de Puertas Abiertas del Departamento de Bomberos de Arlington, el sábado 12 de octubre de 10 a.m. a 4 p.m. en todas las estaciones de bomberos del Condado. Para encontrar la estación de bomberos más cercana, visite www.arlingtonva.us; busque “find a fire station”.