

CRYSTAL CITY INSIDER

The monthly newsletter of the Crystal City Civic Association



May 2024

Table of Contents:

Page

1. PRESIDENT’S CORNER.....	2
2. CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES.....	3
3. INFORMATION AND EVENTS – ARLINGTON COUNTY.....	4
4. DEVELOPMENT.....	9
5. TRANSPORTATION.....	12
6. LONGER-TERM ISSUES.....	12
7. FUN STUFF IN CRYSTAL CITY (AND NEARBY)	15
8. ABOUT CCCA.....	18

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

President's Corner: May 15th CCCA Meeting

We are pleased to welcome our delegate to the House of Commons: Adele McClure!

In addition, Arlington County will present on Vision Zero and the specific audit of pedestrian/bike safety.

We also will have a discussion of the possible Crystal City Library and have a presentation on Crystal House 7. For zoom, [registration](#) is here.

A special thanks to all who attended our County Board Candidates night!

- Eric Cassel, CCCA President

CIVIC ASSOCIATION AND LIVABILITY 22202 ISSUES

CCCA Hybrid General Meeting: May 15, 7-9 pm.

Meeting agenda:

1. Reports from Officers:
2. Our Virginia Delegate: Adele McClure.
3. Vision Zero (Pedestrian Safety).
4. A Crystal City Library?
5. Crystal House 7

NOTE: This is a hybrid meeting. Participants may choose to either:

- View on Zoom; Zoom Registration: [Be sure to register here:](#)
- or
- Attend in-person. Anyone wishing to attend in person may come to the conference room at 251 S 18th Street (Wells Fargo Building where Precinct 006 Crystal City voters vote. You can enter via the elevator from the Underground. We'll be there!

Note: The meeting is open to all 22202 residents.

Livability22202 Award

Good news. On April 9, the Arlington County Civic Federation gave a Community Impact Award to Livability22202: "Faced with waves of transformative development in their neighborhoods, the Arlington Ridge, Aurora Highlands, and Crystal City Associations banded together to confront staggering change. The achievements of the nascent Livability22202 coalition over the past few years, and the enhanced impact made possible by uniting to achieve shared goals, have enabled area residents to collectively offer cogent and practical responses to daunting challenges."

Breaking News: JBG Terminates all Retail in the Underground

Bad news. On April 30, JBG announced that "it has made the difficult decision to close the retail operation of the Crystal City Underground." After so many years of working with JBG to provide innovative alternative solutions to retail, we are dismayed at what strikes us as a betrayal of trust. See article below under Development.

Crystal City Library

More bad news. We've lost the planned Crystal City library branch that was promised for 1901 S. Bell Street during 2000 and 2001 site plans. The County asked JBG to provide \$5.8 million instead of trying to refurbish and utilize the building JBG had long offered. The future of any library in Crystal City is now unclear. See the document below for more details.

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INFORMATION AND EVENTS – ARLINGTON COUNTY

Future of libraries for Crystal City, Columbia Pike mulled

Two major projects remain works in progress, and may depend on funding being available.

One has its future home secured, the other not so much. But Arlington government officials say plans for two future branch libraries will come together over time.

County library director Diane Kresh used her April 2 budget work session with County Board members to sketch out proposals for two major projects – a library for Crystal City and relocation of the Columbia Pike branch. The former seemed to have a location decided on, but that plan didn't work out, Kresh said. She was quick to add that options actively are being explored for the Crystal City facility. [Read more here](#)

Peace Officers Memorial Day | May 10, 8:00 a.m. at Justice Center Plaza (1425 North Courthouse Road)

The Arlington County Police Department and the Arlington County Sheriff's Office will gather to honor and pay tribute to the memory of the seven law enforcement officers of Arlington County who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our community. This solemn ceremony is held each year ahead of National Police Week which recognizes those law enforcement officers throughout the United States who have lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others and provides support to their survivors. [Learn more here.](#)

Arlington Reads: Jesmyn Ward | May 14, 6:30 p.m. at Central Library

Celebrate James Baldwin's Centennial with this Arlington Reads Signature Author Event. Join us for a conversation between author Jesmyn Ward and author and essayist Ralph Eubanks about Ward's newest novel, "Let Us Descend," a reimagining of American slavery, as beautifully rendered as it is heart-wrenching. [Learn more and register here.](#)

Arlington Unites 2024 | May 18, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at Washington-Liberty High School

Join this event to showcase our shared commitment to building a stronger, more resilient community. Arlington Unites is a way for all members of our community to learn about resilience initiatives, and explore ways to make Arlington more ready and able to face challenges. Childcare and lunch will be provided to registrants. [Learn more here](#); [Volunteer](#) | [Register](#)

Police Accepting Applications to 2024 Teen Police Academy

The Community Engagement Division's Youth Outreach Unit is now accepting applications for two sessions of the Summer 2024 Teen Police Academy. Sessions One and Two, being held in July and August, will create opportunities for participants to learn about the policing profession and what it takes

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to be a leader while building relationships with their peers and the police officers who serve their community. Online applications are due no later than Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 11:59 p.m. [Read more.](#)

[County's AIRE Team Tracks Progress Toward Carbon Neutrality](#)

The Arlington Initiative to Rethink Energy (AIRE) has released its second annual “ACCELERATE” report, illustrating the County’s award-winning efforts to make a more sustainable community through buildings, resilience, renewable energy, transportation, government activities, and education and behavioral change. [Read more.](#) Key highlights from 2023 include a progress update on CEP Roadmap Years 1-2, our LEED Platinum Cities status achievement and the Zero Emissions Bus Study and Transition. View the report by [downloading from the County’s website.](#)

[Fire Department Announces Community Driven Strategic Plan](#)

A The Arlington County Fire Department is proud to announce the release of its 2024-2029 Community Driven Strategic Plan (CDSP), a comprehensive roadmap designed to enhance public safety, community engagement, and emergency response services over the next five years. This inclusive approach ensures that the strategic plan aligns with the evolving needs and priorities of Arlington County residents. [Read more.](#)

[Arlington 2050: Envisioning Tomorrow Together – A Postcard from the Future](#)

Imagine you live, work, and or play in Arlington in the year 2050—and you love it! What makes it great? What's new? What's the same? What does the ideal Arlington look like to you? [Share your vision about the future of our community!](#)

[Understanding the Needs of Veterans and Service Members in Arlington](#)

Arlington County’s Military and Veterans Advisory Committee (MVAC) is interested in hearing from members of the military, veterans, and their families who live and/or work in Arlington about types of programs, services, and resources that could be helpful. [Click here to participate](#) so that we can explore programs and services that may better serve our Veteran and Active Military Community.

[Safe Homes, Safe Relationships - Feedback Form:](#)

Share your feedback with Project PEACE on any experience you may have been using, looking for, or if you are referring people to resources for those impacted by domestic/intimate partner violence and sexual assault in Arlington County. Your feedback is confidential. Results will help enhance and improve services for everyone in the county.

A snapshot of demographics, workforce, development, transportation, and community services, this year's Profile has new information on Langston Boulevard, disabilities, race & ethnicity, expanded housing unit types, and expanded jobs. Learn more: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Data-Research/Profile>

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Bills targeting ‘predatory’ tow companies approved, opening the door for long-delayed Arlington changes

Gov. Glenn Youngkin (R) has signed off on two pieces of legislation — both backed by Arlington lawmakers — allowing Northern Virginia local governments to set tighter restrictions on tow operators. This move could allow Arlington to implement changes to its towing ordinance originally approved in 2016 but later nixed by the state legislature. “While these bills allow for the option of local actions, Arlington County will still need to update its ordinances before they can take effect,” said county spokesman Ryan Hudson. Arlington’s [Trespass Towing Advisory Board](#) will meet in coming months to discuss potential changes before presenting a recommendation to the Arlington County Board. ([ArlNow.com](#))

Methinks they doth protest too much

Advanced Towing will finally be called to task for predatory towing which our communities have protested against. [Video: Towing company speaks out against lawmaker who sponsored new towing law | ARLnow.com](#)

Voting drop boxes see some usage during presidential primary

About 3.3 percent of Arlington voters participating in the March 5 presidential primaries used the county’s 24-hour voting drop boxes to cast their ballots. That’s according to new data from the county’s elections office, and the results may be used as fodder down the road when Democrats and Republicans next year re-engage on the issue of how many drop boxes are enough. All nine existing drop boxes will remain in place in Arlington until at least end of 2024. ([GazetteLeader](#))

[Adopted FY 2025 Budget Invests in Priority Needs for the Community \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

The Arlington County Board voted Saturday, April 20, 2024, to adopt a \$1.65 billion balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2025, a 6.4 percent increase over FY 2024. The adopted budget focuses on foundational services for the community, including public safety, housing, behavioral health, environmental sustainability, transportation, and schools.

The base real estate tax increased 2 cents to \$1.033 per \$100 of assessed value, which is partially offset by the move to a stormwater utility fee that reduced the tax rate by 1.7 cents. The real estate tax increase—the first since FY 2020—will fund priority needs that face the community, including affordable housing, eviction prevention, investments in the environment, and support for teens and youth, such as programs for teen mental health and substance use prevention. [Read more.](#)

Arlington mulls what to do with empty office buildings

Arlington County Board members on April 20 set in motion an effort that could see some of the county's at-risk office buildings repurposed for other uses, including housing. Board members approved a legal advertisement that will allow the Planning Commission to consider zoning changes on the topic as early as September. (Gazette Leader)

New tree canopy goal for D.C. area calls on Arlington to get greener | ARLnow.com

Crystal City has less than 15% tree canopy coverage, the lowest in the County by the map in the article. Arlington may have played a part in recent declines. The county's [tree cover](#) appears to have shrunk from 41% in 2016 — the last time the county conducted a tree canopy assessment — to 33% in 2021, according to a privately funded [analysis](#). The county is currently conducting a new canopy assessment, with results expected later this year. But some recent measurements, such as reviews of development permits, indicate fewer trees in Arlington than there used to be, county spokesperson Jerry Solomon said. ([ArlNow.com](#))

Arlington County Crisis Care Update: Community Advocacy Event in partnership with NAMI Northern Virginia- 05.21.24

On behalf of [Arlington County's Department of Human Services](#) and [NAMI Northern Virginia](#), we invite you to join us on Tuesday, May 21st, from 6-7:30 pm at Central Library in Arlington County (1015 N Quincy St, Arlington, VA 22201) to learn about the next steps for Arlington County's Behavioral Health Crisis Response System and the [Marcus Alert](#) implementation. You will have the opportunity to learn this information from subject matter experts while getting the latest data on behavioral health statistics and available resources in the county. Panelists will represent the following agencies: Arlington County's Department of Human Services, Emergency Communications Center (911), Police Department, and Fire Department. In addition to our partner, HopeLink Behavioral Health formerly PRS CrisisLink (988). We want to ensure that our community is aware of these vital updates that will strengthen our Crisis Response System while ensuring equitable and restorative outcomes, for all!

New Website shines spotlight on Arlington history

A new initiative aims to put some local history at the public's fingertips.

"Arlington County has a rich and diverse history – however, finding it can be a challenge," said Peter Vaselopulos, project manager for the new Arlington Historical initiative (found online at www.arlingtonhistorical.com).

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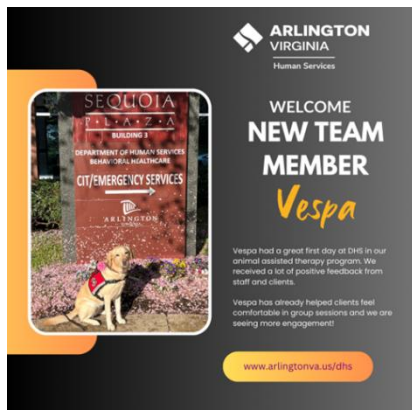
Funded by a grant from the Arlington County government, the site presents articles researched and written by local historians, community members and history-focused organizations. The goal “is to encourage neighborhoods, communities and individuals to discover and share their unique histories,” organizers said. The initiative uses the online platform Curatescape, currently in use in more than 40 cities across the U.S. New material related to Arlington is being added every week, and the site includes a search feature where the public can zero in on specific areas of the county. The project is not directly affiliated with the Arlington Historical Society, although there are some ties – Vaselopulos currently is a director of the organization, and is slated to become its vice president for the 2024-25 year.

(GazetteLeader)

Construction of Arlington Junction Park and nearby streetscape upgrades slated for County Board consideration

Construction of a new park near Amazon’s HQ2 as well as improvements to sidewalks and bike lanes in the area could begin soon. Arlington Junction Park is projected to be complete at 1051 S. Eads Street in about 18 months, if the Arlington County Board approves a \$2.5 million contract. The Board will also consider \$2.9 million for two projects to improve S. Eads Street between Army Navy Drive and 15th Street South. The recreation area’s master plan document describes a “contemplative green oasis in a densely developed urban context,” funded through developers. ARLnow.com

Introducing: Vespa the Therapy Dog!



DEVELOPMENT

Breaking Bad News: JBG Closes All Retail in the Underground

The Crystal City Underground has been a foundation of Crystal City since the city was built by Charles E. Smith Company in the 1960s. The Underground was innovative when created in 1976 and remains near and dear to the heart of residents. Thus, [the announcement on April 30, 2024](#), that JBG Smith, the current owner which took over the property from Vornado in 2016, will close all remaining retail stores and restaurants in the Crystal City Underground comes as really bad news. This comes after years of effort by the community to work with JBGS to create innovative solutions to the occupancy problem in the Underground. We are dismayed they did not take up any of our recommendations and now have decided to close the retail stores.

We recognize that this is a business decision on the part of JBG which has determined “that the Underground retail concept is no longer financially sustainable.” Unfortunately, it is our opinion that JBGS has strangled, ignored and trashed what was once a great feature of the area. Retail is not the only element of a vibrant, functioning area. For several years, especially from 2019 to the present, Livability22202 and the Crystal City Civic Association provided extensive creative ideas to JBGS for occupancy by both retail and non-retail tenants. The Livability22202 Action Plan of November 2019 called for transforming “the Underground as a unique linear chain of art galleries, performance and creative spaces linked by a pedestrian corridor.” The Crystal City Sector Plan calls for a continuous underground passageway from 12th to 23rd Streets. At least we understand that JBG plans to keep it open for pedestrians (as it should under the Sector Plan) and provide security.

We are preparing a letter of protest, but it’s hard not to see this as a betrayal of JBG’s insistence since 2016 on being a “good neighbor.”

More Bad News: Library Lease in Crystal City

Instead of providing a 10-year lease for a temporary library at 1901 S Bell, JBG has agreed to a County request for \$5.8 million over several years to fund a library somewhere else in Crystal City. This is an example of the flawed community benefit process as we’ve long expected this benefit from the 1900 Crystal Drive project. The County asked CCCA leadership to provide 3-4 potential alternative sites. The question is where? It needs to: be close to transportation, close to retail, close to a lot of foot traffic, and preferably at ground level.

At the March meeting of the Crystal and Pentagon Cities Council, we presented a PowerPoint on the history of the community need and promise, provided guidelines for what we believe we need and why, and offered some suggestions. [See the PPT here.](#)

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Crystal Houses 3

Site plan amendment was approved by the County on April 13.

Planning Commission Meeting May 6

ON May 6, the Planning Commission will consider two items in 22202:

- **Melwood Special GLUP Study**

THE PLANNING COMMISSION will consider the Special GLUP Study pertaining to the 750 23rd Street South (Melwood) Special General Land Use Plan Study: Acceptance of the 750 23rd Street South (Melwood) Special General Land Use Plan Study Document. Additional information about this study can be found by visiting the [project's webpage](#) at: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Plans-Studies/General-Land-Use-Plan/Studies/Melwood> This study will be discussed at the **May 6 Planning Commission meeting** and at the **May 18 County Board meeting**. Visit the Planning Commission and County Board webpages for more information about the upcoming meetings and to sign up to provide your input.

- **12th Street Landing PDSP (TSA site)**

SPLA23-00021 Phased Development Site Plan Amendment located at 601 and 701 12th Street South; and identified as RPC #35-004-004 and -006. Additional information about this project can be found by visiting the [project's website](#) at <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Site-Plan/12th-Street-Landing>.

Amazon Fresh

JBG learned that the store at 1550 Crystal Drive was closing just before the official announcement. JBG leasing says that they will try to backfill the spot with another grocery. We've resurfaced the community's desire for a Trader Joe's (though now that one is rumored to go in at the end of Crystal Drive, this might not happen) and Aldi's. AlexNow.com reported that the plan for an Amazon Fresh store in Potomac Yard is back on, that a liquor license is pending, and staff are being promised to transfer down there.

Amazon Fresh in the Potomac Yard Shopping Center is still happening

Although the Amazon Fresh store at 1550 Crystal Drive closed suddenly in early April, the [Washington Business Journal first reported](#) that Amazon is gearing up to open at 3801 Richmond Highway. A peek through a window at the former Shoppers Food Warehouse reveals a large grocery store with empty shelves and counters. A Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control license application is also posted on the front door showing that the retail giant applied in February to sell gourmet wine and beer. The Washington Business Journal also found recent permit applications for the installation of refrigeration cases. ([Alxnow.com](#))

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2000/2001 S Bell/Clark

The County is requiring an ADA jump elevator to be fully accessible to the Underground corridor, but that this will delay opening the Corridor until about the end of Q4 2024. JBG has requested a minor site plan amendment for life safety parking phasing. The shared garage is between the two towers. The East tower is expected to open Q3/Q4 2024 and the West tower Q2 2025.

Mt Vernon Trail Mural

The BID is currently reviewing applications from artists to finalize the award of \$40,000 for a large mural to be installed at the entrance to the Trail by the Water Park.

Arlington Junction Park

It is projected to be completed at 1051 S. Eads Street in about 18 months, if the Arlington County Board approves a \$2.5 million contract on April 20. The Board will also consider \$2.9 million for two projects to improve S. Eads Street between Army Navy Drive and 15th Street South. “The redesigned park will provide access to green spaces, park amenities, and other natural elements for nearby residents, workers, and other park visitors,” a [county report](#) says.

BID Move Planned

The BID will need to relocate this fall, as the 2011 Crystal Drive building is being renovated. Through a competitive process to select a new location, new space was chosen for the 4th floor of 1550 Crystal Drive. The proposed lease is for 11 years, with an option to leave, with penalty, at 7 years; the space includes 4790 RSF of office space with an additional 1150 storage space (which could be used for BID staff expansion, storage, or other purposes). The location is in the heart of National Landing, with excellent transit and amenities close by.

Amazon HQ2 was supposed to add jobs last year. It shed them instead.

Amazon has fallen so far behind schedule in creating new jobs at its Northern Virginia headquarters that its workforce at those offices shrank last year, the company confirmed, showing how the project that it had pitched as an economic jolt is instead hitting a slowdown. {The Washington Post}

Crystal City Metro entrance

Fencing is expected to go up by the end of May, with a groundbreaking ceremony tentatively planned for June 25, 26, or 27. Despite a news report that Virginia has cut funding for Metro which might delay the entrance, JBG says this is not accurate. The County has full funding from NVTC.

TRANSPORTATION

Project Update: Transitway Extension

Construction is now substantially complete for Phase 1 of the Transitway Extension to Pentagon City! Once completed, this project will provide dedicated right of way for high-frequency bus transit that will serve over 13,000 homes and more than 16 million square feet of office space, including Amazon's HQ2 Development. [Read more here.](#)

Eads Street changes

Possible Eads Street changes are divided into two sections. Planned improvements between 12th Street S. and 15th Street S. are all on the east side of the street. They include adding permanent physical barriers for bike lanes and improvements to ramps and lighting. “The project is intended to mirror the bicycle/pedestrian improvements included as part of the recently completed Met Park development on the southbound (west) side of the same block of Eads Street,” [a report](#) says.

Bike lane barriers would continue between Army Navy Drive and 12th Street — a stretch of Eads Street that would be reconstructed around the new park. Funding for these upgrades would come from local tax revenues dedicated to transportation in addition to the county’s infrastructure investment fund for Crystal City. Both the park and the streetscape changes have been in the works for years. Plans for the park began to crystalize in 2021, the same year the county began seeking input on upgrades to the southern portion of S. Eads Street.

This Pentagon City intersection has seen 43 crashes since 2021

Videos of vehicles colliding at the intersection of Army Navy Drive and S. Hayes Street proliferate on the social media account of local public safety watcher **Dave Statter**. In several, drivers exiting I-395 can be seen hurtling into slower-moving vehicles on Hayes.

CC2DCA

The County has submitted a request to NVTa for \$2 M for the project. Livability and the 3 CAs are planning to provide support and individuals are encouraged to do so as well. The Open Comment period ends May 19.

LONGER TERM ISSUES

HQ2 Workforce Shrinks

“Amazon has fallen so far behind schedule in creating new jobs at its Northern Virginia headquarters that its workforce at those offices shrank last year, the company confirmed... Sullivan said Amazon has not abandoned its target of 25,000 jobs, though a company spokesperson later clarified that it would look to meet that goal by 2038. She called HQ2 ‘a long-term investment’ and noted that there are 1,000 open positions for the campus.” [[Washington Post](#)]

Dual Primary June 18 - Please Vote!



Arlington County is holding an important dual primary on Tuesday, June 18. The Democratic Party is selecting a candidate for the County Board election this fall, and the Republican Party is selecting a US Senate candidate for the fall election.

Virginia voters do not register by party, so Arlington voters may vote in either primary, but not both. [This County voting page](#) provides key information on both primaries, including the candidate names for each party ballot. No write-ins are allowed on primary ballots.

The Democratic Primary election will again be by ranked choice. You may rank up to 3 of the 5 Democratic candidates on your ballot. More information on how ranked choice voting works can be found [here](#). This page also links to a [sample ranked choice ballot](#) to practice this type of voting.

Important facts about voting in Arlington:

Voter registration: [Please register to vote](#) (or update your existing voter registration) by May 28. Check your record to ensure that all information is still accurate. If you miss the registration deadline, you may be able to do [Same Day Registration](#) at your precinct.

Where do you vote? If voting in person on election day, you must vote in your assigned precinct if you live in Crystal City: either 106 Crystal City (451 S. 18th Street, the Wells Fargo Building) or 150 (Crystal Plaza). Please go to the correct one.

Voter ID: [See this page for Voter ID requirements](#).

How to vote: You may request and vote [a mail ballot](#), you may [vote early in person at select sites](#), or you may vote in person on election day in your assigned precinct. You may deposit your completed mail ballot in the mail, drop it off at the County Elections office, deposit it in the secure drop box by the building entrance to the Aurora Hills Community Center (no later than 7PM on June 18), or drop it off at your precinct in the Mail Ballot box.

[The County voting website](#) is an excellent source for voting information – check it out!

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More flights could be coming to DCA despite recent near-collision and pushback from Va. senators

A bill to add more flights to Reagan National Airport is moving forward despite opposition from Virginia's senators. Senate and House negotiators have reached an agreement to add five more daily round-trip flights to the airport. The 1,069-page reauthorization bill for the Federal Aviation Administration will now head to the Senate floor, the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation announced today (Monday). The proposed change comes despite an analysis by the FAA itself, which reportedly found that five more round trips would result in an extra 12 hours of delays each day. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority has said that with 819 daily takeoffs, an airport runway is the busiest in the country. Lawmakers have until May 10 to pass legislation reauthorizing the FAA.

FUN STUFF TO SEE OR DO

Happenings

The planned Chinese restaurant **NiHao** ran into a snag with the County and now doesn't expect to open until late spring/early summer.

StretchLab is coming to Pentagon City at 751 S. 15th Street.

Warby Parker Opening 2 NoVA Stores

Warby Parker, the maker of affordable eyewear, will soon open a new store in Pentagon City at 1100 S. Hayes St., Ste. H03A. The store is set to open on April 20, offering prescription lenses from \$9. Warby Parker designs its glasses in-house and was started as an alternative to the other big-name eyeglass companies. Its online shop lets you pick five frames to try on at home for free.

New Stores in Fashion Centre

Lululemon is planning to open later this spring in the Fashion Centre at Pentagon City, on the first floor next to Levi's, the mall announced this morning. It's a return to the neighborhood for Canadian retailer of technical athletic apparel, which previously operated a seasonal store in the mall.

Also coming this spring and summer are Spanish fast-fashion retailer Mango, the self-explanatory Perfume World, and fried chicken mainstay Popeyes.

Bike to Work Day

Bike to Work Day is Friday, May 17, 2024. Join us at more than 100 pit stops in DC, MD, and VA for this FREE event for a fun and healthy way to start your day. The first 16,000 who register and attend at a pit stop receive a FREE T-shirt. Free giveaways, food, and beverages at participating locations, while supplies last.

Arlington restaurants join D.C. area's Latin Restaurant Week next month

Latin food lovers will have two weeks to take advantage of some tasty deals from local restaurants. Latin Restaurant Week is coming to the D.C. area from May 3-17 and few Arlington restaurants are participating in the culinary event. Peruvian Brothers at Amazon HQ2 will be participating in the celebration, offering full-course lunches and dinners at discounted prices. [{ARLnow.com}](#)

Gear up! Bike Safety Check event next Thursday!

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Kickstart cycling season with a FREE Bike Safety Check!

Join us on Thursday, May 2, as expert mechanics from Conte's Bike Shop perform complimentary safety checks for your beloved bicycle. They'll meticulously inspect your handlebars, derailleurs, tires, and more to ensure everything is in top shape for your riding adventures this spring. Remember, these checks are available on a first-come, first-served basis to those who register. Secure your spot early and make safety a priority as you pedal into a new month!

Date: Thursday, May 2

Time: 8:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Location: Conte's Bike Shop, 1350 South Eads Street Arlington, VA 22202

[Secure your spot now.](#)

SIGN UP

CoComelon coming to Pentagon City for ‘Party Time’ event

If you are a parent of young kids, you obviously know CoComelon. And now the YouTube hit is coming to life in Arlington. The DoubleTree Crystal City Hotel (300 Army Navy Drive) is set to host “CoComelon Party Time” this weekend. The event from May 3-5 will feature various experiences for children, including their favorite characters — JJ, Cody, Nina and more — dancing and engaging in themed activities. Tickets are \$35 for adults and kids, though children under 1 are free. [More details here.](#)

New artwork unveiling in Ballston



[Present Pastimes](#) by Olalekan Jeyifous. Southeastern Development Associates and Arlington Public Art are pleased to announce the unveiling of Present Pastimes by Olalekan Jeyifous. Join us on Wednesday, May 1, at 5:30 p.m. at 624 N. Glebe Rd. for the dedication of this artwork, which will include remarks from the artist and development partners. Present Pastimes is new to Arlington’s Public Art Collection and on public display at Urba Apartments adjacent to the Harris Teeter entrance.

Connection with Mount Vernon Trail Now Open



Great news: The connector between Boundary Channel Drive and Mount Vernon Trail is now open! This trail segment is part of the [Boundary Channel Drive Interchange Improvements project](#) to improve traffic flow and safety near Long Bridge Drive and the I-395 interchange. The project will reach substantial completion late spring or early summer of this year. Check out [the project page](#) to see what's changed, and see the other bike and pedestrian connection improvements are coming as part of the project.

ABOUT CCCA

The Crystal City Civic Association (CCCA) was formed on January 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 ensures the needs of residents are met.

CRYSTAL CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD

President Eric Cassel

Vice President Tarsi Dunlop

Meeting Secretary Sheryl Eaton

Communications Director Jay Ahuja

Membership Liaison Jeramy Olmack

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