



Please join us at **6:30 pm** in the Hazel Auditorium's lobby to enjoy light refreshments.

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## COVID-19

The Board of Directors of the Civic Federation is monitoring the spread of COVID-19. If warranted, meeting dates and venues will be changed.

The Arlington County Public Health Division has created a very informative [website](#): "What you need to know about COVID-19".

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## !Please Remember!

The Civic Federation has changed the day on which it holds its monthly meetings. Effective October 2019, the Federation's General Membership Meetings are being held on the third Tuesday of the month until further notice. The meetings will continue to start at 7 PM and will continue to be held in the Hazel Auditorium at the Virginia Hospital Center.

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## President's Corner

When you check in for the March meeting, be sure to pick up your invitation to the Banquet that will be held on Friday, April 17th at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. The March program is detailed in this newsletter and I am sorry to miss it. I have tendered my resignation as president because I am to undergo heart surgery. I will be out of commission for quite a while. The good news is your Board of Directors will keep everything on an even keel under the able direction of Vice President, [Allan Gajadhar](#). Newly elected member-at-large, Tina Worden, has met with me to coordinate the banquet with membership chair, Dennis Gerrity. I have so enjoyed getting to know each of you and your organizations and Civic Associations. Once recovered, I will still keep engaged with the federation. Thank you to the many who have reached out to me and lifted me up.

Sandy Newton

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## Agenda

### March 17, 2020 ACCF Membership Meeting

7:00 Regular Business

7:10 Banquet Announcement

7:15 Panel on Preparing and Responding to COVID-19  
8:00 Report and Vote on Revenue & Expenditures Committee Resolution on Reserve Funds  
8:10 Report and Vote Revenue & Expenditures Committee Resolution on the County Auditor  
8:20 Panel on Deer Population in Arlington  
9:05 Old Business  
9:10 New Business  
9:15 Adjourn

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**REGISTER FOR THE 2020 BANQUET  
NOW**

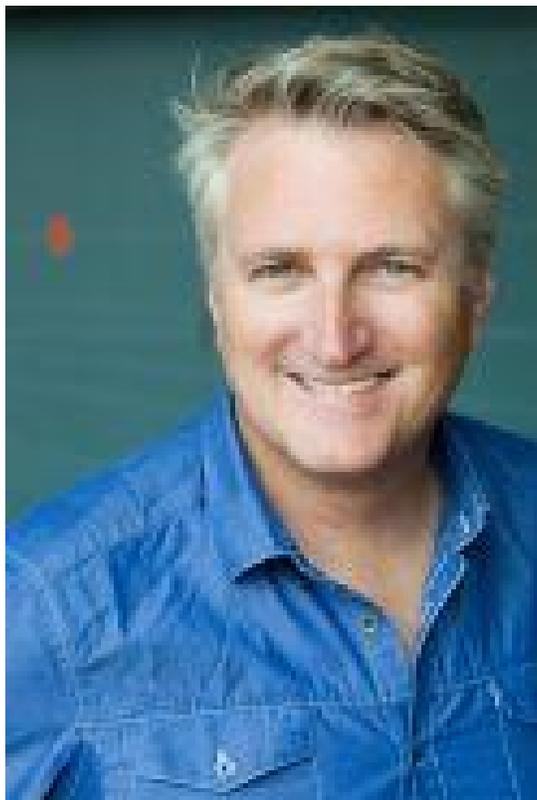
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## **2020 ACCF Banquet**

The Arlington County Civic Federation is pleased to announce that Eric Schaeffer, Artistic Director of the Signature Theater, will be the featured speaker at our 2020 ACCF Annual Banquet at 7:00 PM on Friday, April 17, at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn.

**–Guest Speaker –**

**– Eric Schaeffer, Artistic Director of the Signature Theater –**



**Cocktails 6:00 PM (Cash Bar)**  
**Dinner will served at 7:00 PM**  
**Eric Schaeffer will begin his presentation at 7:30 PM**

Eric Schaeffer is the co-founder and Artistic Director at Arlington's Signature Theatre. He has directed more than 70 works at Signature since the Theatre's founding in 1989 and solidified Signature's reputation as the premiere theater in the Washington area to see musicals. Under his tenure, the Theatre received the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award. Schaeffer is also a champion of new work, providing writers and composers a place to develop original musicals through the Theatre's musical commissioning program.

Eric Schaeffer's national and international directing credits include *Gigi*, *Follies*, *Beaches*, *Putting it Together*, and the Tony Award-winning *Million Dollar Quartet* on Broadway; national tours of *Million Dollar Quartet* and *Big*; and *Million Dollar Quartet* and *The Witches of Eastwick* in London's West End. Schaeffer also directed Korean versions of *Sweeney Todd* and *Titanic* in Seoul, South Korea with the OD Company. Schaeffer served as the Artistic Director for The Kennedy Center's 2002 Sondheim Celebration, and directed the Center's productions of *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Passion*, *First You Dream*, *Follies*, *Mame*, and *Gigi*.

In addition to Mr. Schaeffer's presentation, the program will include the award of the 2020 Sun Gazette Cup and ACCF President's Award.

Reservations must be received by Friday, April 3.

Contact Banquet Chair [Tina Worden](#) about making reservations after April 3. They will be accepted only a space-available basis.

**REGISTER FOR THE 2020 BANQUET NOW**

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### **Preparing and Responding to COVID-19**

The Civic Federation's Public Services Committee has organized a presentation on preparing and responding to COVID-19 for the Federation's March 17th meeting. It will focus on what Arlington is doing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) in the community; what you can do to protect yourself from becoming ill from the COVID-19) or flu; what you can do to be prepared if/when the virus spreads the area; and what are the major non-pharmaceutical interventions Arlington is planning to use to support the community, schools and government in dealing with COVID-19.

The Public Services Committee reports that Arlington County Public Health Division staff are actively monitoring the developing COVID-19 situation in coordination with the Virginia Department of Health. Arlington Public Health, Arlington Emergency Management and Arlington Public Schools are working with community partners for responses to protect residents and maintain county, school, community functions.

To learn more about preparing and responding to COVID-19, come hear a presentation at the Civic Federation meeting March 17 by Dr. Reuben Varghese, Director of Public Health, Aaron Miller, Director of Emergency Management, and Zachary Pope, Arlington Public Schools emergency management.

And – see the Arlington Public Health information on preparing and updates at <https://health.arlingtonva.us/2019-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to->

## **Revenue & Expenditures Committee Resolution on Reserves**

The Revenue & Expenditures Committee will submit a resolution on Arlington County reserve funds for membership approval at the March 17 meeting. This resolution states in major part that the Arlington County Civic Federation requests that the County Board Auditor, or other qualified, independent authority be engaged to analyze the County's reserve balances, including the School funds, in order to determine:

- The amount and type of reserves necessary for the County to maintain its AAA bond rating
- The amount and type of reserves necessary to meet any legal or contractual obligations.
- Any amounts above what is necessary that may be used for other community funding priorities.

Be it further resolved that the County should make available sufficient resources for the County Board Auditor to conduct such analysis or to engage a qualified, independent contractor to do so.

Be it further resolved that the County should fully engage the Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee (FAAC), the Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) and other relevant community organizations before adding to reserve balances that are not legally required.

\*[Link to Exhibit 1](#): *Extracts from FY 2019 CAFR, Reserves and Contingencies, p. 267, Table C*

Follow this [link](#) to read in full the reserves resolution and its report .

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## **Revenue & Expenditures Committee Resolution on the County Auditor**

The Revenue & Expenditures Committee will submit a resolution on the Arlington County auditor for membership approval at the March 17 meeting. This resolution states in major part that the Arlington County Civic Federation asks the County Board and County Manager to identify additional funding and/or staffing resources (for example, adding a forensic accountant or a compliance officer) to support the County Board Auditor's ability to complete audits and follow-up reviews within the established audit work plan's time-frame and to increase overall audit capacity, in order to deliver timely, independent analysis to the County Board and assure Arlington County taxpayers that revenues and fees are being used in the most effective and efficient way possible.

Follow this [link](#) to read in full the county auditor resolution and its report.

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## Cultural Affairs Committee

The Cultural Affairs Committee met on March 5th. The agenda included updates from the Arts Commission, Opera Nova, Encore Stage & Studio, Signature Theatre and the library. The Arts Commission reports that while advocacy efforts were successful and the County Manager has reversed his FY 2020 proposed cuts to the arts, the nonprofit representing the arts community **Embracing Arlington Arts** is advocating funding totals be returned to the 2010 level of \$279,000. For more details on advocacy efforts, please visit [Embracing Arlington Arts](#).

Our member arts organizations are enjoying regional recognition!

Both Opera Nova and Encore recently performed separately at the Kennedy Center Millennium Stage to large live and virtual audiences. With Encore outgrowing their current location, they are looking across Columbia Pike and the Ballston areas for more space.

The library truck will have its first event at Central Library on Saturday, March 14, from 2 until 4p, during the Winter Reading Hot Chocolate Party. For more details and a full schedule, visit the library's website:  
<https://library.arlingtonva.us/2020/02/28/the-truck-has-arrived/>

Signature Theatre is celebrating its 30th Anniversary and its 25th Anniversary of Signature in the Schools. They are thrilled to have had 3 sold out back-to-back productions and a season with 3 world premieres. With a renewed lease extended to 2032, they are working with an architect to redesign their storage facility into much needed space for scene, prop and costume shops.

We are thrilled to have Eric Schaeffer, Artistic Director of Signature Theatre be the featured speaker at our 104th Annual Banquet.

\*\*\*Signature has extended a special invitation to Civic Federation members for a rare backstage tour on Tuesday, April 14th at 11am. Space is limited. Please RSVP by Friday, April 10— [tinaw@civfed.org](mailto:tinaw@civfed.org)

## Environmental Affairs Committee

The Environmental Committee will be meeting to discuss the Arlington tree canopy and ways to preserve and enhance this valuable resource. Our discussions will include a wide range of options from possibilities within Arlington's legal jurisdiction and state regulatory routes to education and actions that can be implemented by developers and citizens.

Arlington's tree canopy declined by at least 2% in between 2011 and 2016, but ten civic associations had losses of 5% or more and 13 others had losses of up to 5%. This trend is continuing at an alarming rate.

Interested ACCF representatives are invited to participate in the committee and/or share your views through email on this topic. Please contact Mary Glass at [mglassmail1@gmail.com](mailto:mglassmail1@gmail.com).

## OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Community Emergency Response Team Training

The nationwide Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program is comprised trained volunteers who assist their communities when disaster strikes. Arlington County offers free biannual classes to train county residents, employees, and students on how to help themselves and others until emergency responders arrive. The biannual Arlington CERT basic training program (CBT) involves approximately 30 hours of online, classroom and hands-on training and concludes with a final training exercise before graduation. In the CERT basic training program , you will learn disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, light search and rescue, team organization, disaster psychology, fire suppression and terrorism.

One example of what CERT members do was evident in July 2019 after the severe weather that caused widespread flooding and significant damage to public facilities, roads, businesses and homes. Volunteers from Arlington CERT, the Virginia Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) and Team Rubicon trained and mobilized to go door-to-door to assist with damage assessments in the County.

Are you ready to join the over 800 volunteers trained by Arlington CERT? The spring training sessions start in April and the fall sessions in September. Each session includes eight classes that meet on six weeknights (either Tuesdays or Thursdays) and two Saturdays. All classes meet at the Arlington Fire Training Academy in Shirlington and are taught by Arlington County Fire and Police Departments (ACFD, ACPD) and Arlington County Emergency Management staff (OEM), as well as active duty CERT members. The minimum age to attend is 14.

For more information about the Arlington CERT and to register, please visit <https://emergency.arlingtonva.us/get-involved/cert/>.

### 2020 Census Key Dates

In mid-March, homes in Arlington and across the country will begin receiving invitations to complete the 2020 Census. The invitation will contain detailed instructions on how to respond for your home online, by phone, or by mail. Counting every person living in Arlington is a huge job, and counting everyone in the U.S. is a massive undertaking! Here are some key dates in 2020:

- **March 12 – 20:** Arlingtonians and others will receive official Census Bureau mail that includes detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census online and by phone.
- **March 30 – April 1:** The Census Bureau will count people who are experiencing homelessness over these three days. This includes people in shelters, at soup kitchens and mobile food vans, on the streets, and at non-sheltered outdoor locations such as tents.
- **April 1: Census Day!** Tell the Census Bureau where you live as of April 1, 2020, and include everyone living in your home.
  - Got a college student? – Census takers will count college students who live on campus.
  - Extended family sharing your place? – Count everyone who lives with you

The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how much federal money Arlington, our neighboring communities, the Commonwealth of Virginia and other states will receive every year for the next decade. These funds shape the future of roads and transportation, local schools, health care, housing assistance for older adults, fire prevention, wildlife in our parks, and much more. For more information follow this [link](#)

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## **Arlington County Public Schools**

[APS Update on the Coronavirus](#)

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### **Something New!!**

When you sign in for the regular meeting, by sure to get a ticket to win a door prize. We will have this at each meeting.

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## **The Civic Federation's Website**

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### **2019-2020 Board of Directors**

Allan Gajadhar, Acting President  
Allen Norton, Secretary  
Burt Bostwick, Treasurer

Board of Directors Chair, Allan Gajadhar  
Board of Directors Vice Chair, Eric Cassel  
Member at Large, Tina Worden  
Member at Large, Dennis Gerrity  
Member at Large, Mike McMenamin  
Member at Large, Stacy Meyer

Here is a [link](#) to Board members bios to learn about their backgrounds.

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### **2019-2020 ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES**

Cultural Affairs – Chair Tina Worden – [tina@civfed.org](mailto:tina@civfed.org)  
Environmental Affairs – Mary Glass – [mary@civfed.org](mailto:mary@civfed.org)  
Housing – Chair John Vihstadt – [housing.chair@civfed.org](mailto:housing.chair@civfed.org)  
Legislation – Chair Ron Haddox – [ron@civfed.org](mailto:ron@civfed.org)  
Parks and Recreation – Duke Banks – [duke@civfed.org](mailto:duke@civfed.org)  
Planning and Zoning – Chair Ben Kenney – [ben@civfed.org](mailto:ben@civfed.org)  
Public Services - Chair Jackie Snelling – [jackie@civfed.org](mailto:jackie@civfed.org)  
Revenues and Expenditures – Burt Bostwick (POC) – [burt@civfed.org](mailto:burt@civfed.org)

Schools – Chair Michael Beer – [michaelbeer@civfed.org](mailto:michaelbeer@civfed.org)  
Transportation – Chair Jerry Auten - [jerry@civfed.org](mailto:jerry@civfed.org)

### **2019-2020 FEDERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEES**

Audit -- Chair Jay Wind – [jay@civfed.org](mailto:jay@civfed.org)  
Awards – Chair – Tbd  
Bylaws and Rules – Chair Allen Norton – [allen.n@civfed.org](mailto:allen.n@civfed.org)  
Banquet – Chair – Tina Worden – [tinaw@civfed.org](mailto:tinaw@civfed.org)  
Communications – Tbd  
Membership – Chair Dennis Gerrity – [membership@civfed.org](mailto:membership@civfed.org)

Any Delegate, Alternate or member of a Member Organization may participate on any Public Interest or Support Committee (Please contact the Committee chair or point of contact or [Acting President Allan Gajadhar](#) if you are interested participating on ACCF Committees.)

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### **LINKS TO MEETING DOCUMENTS**

[February 1, 2020 - February 29, 2020 Treasurer's report](#)  
[Draft February 2020 Membership Meeting Minutes](#)  
[Draft February 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)

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### **Civic Federation Inclement Weather Cancellation Policy**

ACCF follows the decisions of the Arlington Public School System when cancelling its meetings due to bad weather. Here is a link to the APS [HOMEPAGE](#) for information when inclement weather is imminent.

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### **Free Parking at the Virginia Hospital Center**

Delegates, Alternates and others attending Arlington County Civic Federation meetings at Virginia Hospital Center can park for FREE in the B/GOLD garage under the 1635 Medical Office Building at Virginia Hospital Center. Although people may have to take a ticket to enter the B/GOLD garage, the exit gate will be raised when you leave. If the gate is down, press the speaker button and the security office will raise the gate remotely. The garage has abundant parking spaces. Please note, parking in any other lot on Virginia Hospital Center property is not free.

