



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

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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

The next meeting of the Civic Federation is February 18th at 7 pm in the Hazel Auditorium of Virginia Hospital Center. Social time is at 6:30. Remember to park in the B lot to avoid a fee for parking.

We will be hosting the Arlington Public School Board followed by a panel on mental health for youth.

Why are we having this mental health program? A survey through the Arlington schools found that 37% of Arlington students are depressed. If you need help for a student or a family member, what is the first number you would call? Where would you go? Are services through the Arlington schools, the police, the Department of Human Services, parent and nonprofit support groups well-coordinated? Do we need to have a roadmap? What are some steps to make access better? The broad topic of mental health encompasses all ages and many issues targeted through separate programs from truancy and homelessness, to suicides, trafficking, and addictions. Our focus for this panel will lean heavily on the youth context, but at our March 17th meeting, we will discuss community level issues and next steps. Perhaps you don't feel this concerns you, but it does. The community impact is widespread and you are likely personally affected through family and friends. Mental health issues require significant response by police, fire, county agencies, and community organizations that impact other daily services.

The panelists will be:

- **Alicia Guajardo**, parent experience from children in Arlington Public Schools (APS), Arlington Partnership for Children, Youth and Families (APCYF) community member, APCYF Youth Mental Health and Wellness Committee Co-Chair, APS Student Services Advisory Committee member/former Co-Chair, Suicide Prevention Alliance of Northern Virginia member, MSW

Topic: Framing the discussion

- **Alisa Cowen**, parent experience from children in APS, Co-Facilitator, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Parent Support Groups; Co-Chair the Career, Technical and Adult Education Advisory Committee

(CTAE)

Topic: A Parent's Perspective

- **Elizabeth Auten**, MSW, Hoffman Boston Woodlawn (HBW) Social Worker, selected by APS Student Services

Topic: APS Student Services

- **Lt. Eliseo Pilco**, Community Resource Section, Arlington County Police department (ACPD), lead for School Resource Officers (SRO's)

Topic: ACPD SROS

- **Deborah Warren**, LCSW, DCSW, Department Human Services (DHS), Deputy Director, Community Services Board (CSB) Executive Director

Topic: DHS services

If you have specific questions for the panelists prior to the meeting, please send them to me at [Sandy@civfed.org](mailto:Sandy@civfed.org).”

## What are your issues?

Our board is interested in learning more about the issues that each Civic Associations and member organizations has. I have been attending many member organization meetings, but there are too many to do an adequate job. It would be helpful to know when and where your association meets. If you would email this information, it would be appreciated since not all associations have a website.

## Civic Federation Membership Dues for 2019-2020

Please ask your president and treasurer to make sure they have paid your association's Civic Federation Membership Dues for 2019-2020 . Delegates and alternate delegates for organizations that have not paid their 2019-2020 membership dues by December 31st will not be able to vote or ask questions at General Meetings in 2020. Please ask the appropriate person to take care of this issue.

## Upcoming CivFed Events and Announcements

### Board of Directors meeting

The Civic Federation's Board of Directors will hold its February meeting on Sunday, February 23rd at 6 PM at Firehouse 2, 4805 Wilson Boulevard.

### February 2020 General Meeting

Our February 18 meeting will feature the Arlington Public School Board in the Hazel auditorium of the Virginia Hospital Center. Following the School Board will be a Public Services panel to discuss mental health related to youth. For more detail, look under the Public Services Committee announcement.

### Public Services Committee, Jackie Snelling Chair

As announced at the last CivFed meeting, the Public Services Committee is starting a work group on mental health services and their relationship to county programs and services including law enforcement. The goal is to take a holistic view of the mental health and well-being in the county and the interface between mental health services and other programs and services such as those that address education, employment, housing, and safety. This is a complex and challenging topic that grew out of an initial review of the topics of

human trafficking and gangs. Our current plan is to provide two presentations: 1.) a focus on Youth for the February meeting (same meeting as the school board presentation:) and 2). an overall view of conditions and services for the whole community at the March meeting. We have identified key people for interviews for information gathering and potential panel is. We invite any interested members of CivFed member organizations to join us. Please pass this invitation on to your organization's members. We do expect the March presentation will be followed by related resolutions.

### **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/>.

### **Legislative Committee**

The Legislative Committee is meeting Thursday, February 27th at 7 PM. The meeting will be held at the Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th Street South.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide an update on the current projects and discuss next steps.

### **Arlington Historical Society**

: "Women Winning the Vote: the Virginia Story" This Thursday, Feb 13 at 7:00 pm.

Nancy Tate, co-chair of the 2020 Women's Vote Centennial Initiative and former Executive Director of the national League of Women Voters, will describe what it took for women to win the constitutional right to vote. The 19th Amendment to the US Constitution was ratified on August 26, 1920, after 72 years of organized effort. It was the greatest expansion of democracy on a single day in US history, and yet is a story that is little known. Learn about the suffrage movement in Virginia and in Arlington, and the resulting evolution of the League of Women Voters.

Details are here: <https://arlingtonhistoricalsociety.org/events/arlington-women-who-fought-for-the-vote/>

### **Census**

March 7- Join Complete Count Committee members, Census partners, and other Census Champions as we take it to the streets. Help us "Get out the Count" and expand out outreach. [Learn more and RSVP now!](#)

## **2020 Banquet**

A date has been set CivFed's annual banquet in 2020. It will be on Friday, April 17th, at the Holiday Inn in Rosslyn. This date does not conflict with spring break or Easter.

### **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**

Sandy Newton, President  
Allan Gajadhar, Vice President  
Allen Norton, Secretary  
Burt Bostwick, Treasurer

Board of Directors Chair, Allan Gajadhar  
Board of Directors Vice Chair, Eric Cassel  
Member at Large, Vacant  
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 Vistadt – [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 -- **President Sandy Newton**

Communications – Chanda Choun – [chanda.choun@gmail.com](mailto:chanda.choun@gmail.com)

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 [President Sandy Newton](#) if you are interested participating on ACCF Committees.)

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## **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Environmental Affairs Committee**

ACCF delegates and alternates are encouraged to join the committee to address some very consequential issues for your constituents in Arlington in 2020. Among the issues to be considered for possible attention from this committee will include the rewriting of an integrated Urban Forest and Natural Resources Master Plan (part of the General Land Use Plan), stormwater, air quality, tree canopy, climate change and the County's Operating and Capital budgets for environmental issues. We encourage members to help us set the agenda by providing issues that are of most concern or interest to your members. Please contact Mary Glass ([mary@civfed.org](mailto:mary@civfed.org)) if you would like to suggest topics for the work or have a chance to participate to share your insights on these important topics.

### **Public Affairs Committee**

#### **Flood Mitigation Resolution**

#### **Transmittal letter**

### **Ad Hoc Livability Committee**

#### **Livability**

#### **Extensive livability**

### **Housing Committee**

#### **Resolution on proposed density and heights**

### **Legislative Committee**

#### **Resolution on Juvenile Detention Center**

Juliet Hiznay (Delegate, Columbia Heights) of the Legislation Committee introduced a draft resolution on the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center at the General Membership Meeting on November 19, 2019. There is limited public awareness of the relationship between Arlington County and the jail since the jail is physically located in the Landmark area of Alexandria. The Arlington County Board appoints two of the five commissioners to the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Commission that oversees the jail, including the current chair. Background information for the resolution has been extensively researched, including a jail tour, a public records review and outreach to court services unit, the chair of the commission, and the executive director of the jail. The jail has been under capacity since 2005 and was used for more than a decade for youth immigration detention. The draft resolution

focuses on concerns relating to transparency and oversight. The resolution has been referred to the Legislation Committee, Public Services Committee, and Revenues and Expenditures. The Moss Group, a consulting group that focuses on criminal justice and corrections has been contracted by participating localities Arlington County, City of Alexandria and City of Falls Church to study whether the detention center should remain open, be converted another purpose or closed altogether. The results of the Moss Group study are due in January of 2020.

The Legislation Committee met on November 26, 2019, to discuss the draft resolution and determined that the committee should seek additional assistance from county staff to obtain commission and county records. This is needed since records provided to date do not afford a complete picture of the financial situation, the Commission's internal controls or oversight mechanisms. The Arlington County Board recently appointed Earl Conklin, Director of the Court Services Unit for the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Commission. This appointment might signal an interest in exercising more oversight on the activities of the commission.

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### **APS Update**

The Arlington Community Foundation's STEM Workforce Development Teacher Fellowship provides Arlington Public Schools teachers with opportunities to learn about work place needs in STEM (Science/Technology/Engineering/Math)-related fields and for them to use the experience to enhance student learning to match workplace expectations in a selected industry. STEM Fellows participate in a three-week summer fellowship, receiving up to \$4,000 stipend upon completion.

Applications are due Friday, March 6, 2020. For more information on how to apply, [click here](#).

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### **LINKS TO MEETING DOCUMENTS**

[December 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020 Treasurer's report](#)  
[Draft January 2020 General Meeting Minutes](#)  
[Draft January 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.

