

# 55+ TRAVEL & VIRTUAL PROGRAMS NEWSLETTER

Arlington County, VA

703-228-4748

## 55+ Travel Office

Lubber Run Community Center  
300 N. Park Drive  
Arlington, VA

## 55+ Travel Program Information

703-228-4748  
[AC55plusTravel@arlingtonva.us](mailto:AC55plusTravel@arlingtonva.us)

## 55+ Travel Website

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Parks-Recreation/Programs/55-Membership/Seniors-Travel>

## Staff

**Sharleka Ashton**  
55+ Travel Supervisor  
[sashton@arlingtonva.us](mailto:sashton@arlingtonva.us)  
703-228-4713

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## TRAVEL AND VIRTUAL PROGRAMS NOTES:

### **Registration for winter 55+ trips and programs begins:**

- Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 12 p.m. (Arlington residents)
- Thursday, Nov. 21 at 12 p.m. (Out-of-county residents)

### **Virtual Programs newly added to the 55+ YouTube channel:**

- [What's Contained in a Will?](#)
- [Just Beneath the Surface](#)

**Trip Reminders:** Trip reminders are emailed about a week to 10 days prior to departure. If you believe you are registered for a trip and have not received an email, please contact Sharleka Ashton at [sashton@arlingtonva.us](mailto:sashton@arlingtonva.us) or 703-228-4713. Individuals who are not registered will not be permitted to board the bus.

**Parking and Pick-up:** Please see page 7 for instructions about parking and pick-up at Thomas Jefferson (TJ) and Gunston.

**Virtual Center for Active Adults (VCAA):** You are welcome to participate in any VCAA program, not just those provided by Arlington County on Thursdays. To view the schedule of upcoming free virtual programs, visit the VCAA [website](#). To join any VCAA program, use this Zoom link: <https://bit.ly/VCAAzoom2>. To join by phone, call 1-301-715-8592 (Meeting ID: 905 123 5932#; Meeting password: 3636#).

## DECEMBER 55+ VIRTUAL PROGRAMS HIGHLIGHTS

There are many excellent virtual programs coming up in December, but we only have space to highlight a few. Please refer to the 55+ Guide and the calendar (pp. 4-5) for a complete listing.

### **Genealogy at the Library of Virginia**

Join Peter North, outreach specialist at the Library of Virginia, for a presentation on the library's extensive genealogical resources.

**Thurs., Dec. 19, 3-4 p.m., [#912400-17](#)**

### **Fortunes in the Attic**

Send a photo of an interesting object you own to [sashton@arlingtonva.us](mailto:sashton@arlingtonva.us) before this program and Community Arts Programmer Jennifer Droblyen will research it for you! Learn how to identify authentic antiques and how to rule out reproductions.

**Fri., Dec. 27, 9-10 a.m., [#912302-09](#)**

### **AI: Blessing or Curse?**

Steve Ruth, retired George Mason University professor of public policy, will discuss the latest developments, challenges and opportunities presented by artificial intelligence.

**Thurs., Dec. 5, 2:30-3:30 p.m., [#912403-01](#)**

### **Winter Songbirds of Arlington**

Join Park Naturalist Rob Barnovsky for a virtual tour of some of the most common winter songbirds of Virginia.

**Thurs., Dec. 26, 10:30-11:30 a.m. [#912400-24](#)**

### **An Epic Journey on the Danube**

55+ Volunteer David Young will deliver a captivating lecture about his incredible adventure boating and biking on the Danube, covering his journey from Prague to Budapest.

**Thurs., Dec. 12, 2-4 p.m., [#912400-42](#)**

### **Secret Lives of Famous Fakers**

In this exciting virtual class, participants will delve into the biographies of several well-known forgers, how they created their works and how they were eventually caught in the act.

**Thurs., Dec. 5, 9-10 a.m., [#912302-01](#)**

### **Trivia**

Calling all trivia buffs! Join us for a fun-filled trivia challenge with your 55+ friends!

**Thurs., Dec. 5, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., [#912600-10](#)**



## Photo Gallery

### ***Beautiful: The Carole King Musical at Riverside Center***



*Photo credit: Zachary Spafford*

### ***MJ The Musical at National Theatre***



*Photo credit: Jim Mason*

## DECEMBER 55+ TRIPS

There are many excellent trips coming up in December, but we only have space to highlight a few. Please refer to the 55+ Guide and the calendar (pp. 4-5) for a complete listing.

### Sun., Dec. 1 - Chanticleer at Hylton Performing Arts Center

**Manassas, VA:** The holidays sparkle even brighter with GRAMMY Award-winning Chanticleer at the Hylton Center for *A Chanticleer Christmas*.

**GUN 1:15 p.m., MAD 1:45 p.m., return 7:15 p.m., #902412-01**

**\$47 Arlington County/ \$54 Out-of-County**

### Mon., Dec. 2 - GardenFest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

**Richmond, VA:** An annual winter celebration featuring over half a million lights, imaginative displays and unforgettable experiences.

**MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m., return 11 p.m., #902412-02**

**\$96 Arlington County/ \$110 Out-of-County**

### Wed., Dec. 4 - *A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical* at National Theatre

**Washington, DC:** Created in collaboration with Neil Diamond himself, *A Beautiful Noise* is the inspiring true story of how a kid from Brooklyn rose to become an iconic American rock legend.

**MAD 5:45 p.m., BAR 6:15 p.m., return 11:45 p.m., #902412-03**

**\$152 Arlington County/ \$175 Out-of-County**

### Fri., Dec. 6 - *Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo* Exhibit at Smithsonian American Art Museum

**Washington, DC:** This exhibit offers an in-depth exploration of the careers of three trailblazing American women of Japanese descent, affirming their rightful place in American art.

**MAD 10:30 a.m., TJ 11 a.m., return 4:30 p.m., #902412-04**

**\$11 Arlington County/ \$13 Out-of-County**

### Sat., Dec. 7 & Sun., Dec. 8 - 2024 American Holiday Festival at Constitution Hall

**Washington, DC:** Join the soldiers of The U.S. Army Band "Pershing's Own" as they ring in the holiday season!

**MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m., return 5:45 p.m., #902412-05 & #902412-06**

**\$11 Arlington County/ \$13 Out-of-County**

### Wed., Dec. 11 - *Riverside Christmas Spectacular* at Riverside Center for Performing Arts

**Fredericksburg, VA:** Escape the cold, hustle and stress by warming your Christmas spirit at Riverside Center with this dazzling celebration of what makes the most wonderful time of the year!

**MAD 9:30 a.m., GUN 10 a.m., return 5:30 p.m., #902412-07**

**\$104 Arlington County/ \$120 Out-of-County**

### Fri., Dec. 13 - Dutch Village Farmers Market

**Upper Marlboro, MD:** Explore seasonal produce, fruit drinks, BBQ ribs, pizza, candy, fudge, prepared foods, locally sourced meats, poultry, cheeses and more!

**MAD 9 a.m., WR 9:30 a.m., return 2 p.m., #902412-08**

**\$11 Arlington County/ \$13 Out-of-County**

### Sat., Dec. 14 - Hollywood Casino

**Charles Town, WV:** Embark on an exciting excursion to Hollywood Casino, where entertainment and gaming excitement await.

**BAR 9:45 a.m., MAD 10:15 a.m., return 5:40 p.m., #902412-09**

**\$13 Arlington County/ \$15 Out-of-County**

### Sun., Dec. 15 - *A Magical Cirque Christmas* at National Theatre

**Washington, DC:** Embrace the holiday spirit with a variety show brimming with nostalgia, charm and awe-inspiring performances for all ages.

**MAD 12 p.m., WR 12:30 p.m., return 5 p.m., #902412-10**

**\$139 Arlington County/ \$160 Out-of-County**

## THANKS TO OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS!

### 55+ Travel Advisory Committee:

Mary Bacchus  
Ginger Bevard  
Sidney Bruce  
Dawn Edwards  
Linda Harper  
Cathy Knowles  
Jim Mason  
Judy Metcalf

### 55+ Travel Leaders:

Tina Asinugo  
Bobbi Curry  
Tom Curtis  
Pamela Daragan  
June Gallagher  
Mort Glassberg  
Linda Harper  
Kathleen Harrison  
Carole Lieber  
Sandra MacPherson  
Jim Mason  
Mary Jane Nelson  
Annmarie Pittman  
Randolph Randall  
Benjamin Scott  
Sharon Sellers  
David Young

**YOU ARE THE BEST!!!!**

## SUBSCRIBE TO THE 55+ ENEWS!

Keep up to date on 55+ programs and trips by subscribing to the 55+ eNews. The 55+ eNewsletter is emailed to subscribers once a month with highlights of upcoming programs and helpful information. Also, the 55+ Guide is emailed to subscribers in an eNewsletter. Sign up by entering your email address on the [55+ Website](#) (look for the 55+ eNews subscribe box on the lower right).

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p><b>Trip: GardenFest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**</b> MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m. Return 11 p.m.</p> <p><b>Painting Demonstration*</b> 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p><b>Trip: A Beautiful Noise: The Neil Diamond Musical at National Theatre**</b> MAD 5:45 p.m., BAR 6:15 p.m. Return 11:45 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">4</p>
<p><b>Secrets Revealed*</b> 10:30-11:30 a.m. Virtual</p> <p style="text-align: right;">9</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p><b>Trip: Riverside Christmas Spectacular at Riverside Center for Performing Arts**</b> MAD 9:30 a.m., GUN 10 a.m. Return 5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>Study of Words**</b> 10:30-11:45 a.m. Virtual/Hybrid</p> <p><b>History Roundtable*</b> 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p>	<p><b>Trip: Power and Light Exhibit at National Archives Museum**</b> MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m. Return 6:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>
<p><b>Trip: Subversive, Skilled, Sublime: Fiber Art by Women at Renwick Gallery**</b> MAD 9:30 a.m., TJ 10 a.m. Return 3:30 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">30</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p>	

## Weather Watch:

- Trips with an umbrella symbol in the 55+ Guide are rain or shine.
- Otherwise, if your trip is cancelled due to inclement weather, you will receive a phone call and/or an email to let you know.
- You can also call the Inclement Weather Hotline at 703-228-4715 or go online to [arlingtonva.us/Inclement\\_Weather](http://arlingtonva.us/Inclement_Weather).

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>AI: Blessing or Curse?*</b> 2:30-3:30 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Secret Lives of Famous Fakeers*</b> 9-10 a.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Trivia*</b> 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Introduction to Basic Spanish*</b> 1-2 p.m. Virtual</p>	<p><b>Trip: <i>Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Mie Okubo</i> Exhibit at Smithsonian American Art Museum**^</b> MAD 10:30 a.m., TJ 11 a.m. Return 4:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>German Conversation*</b> 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p>
<p><b>Virtual Central America Tour: Costa Rica*</b> 1-2 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>An Epic Journey on the Danube*</b> 3-4 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Paint &amp; Sip*</b> 10-11:30 a.m. Virtual</p>	<p><b>Trip: Dutch Village Farmers Market**^</b> MAD 9 a.m., WR 9:30 a.m. Return 2 p.m.</p> <p><b>German Conversation*</b> 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p>
<p><b>Trip: The Tea Cart**</b> WR 11:30 a.m., MAD 12 p.m. Return 6 p.m.</p> <p><b>Genealogy at the Library of Virginia*</b> 3-4 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Introduction to Basic Spanish*</b> 1-2 p.m. Virtual</p>	<p><b>Trip: Supreme Court of the United States Tour**^</b> MAD 9 a.m., GUN 9:30 a.m. Return 3 p.m.</p> <p><b>Just Beneath the Surface*</b> 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Wake and Make*</b> 9-10 a.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>German Conversation*</b> 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p>
<p><b>Winter Songbirds of Arlington*</b> 10:30-11:30 a.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>Virtual Central America Tour: El Salvador*</b> 1-2 p.m. Virtual</p>	<p><b>Fortunes in the Attic*</b> 9-10 a.m. Virtual</p> <p><b>German Conversation*</b> 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Virtual</p>
	<p><b>Don't miss these special events at 55+ Centers in December!</b></p> <p>Walter Reed Holiday Party: Dec. 6, <a href="#">#912890-01</a></p> <p>Aurora Hills Jewelry Sale: Dec. 7, <a href="#">#912899-01</a></p> <p>Cookie Swap Party: Lubber Run, Dec. 11, <a href="#">#912801-05</a></p> <p>Ugly Sweater Crafting Party: Arlington Mill, Dec. 11, <a href="#">#912310-03</a></p> <p>Holiday Social at Langston-Brown: Dec. 18, <a href="#">#912890-02</a></p>

## TRAVEL & VIRTUAL PROGRAM CALENDAR DECEMBER 2024

### Key:

^ = fee required

\* = registration required

+ Hybrid; virtual and at Lubber Run

++ Hybrid; virtual and at Aurora Hills

+++ Hybrid; virtual and at Arlington Mill

++++ Hybrid; virtual and at Walter Reed

VCAA=Virtual Center for Active Adults

### Weekend Programming:

**Trip: Sun., Dec. 1 - Chanticleer at Hylton Performing Arts Center\*\*^**  
GUN 1:15 p.m., MAD 1:45 p.m.  
Return 7:15 p.m.

**Trip: Sat., Dec. 7 - 2024 American Holiday Festival at Constitution Hall\*\*^**  
MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m.  
Return 5:45 p.m.

**Trip: Sun., Dec. 8 - 2024 American Holiday Festival at Constitution Hall\*\*^**  
MAD 1 p.m., BAR 1:30 p.m.  
Return 5:45 p.m.

**Trip: Sun., Dec. 15 - A Magical Cirque Christmas at National Theatre\*\*^**  
MAD 12 p.m., WR 12:30 p.m.  
Return 5 p.m.



## LOOKING FOR A LINK?

NEED TO CANCEL A TRIP? Please call the 55+ Travel Office at 703-228-4748.

**PICK-UP LOCATION:** Check the bottom of your registration receipt (under “Special Questions”) to confirm your bus pick-up location. “Class Location” at the top is not necessarily where you will be picked up.

### REFUND POLICY FOR TRIPS:

- No refunds are granted for any trips that require meal reservations, tickets or chartered transportation unless staff is able to sell your reserved space.
- No refunds within 48 hours of trip departure time.
- Call Administrative Services at 703-228-4747 for refund requests.

If you registered for a virtual program but haven't received a Zoom meeting link, here's what you can do:

- If the program is a discussion group or other program that meets regularly and you know who the programming staff member is, contact the staff member to request the link.
- If you don't know who the programming staff member is, contact Sharleka Ashton at [sashton@arlingtonva.us](mailto:sashton@arlingtonva.us) to request the link.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Zoom links typically are emailed about two days before the program. This is because registration for virtual programs closes 48 hours in advance. For last-minute registration, call the Registration Office at 703-228-4747 and ask them to notify the programming staff member so they can send you the link.

## FIND VIRTUAL PROGRAMS ON ARLINGTON'S 55+ YOUTUBE CHANNEL

If you missed a virtual program, you may be able to view it on Arlington County's 55+ YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8iQ7UX39JcIKJZ3TEMb3cg>.

Each month we record several selected programs and post them on the YouTube channel. Subscribe to the channel and watch past sessions of the *55+ Live!* Talk Show, exercise videos, history and other educational programs.

### Recently added:

- [What's Contained in a Will?](#)
- [Just Beneath the Surface](#)



# Travel things to know

The 55+ Travel Program is committed to providing safe charter bus rides for our travelers, even in these unprecedented times. To ensure participants' safety as much as possible aboard charter buses, several Covid-19 guidelines were put into place in March 2022 when 55+ Travel resumed. As Covid-19 indicators improved, those guidelines were modified accordingly, keeping in mind that older adults are more vulnerable to serious illness from Covid.

On May 11, the federal Covid-19 public health emergency declaration officially ended for the U.S. And on May 5, the World Health Organization declared an end to the Covid-19 public health emergency globally. In light of these announcements, Arlington County 55+ Travel is updating its policy regarding face coverings on 55+ Trips. Effective immediately, face coverings will be strongly recommended, but not required, on the bus. As before, if the trip venue (museum, theater, etc.) requires masks to be worn, travelers must comply with that requirement. Although the public emergency declaration has concluded, people are still contracting Covid-19 with the potential of serious consequences for adults 55 and over. You are therefore encouraged to be courteous to your fellow travelers and wear a mask covering your nose and mouth when boarding, riding and exiting the bus.

## The following requirements continue to remain in effect:

1. If you are sick with or have tested positive for Covid-19, please stay home for at least ten (10) days, isolate from others and do not travel.

If this means you will have to miss a 55+ trip you registered for, you may obtain a credit for the trip fee. Please email a photo of your positive Covid test or a note from your doctor to Sheila Budoff at [sbudoff@arlingtonva.us](mailto:sbudoff@arlingtonva.us) to request a credit.

2. If you were exposed to or cared for someone with Covid-19 within the past ten (10) days, please get tested and do not travel unless you are able to wear a face mask for the duration of the trip, not just the bus ride.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

### IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION:

- You must have a valid 55+ Pass, except for first-time guests.
- Bus leaves promptly at the specified time from each pick-up site. Arrive at least 15 minutes prior to bus departure. Upon arrival, check in with volunteer travel leader.
- Please note: The first bus departure will be the last drop-off on the return. Return times are estimated.
- Meals: When a meal choice is advertised, indicate your choice when you register. A dollar sign means the lunch is on your own and a plate symbol means the meal is included in the stated price.
- Parking: At **Barcroft**, parking is in the garage and pick-up is in the front of the center. At **Madison**, parking is in the regular lots and pick-up is in front of the center. At **Gunston**, parking and pick-up are in the lower parking lot down the hill from the entrance to the school and just north of the tennis courts and soccer fields. At **TJ**, parking and pick-up are in the parking lot to the right of the tennis courts, NOT in front of the community center.



# HOW TO REGISTER

## ONLINE ► [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us)

Online registration is available 24/7 (after registration opens) through our WebTrac system.

### Connect through the digital 55+ Guide:

You can link directly to the online registration system when viewing the digital 55+ Guide. After registration has opened (see dates on calendar), click on the [blue registration number](#) for the program that you are interested in - and a page will open in your Internet browser where you can review the class and register.

## PHONE ► 703-228-4747

Call us to register: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. --5 p.m.

## 55+ CENTERS

<b>AM</b>	<b>Arlington Mill</b> 909 S. Dinwiddle St., 22204 703-228-7369
<b>AH</b>	<b>Aurora Hills</b> 735 S. 18th Street., 22202 703-228-5722
<b>LB</b>	<b>Langston-Brown</b> 2121 N. Culpeper St., 22207 703-228-6300
<b>LUBR</b>	<b>Lubber Run</b> 300 N Park Dr., 22203 703-228-4767
<b>WR</b>	<b>Walter Reed</b> 2909 S. 16th St., 22204 703-228-0955

## ACTIVITY / PICK-UP SITES

<b>BAR</b>	<b>Barcroft</b> 4200 S. Four Mile Run Dr., 22204 703-228-0701
<b>FAIR</b>	<b>Fairlington</b> 3308 S. Stafford St., 22206 703-228-6588
<b>GUN</b>	<b>Gunston</b> 2700 S. Lang St., 22206 703-228-6980
<b>LONB</b>	<b>Long Bridge Aquatics &amp; Fitness Center</b> 333 Long Bridge Dr., 22202 703-228-3338
<b>MAD</b>	<b>Madison</b> 3829 N. Stafford St., 22207 703-228-5310
<b>TJ</b>	<b>Thomas Jefferson</b> 3501 S. Second St., 22204 703-228-5920

- 1 Go online to [registration.arlingtonva.us](http://registration.arlingtonva.us)
- 2 Enter your *Login ID* and *Password*.
  - A new page will appear after you login.
  - If this is your first time or you do not know your ID/password, call 703-228-4747.
- 3 Click on *"55 Plus"*, then click *"Register for Classes."*
- 4 Find the classes you are interested in - then click on the **green + sign** next to each class.
  - Your selections will appear in a green bar at the bottom of the page.
- 5 After selecting classes, click *"Add to Cart"* in the green bar at the bottom of the page. A new page will appear showing all the items in your cart.
  - For each class, select the person who you are registering.
- 6 Choose *"Continue Shopping"* or *"Checkout."*
  - Note: YOU MUST CHECKOUT in order to complete the registration process -- even when you register for free classes and owe nothing.

