



Between the Boulevards

February 2002

Published by the Boulevard Manor Civic Association for the residents of Boulevard Manor, Spy Hill, Stone Ridge and Park View

BMCA Monitors Reeves Property

The Civic Association has continued to monitor the County's activities regarding the property between 4th Road N. and 4th Street N. purchased last year from the family of the late Nelson and Louise Reeves. The County has not yet begun any formal discussions on the future use of the Reeves Property. County staff indicate that any planning discussions will be incorporated into the effort to update the Master Plan for Bluemont Park. This re-master planning is not expected to start for at least six months.

Nevertheless, BMCA has remained active on this important neighborhood issue. Since last October's Civic Association meeting, we have:

- Met in November with then-Chairman of the County Board Jay Fissette to explain the neighborhood's ideas and concerns regarding future use of the land.
- Secured the County's permission to place decorations on the farm house, as the Reeves family used to do. Thanks to Dori Byron for leading the effort to decorate the house, lending holiday cheer to the vista and helping to maintain the appearance of continued habitation of the boarded-up residence.
- Requested the County Board Chairman to initiate the process that will hopefully result in an Historic District designation for portions of the Reeves Property. Thanks to Larry Goldschmidt for coordinating with Arlington's Historical Affairs and Landmark Review Board.

To best represent the neighborhood in future discussions about the Reeves property, BMCA will hold a **neighborhood forum on Monday, March 11**, beginning at 7:00 pm at the Church of the Brethren. We ask all

Boulevard Manor Civic Association Meeting

Thursday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

Our first meeting of the year will feature:

- Representatives of Target to discuss the plans for the new store and to answer questions about its construction and operation
- A guest speaker from the County Office of Real Estate Assessment to discuss this year's property assessments
- Updates on the Reeves Property/Bluemont Park, Powhatan Springs Park, and the Neighborhood Conservation Plan effort

For additional information, please contact BMCA President Lee Dioso at 703-351-9645 or DiosoLT@cdm.com. Please come and participate!

interested neighbors to attend the forum and to offer ideas and opinions about how the County ought to plan the eventual uses of the Reeves Property. For additional information, please contact John Pomeranz, who is leading BMCA's efforts on this issue. John can be reached at 703-522-8927 or at john@bungalow.org.

Design Process for Powhatan Springs Park Continues

The County Parks Department has held four workshops to discuss designs and plans for the new park to be constructed on Wilson Boulevard. Powhatan Springs Park will include Arlington's first skate park, a youth-size soccer field, interactive nature area, nature trails, as well as parking and other support facilities.

In the most recent workshop, which was held Saturday, February 9, neighbors and other interested parties were able to comment on park operations and management. Neighbors stressed the need for policies that would mitigate the effects of the park on the surrounding area. Among the issues discussed were fencing, lighting, entrance policies, and hours of operation. Those in attendance agreed to form a working group, including members of the three civic associations in the area and other park users, to formulate suggestions to be discussed by the larger community. BMCA Board member Jim Landrum has agreed to participate in this working group.

Next in the park planning process is the Environmental Assessment Public Hearing on February 25 at 7:00 p.m., in

Calendar of Events

- ☑ BMCA General Meeting: Thu., Feb. 21, 7pm, Church of the Brethren
- ☑ Powhatan Springs Park Environmental Assessment Public Hearing: Mon., Feb. 25, 7pm, Courthouse Plaza, Conf. Rm. C/D
- ☑ Reeves Property Forum: Mon., March 11, 7pm, Church of the Brethren
- ☑ Easter Egg Hunt: Sat., March 30, 10am – 12pm, Church of the Brethren
- ☑ Arlington County Neighborhood Day: Sat., May 11

Conference Rooms C/D of Courthouse Plaza, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard. The Environment and Energy Conservation Commission will hold a hearing to discuss the Environmental Site Assessment, which documents the review of site environmental resources and expected impacts of park construction and operations. The text for the Environmental Site Assessment will be posted at <http://www.co.arlington.va.us/forums/powhatan/index.htm>. Please RSVP Joan Kelsch at jkelsc@co.arlington.va.us or call 703-228-3599 if you plan to attend.

Target Construction Underway

The demolition of the former Montgomery Ward building has been completed and site development for the new Target store is in full swing. In late December, representatives of Target and its contractors met with neighbors who will be most directly impacted by the construction and operation of the store. They reported that construction is projected to be complete in July 2002 with the store expected to open in October.

The Target representatives described store design features and operational procedures designed to mitigate noise (e.g., from truck unloading and garbage collection activities). More recently, however, neighbors have raised concerns about noise and other distractions from construction activities, particularly at night. In addition to maintaining contact with the Target representatives, BMCA has requested that the Arlington County Board designate a staff member who can serve as our point of contact and who can coordinate with Fairfax County on issues related to Target.

Neighborhood Conservation Plan Process Begins

BMCA's representatives to the Arlington Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) have drafted a survey that will be used to collect data on residents' concerns, preferences, and suggestions regarding neighborhood conditions and amenities, possible improvements, and related topics.

Do you want to receive frequent updates of neighborhood news, and to share news of your own? Join the Boulevard Manor Civic Association Internet mailing list!

To join, simply send an e-mail to BMCA-subscribe@topica.com, or point your web browser to <http://www.topica.com/lists/BMCA>

Once the NCAC approves the survey, it will be distributed to every home in Boulevard Manor, Stone Ridge, and Spy Hill. The collected data will be used to help establish baselines, goals and objectives to help in writing the Neighborhood Conservation Plan. For information on how you can get involved in the planning effort, please contact Lyndell Core at mecore@aol.com or 703-741-3788.

The Arlington YMCA - Something For Everyone

The Arlington YMCA invites all residents of Boulevard Manor to check out their facility located 3422 N. 13th St. near Clarendon. Just show them this newsletter to have a FREE workout.

The Arlington YMCA offers activities ranging from swim lessons for children as young as six months to senior fitness classes. Their fitness facility, filled with new equipment, includes racquetball/handball courts and an outdoor swimming pool. Children's programs encompass art, dance, and sports, including gymnastics instruction to 600 children each week at the Woodmont Center.

YMCA summer camps are also a popular destination for many Arlington children each year. They offer a variety of camps at the main branch in Arlington and other locations. Specialty camps include horseback riding, Cool Crafts, Young Einsteins, and many others.

Especially noteworthy: the YMCA does not deny anyone participation due to an inability to pay. They have financial aid available for all programs and for memberships. For more information, call 703-525-5420 or simply visit and claim your free workout.

Please Join Us

The Boulevard Manor Civic Association needs your support. Try to attend at least one of the three meetings we hold each year. Help us in funding this newsletter, which is distributed to more than 500 homes, and other activities intended to benefit the whole community. Please use this form to join us: annual dues are only \$6.00/couple and \$3.00/individual (cash or check payable to BMCA).

Name(s):

Telephone

Home:

Address:

Work:

E-Mail address:

Neighborhood issues that interest me:

Traffic safety & parking

Parks

Hospitality/social events

Conservation & beautification

Zoning

Other:

Return to Dori Byron (703-243-4025), 524 N Madison St., Arlington, VA 22203