

Between the Boulevards

October 2006

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

Spotlight on Emergency Preparedness

It is a fact of life that our best laid plans are punctuated with unexpected emergencies. Some we take in stride, but our response to severe emergencies will determine whether we and our families survive, escape injury, and are able to resume our lives. Everyone and every household needs to be prepared for a variety of emergencies.

The Citizens' Corps Training Cadre will make a presentation and answer questions about personal preparedness at the next BMCA general meeting (see announcement at right). Informative handouts will be available.

BMCA Pushes for Reevesland Maintenance

An article in the May 2006 issue of *Between the Boulevards* reported on BMCA's efforts to improve Arlington County's maintenance program for the former Reeves home at 400 N. Manchester St. In a 2004 report, the County's own consultant identified a number of critical maintenance issues at Reevesland. After much effort to call these issues to the County's attention, a termite inspection was completed, the farmhouse was treated for termites, and a new roof was installed on the milk house.

As part of continuing efforts on this issue, BMCA President Larry Goldschmidt and neighbor Jim Landrum met with County Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman on September 29. Also attending the meeting were Dinesh Tiwari (Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources) and Steve Temmermand (Division Chief for Parks and Natural Resources). The County confirmed that planning for the Reeves property is on hold pending the ongoing master planning of Bluemont Park and that no specific budget is earmarked for Reevesland.

The Chairman and staff reiterated the County's commitment to care for the site. They noted that funding for maintenance would come from the Parks Department budget. The Parks staff agreed to develop a maintenance plan for the Reeves property and to share that plan with the Civic Association. BMCA will share details of the plan as soon as it is received.

Neighbors Meet with Parks Dept. on Bluemont Issues

On July 26, BMCA sponsored a neighborhood meeting with Steve Temmermand (Division Chief for Parks and

Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting

Monday, October 16 at 7:00pm
Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

Please join us for a discussion of emergency preparedness led by Marjorie Hobart and Debbie Powers of the Citizens' Corps Training Cadre.

The meeting will also feature a report by Officer Lutz of the Arlington Police Department, neighborhood committee reports, and time to socialize with old friends and new neighbors.

For more information, contact BMCA President Larry Goldschmidt at president@boulevardmanor.org or 703-527-7447.

Natural Resources, Arlington County) and members of his staff to discuss problems associated with the large event in Bluemont Park on July 8. At the meeting, Mr. Temmermand and area park manager Randy Randall admitted a series of missteps by the County in dealing with this event, beginning with the initial permitting process and including inadequate response to complaints by several neighbors while the event was in progress. Mr. Temmermand acknowledged that these errors were unacceptable and pledged to address existing problems. Specifically:

- The reservation/permit process in place is inadequate and does not solicit enough information from applicants.
- Staff taking reservation calls are insufficiently trained.
- Staff did not adequately monitor the July 8 event.
- Seasonal park rangers are insufficiently trained.
- Park rangers did not adequately address the problems when identified nor did they contact supervisors for assistance.

The meeting was a useful exchange, with all participants sharing their perspectives on the problems and suggesting solutions. The park staff responded in a clear and positive manner on how they would try to solve the issues. Mr. Temmermand described steps that he has initiated to

NEIGHBORHOOD BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dalit Aviva Milewich was born to parents David and Tamara and sister Talia on May 18.

On July 20, Missy and Mike Hardy and their daughter Molly Claire welcomed Kaitlin Rose.

James Donald Guertin joined parents Irene and Steve and sister Laura on August 31.

THIS JUST IN: Jamie and Robert Pilot had a baby boy on October 11.

overhaul the county's park permitting process and its enforcement of existing policies and regulations. These steps include improving the training of park staff and rangers to manage the permit process and to monitor activities in the parks. Mr. Temmermand is requiring more accountability by the staff for providing immediate response as problems arise, with senior staff to be informed if problems cannot be quickly solved.

Any neighbor or park user who perceives a problem is asked to call the county parks hotline (703-228-6525 during business hours) or the county after-hours line (703-228-6555 evenings and weekends). Calls will be directed to the proper staff for immediate action. It is also possible to reach the Park Rangers after 12:00 noon at 703-525-0168.

This article is an abbreviated version of a report written by BMCA President Larry Goldschmidt for the BMCA e-mail listserv. The full text is available on our web site, www.boulevardmanor.org.

Neighbors Enjoy Annual Gatherings

On July 4, BMCA and the Church of the Brethren co-hosted the fifth annual Independence Day Ice Cream Social. Neighbors shared dessert, live music, and a view of the Capital Mall fireworks display.

On September 24, neighbors enjoyed the BMCA Neighborhood Picnic at Upton Hill Regional Park. The event featured games, contests, a moonbounce, and a visit by County Board member Barbara Favola.

Calendar of Community Events

Sunday, Oct. 29

Corner of N. Madison St. & N. Longfellow St.

Neighborhood Halloween Parade, 4pm to 5pm. Wear your costume! We will play a few games and parade around on Longfellow and Madison Streets. For information or to offer assistance with kids games etc., please contact Margaret Core at 703 741-3788 or secretary@boulevardmanor.org.

Saturday, Nov. 4

Church of the Brethren

Annual Soup and Pie Lunch & Bazaar. 9:00am to 2:00pm, 300 N. Montague St. The popular event returns, offering sales of homemade soup and pie lunch, baked goods, Christmas crafts, handcrafted jewelry, and yard sale items.

Tuesday, Nov. 7

Election Day

Remember to vote!

December (date TBD)

Church of the Brethren

BMCA Holiday Party. Watch the BMCA home page (www.boulevardmanor.org) for an announcement of the day and time for our fourth annual holiday celebration.

Photos of both events are available at the BMCA web site, www.boulevardmanor.org.

Neighborhood Bids Farewell to Lithgows

BMCA participated last month in a send-off event for Pastor Ron Lithgow and his wife Linda. The Lithgows have moved to a church in Fredericksburg, VA after serving for several years at Arlington Community Church on the corner of Wilson and Livingston. Ron and Linda reached out in many ways to serve residents of our neighborhood, including offering free assistance to neighbors who needed help in raking leaves and shoveling snow. They generously offered church facilities for BMCA Board meetings and other Civic Association events. The members of BMCA wish Ron and Linda another term of productive service in their new church.

We need you!

Your support for neighborhood events and other BMCA activities is appreciated. Please use this form to join us: annual dues are only \$10.00/couple and \$5.00/individual (cash or check payable to BMCA).

Name(s):

Telephone:

Address:

E-mail address:

Please mail this form with your payment to Membership Chair Dori Byron (703-243-4025) or drop it off at her house, 524 N. Madison St., Arlington, VA 22203.