

Between the Boulevards

February 2012

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

Arlington Public Schools Prepares to Expand Facilities

With anticipated continuing growth in Arlington's school-age population, Arlington Public Schools is planning for major capital improvements to increase capacity. APS is developing and evaluating options that range from minor expansions to construction of new schools. Details on the capacity planning process are available at <http://www.apsva.us/capacity>.

APS facilities planner Alison Denton will be the guest speaker at the BMCA general meeting on February 28. Ms. Denton will discuss school system capacity issues, particularly the possible impacts on Ashlawn Elementary School.

Beware Door-to-Door Scams

Someone rings your doorbell and tells you:

- ▶ They just sealed a neighbor's driveway, have extra materials left over, and will seal your driveway at a reduced price.
- ▶ They were driving by and noticed some damage to your roof/chimney/gutters/etc. that requires immediate repair.
- ▶ They have completed the work on your property (that you didn't request) and need to be paid now.
- ▶ They are from Virginia Power/Washington Gas/some other utility, but have an unmarked vehicle and no uniform, and need to do work on your property.

These are increasingly common scams. Frauds claiming to be reputable contractors illegally take millions of dollars from unsuspecting victims. They are especially eager to target vulnerable, incapacitated, or elderly neighbors.

The Arlington County Police Department urges you to report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number **703-558-2222**. An Arlington Police fact sheet about residential scams is available on the BMCA web site.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting

DIFFERENT NIGHT AND LOCATION

Tuesday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.

**Arlington Community Church
6040 Wilson Blvd.**

Note that the next BMCA general meeting is on Tuesday, not Monday. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall of Arlington Community Church, at the corner of N. Livingston St. and Wilson Blvd.

Our guest speaker will be Alison Denton, Arlington Public Schools Facility Planner. She will discuss the planning process for increasing APS capacity, including possible effects on Ashlawn.

In addition, we will have reports from BMCA committees, including the latest news on Reevesland. The membership will vote to appoint the 2012 Nominating Committee.

For more information, contact BMCA President Mike McComis at president@boulevardmanor.org or 703-624-6825.

Nominating Committee to be Appointed

In accordance with BMCA bylaws, at the February 28 general meeting, the membership will elect a nominating committee to choose a slate of candidates for the 2012-2013 officers and board positions. The positions will be filled by an election held at the June meeting.

The Civic Association would benefit from new ideas and additional leaders. Please consider serving as a civic association officer or board member. For information, contact BMCA President Mike McComis at president@boulevardmanor.org or 703-624-6825.

Public Meeting Announced for Reevesland Planning

BMCA continues to work with the Arlington County Department of Parks and Recreation and other stakeholders to identify and evaluate options for adaptive

reuse of the former Reeves home and farm (400 N. Manchester St.). The Parks Department will hold a public meeting March 8 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 16th Street S. The meeting will include discussion of:

- ▶ A study, completed in October 2011: "An Architectural and Structural Survey to Update the Condition and Potential Uses of the Torreyson-Reeves Farm." The study included cost estimates for rehabilitating the building for various possible uses.
- ▶ A planned request for proposals (RFP) the Parks Department will issue in 2012 to solicit individuals and groups with ideas for restoring the farmhouse to serve a new purpose. The goal of the RFP is to identify a party financially capable of rehabilitating and reusing the farmhouse without financial assistance from the county.

Feedback from the public at this meeting will help to shape or inform the RFP process. For additional information about the meeting, contact Diane Probus at 703-228-0787. Links to relevant documents will be posted on the BMCA web site.

On January 26, BMCA president Mike McComis and BMCA Reevesland Committee chairman Larry Goldschmidt participated in a Reevesland Study Committee meeting where the Parks Department reviewed plans for the March 8 public meeting. Mike and Larry reminded the County that BMCA is willing to offer Neighborhood Conservation for public reuse of the farmhouse. BMCA has communicated our strong interest in an active role in the upcoming RFP and proposal evaluation process.

BMCA Endorses Reevesland Learning Center Initiative

In January, the BMCA Board expressed its support for the concept of reusing the former Reeves property as a center to educate schoolchildren about farming, nutrition, and Arlington history. The idea is championed by BMCA neighbor Joan Horwitt and supported in a petition signed by more than 600 people in Boulevard Manor and the surrounding area. The proposed learning center would serve as a meeting place where "children, teachers, and neighbors will learn about the science and practice of

Annual Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

Co-hosted by BMCA and the Church of the Brethren

Saturday, April 7, 10:30am at the Church
(300 N. Montague St.)

Egg hunt for children 10 and under

Refreshments and fun for all

If you would like to help out at the event, please contact Claudia Maloney at VicePresident@boulevardmanor.org.



growing and eating healthy foods and building relationships."

In a letter to Joan, BMCA president Mike McComis wrote, "It has been BMCA's longstanding objective to have the Reeves farmhouse and property utilized in a vibrant manner that establishes (a) a connection to the original use of the property and (b) a connection with the community and residents, particularly schools."

Bluemont and Bon Air Park Updates

Lyndell Core, Park Service Area Manager and BMCA neighbor, shares the following information about our local county parks:

- ▶ AmeriCorps continues to remove invasive plant species along Four Mile Run, concentrating in Bluemont Junction for the next several weeks.
- ▶ If you see leaning trees or hanging limbs which might create a safety problem in the park, please call 703-228-6525 so that the County can take the necessary action.
- ▶ The park shelter rental season begins on Saturday, April 7. Amplified music is not allowed in the park without park management approval. DJs contracted for park events are given specific sound levels that they must not exceed. To report loud music at park events, please call 703-525-0168.
- ▶ Signs have been installed prohibiting skateboarding in the Bluemont playground.

Neighborhood E-Mail Listserv

BMCA maintains a Yahoo! Groups mailing list, where members can exchange neighborhood news and other important information. To join, simply send an e-mail to blvdmanor-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. You will receive an automated reply with instructions for confirming your membership.

Once subscribed, you may post messages to the list by sending e-mail to blvdmanor@yahoogroups.com. Only members may post messages to the list. If you choose not to post messages, your e-mail address will remain anonymous.

- ▶ Neighbors who observe violations of park rules (e.g., dogs off leash, alcohol, littering) should call the Arlington Police non-emergency dispatch at 703-558-2222. Do not confront alleged violators.

Upton Hill Regional Park Updates

John Sims, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority manager of Upton Hill, reports:

- ▶ The batting cages and mini-golf will open March 17th. The pitching machines have been replaced.
- ▶ Also on March 17, neighbors can begin making reservations for swim lessons, birthday parties, etc.
- ▶ Upton Hill's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 5. Signups will start on March 17.

Call 703-534-3437 for more information

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training for Arlington Residents Begins in March

Neighbors are invited to participate in Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), sponsored by the County's Citizen Corps Council, Office of Emergency Management, and Fire Department. The eight-session, 26-hour course covers disaster preparedness, disaster medical operations, fire suppression and utility shut-off, disaster psychology, light search and rescue, and terrorism. Two courses, each of which meets six weeknights and two Saturday mornings, are scheduled to begin in March and conclude in late April. To date, more than 525 County residents have completed this training, many of whom are active members of neighborhood teams. Contact ArlingtonCERT@aol.com for additional information.

Some Winter Preparedness Tips from CERT

Make sure you have enough food (non-perishable, such as canned goods) and water on-hand to last three full days. The suggested amount of water (primarily for drinking) is one gallon per person per day for each member of your household. The three-day guideline applies year-round, not just in the winter.

Keep a working flashlight in your home and extra batteries for all your devices that may need them. A battery-operated AM/FM radio is also a good idea. Give some thought as to how you'd continue to operate without power for a few days (no light, no ability to charge cell phones, no television, etc.). This is a great topic to pose to family members around the dinner table.

Take a few minutes to locate the fire hydrants nearest your residence and workplace in case assistance is needed uncovering them following a major snowfall (as

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

ALL EMERGENCIES	911
Police Non-Emergency	703.558.2222
Animal Control	703.931.9241
Business Licenses	703.228.3060
Citizen and Consumer Affairs	703.228.3260
Code Enforcement	703.228.3232
Dominion Va. Power – Emergency	888.667.3000
Environmental Health	703.228.7400
Park Rangers	703.525.0168
Permit Parking	703.228.7777
Special Refuse Pickups (unbundled brush, appliances, etc.)	703.228.6570
Tenant-Landlord Commission	703.228.3765
Traffic Signals	703.228.3575
Tree Maintenance and Landscaping	703.228.6527
Voter Registration and Polling Locations	703.228.3456
Washington Gas	703.750.9500
Water-Sewer Problems	703.228.6555
Zoning Information	703.228.3883

happened in 2010). It's easier to find them before they're buried.



2012 Membership Drive – Please Support the Civic Association!

Now is the time to renew or establish your membership in the civic association. Please complete the form below and mail it with your dues to BMCA using the attached envelope, or bring them to the February 28 BMCA meeting.

Dues and additional contributions from members are the sole source of funding for BMCA activities. In 2011, member dues and donations supported the full range of civic association activities, including:

- ▶ Advocacy in addressing community needs such as:
 - Maintenance and beneficial use of the former Reeves farm and home
 - Neighborhood Conservation funding for projects in Boulevard Manor
- ▶ An expanded calendar of social events:
 - Easter egg hunt
 - July 4 ice cream social
 - Neighborhood picnic
 - Reception at Washington-Lee football game
 - Veterans Day potluck dinner
 - Holiday caroling party
- ▶ Communication via:
 - The civic association web site, www.boulevardmanor.org
 - The Yahoo! Groups e-mail list

- Four issues of *Between the Boulevards*

Much of the effort of the Civic Association is carried out by BMCA's standing and ad hoc committees. These include:

- ▶ Conservation and Beautification – Chair: Mike McComis; contact President@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Hospitality – Chair: Claudia Maloney; contact VicePresident@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Membership – Chair: Matt Smith; contact MattSmith@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Newsletter and web site – Chair: Lee Dioso; contact LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Parks – Chair: Phil Klingelhofer; contact PhilKlingelhofer@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Reevesland – Chair: Larry Goldschmidt; contact LarryGoldschmidt@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Neighborhood Conservation Plan – Chair: Matt Doyle; contact: MattDoyle@boulevardmanor.org
- ▶ Safety and Emergency Preparedness – Chair: Chuck Norton, contact: ChuckNorton@boulevardmanor.org

Neighbors who are interested in joining Civic Association activities should contact any of the committee chairs.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association Membership Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

E Mail Address(es) or Telephone Number(s) _____

Please contact me about volunteering for activities related to:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation and Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Reevesland |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality and Social Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Projects under the Neighborhood Conservation Plan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety and Emergency Preparedness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter and Web Site | <input type="checkbox"/> Serving as a BMCA Officer or Board Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parks | |

Membership Category	Cost
Individual Members	\$10
Couples (Two Adult Members)	\$20
Voluntary extra contribution of any amount (Thank you!)	\$ ____
Total Dues and Contribution	\$ ____

Please make out your check to BMCA and mail this form and the payment to:

BMCA Membership c/o Matt Smith 5911 3rd Street N., Arlington, VA 22203