

Between the Boulevards

October 2014

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

BMCA Votes to Preserve and Maintain Parkland

At the October 20 BMCA meeting, members passed resolutions to:

1. Oppose proposals to develop any publicly owned park, open space or recreation/community facility site for other purposes, such as housing or schools.
2. Proceed with efforts to seek Neighborhood Conservation funding for the Bluemont Park woodlands restoration project. The project would include using a contractor for removal of invasive plant species, conducting a comprehensive survey of the flora and fauna, planting native plant species, encouraging and protecting wildlife diversity, and creating a nature trail with plant identification markers. The resolution also calls for installation of a sidewalk at the parking lot entrance near the intersection of N. Manchester St. and 4th St. N.

The full text of both resolutions is available at the BMCA web site, www.boulevardmanor.org.

Wilson Blvd. Reconfiguration Proposal Moves Forward

The Arlington County Transportation Department is moving ahead with plans for repaving and restriping Wilson Boulevard between N. Frederick St. and N. Manchester St. This project responds to requests from the Bluemont Civic Association (BCA) to address safety concerns along that segment of Wilson, especially for areas served by narrow sidewalks.

In October 2013, BMCA considered BCA's ideas for restriping Wilson Blvd. to provide a single through-lane in each direction and a left-turn lane in the center. The BMCA membership voted to recommend that the County study all options to improve conditions for pedestrians and all other users between N. George Mason Drive and the western County line. In the resolution, BMCA urged the county to ensure that any efforts to improve safety along Wilson Blvd. do not inadvertently lead to adverse effects on N. Manchester Street, N. Livingston Street, and other streets in Boulevard Manor.

In preparation for the proposed changes to Wilson Blvd., Transportation Dept. staff will host a community open

Upcoming Community Events

Halloween Trunk & Treat: Friday, Oct. 31, 6pm-7:30pm at Arlington Community Church (corner of Wilson Blvd. and N. Livingston St.). All are welcome to celebrate Halloween in the church parking lot. Candy, hot chocolate, hot cider, games, marshmallows, and a bonfire, all for free! The movie *Hotel Transylvania* will be shown at 7:30. Contact john@myarlingtoncommunity.com.

Soup & Pie Bazaar: Saturday, November 1, 9am-2 pm at the Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St. On sale will be homemade soups and pies and a large variety of yard sale items, crafts, baked goods, SERRV items (fair trade handicrafts), and a Heifer International table. Enjoy the food and fellowship and get all your gift shopping done. For further information, call 703-524-4100 or email acob@arlingtoncob.org.

BMCA Veterans Day Dinner: Tuesday, November 11, beginning at 6:30pm at Arlington Community Church. Honor neighborhood vets and contribute to veterans' aid charities. Come help us surpass the \$500 we raised last year. The dinner will feature barbecue and side dishes from Rocklands. If you have questions or would like to help in the arrangements, please contact Carlin Schwartz at CarlinSchwartz@boulevardmanor.org.

N. Manchester St. /Arlington Blvd. Beautification: Sunday December 7, 1pm-4pm. Neighbors will gather at the Route 50 entrance of Boulevard Manor to remove invasive plants and refuse. Contact Josh Handler at JoshHandler@boulevardmanor.org or Claudia Maloney at ClaudiaMaloney@boulevardmanor.org.

Caroling Event: Sunday December 14, 4:00pm at the Sunrise retirement community, James Building (the building closest to Wilson Blvd.). Neighbors of all ages are invited to celebrate the season with holiday songs and refreshments. A potluck dinner will follow at Claudia Maloney's house, 5951 8th Road N. Contact Claudia at 703-237-8721 or ClaudiaMaloney@boulevardmanor.org.

house on Nov. 20, beginning at 7 pm, at Arlington Traditional School. The staff also will present information on the potential consolidation of bus stops along Wilson Blvd. and design options for improvements of sidewalks.

Fairfax County Considers Redevelopment Plans for Seven Corners Area

Over the past two years, a task force of Fairfax County residents and officials has analyzed the Seven Corners area and developed long-term recommendations for the future development. Neighbors who are interested in the plans should review the documents available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/mason/sevencorners>. Meetings of the Seven Corners Visioning Task Force and associated working groups continue. Schedules for future meetings are available at the web site.

Internet-Enabled County Services Requests

The web site <http://topics.arlingtonva.us/reportproblem> enables Arlington County residents to request services in response to a broad range of non-emergency problems. You can use the site to report potholes, graffiti, malfunctioning lights, damaged signs, and other issues requiring county attention. Also available is the ArlingtonVA app for iOS and Android devices. The app enables users to provide additional information, using their smartphones' GPS and camera functions, when reporting problems.

Parks Updates

Some information from the BMCA Parks Committee:

Powhatan Springs Park: There will be a six-month test of extended hours, with the park open and lights illuminated until 9pm on Sundays through Thursdays and until 10pm on Fridays and Saturdays. Park rangers will be on duty until 10pm each night; call the rangers' office at 703-525-0168 to report any issues.

A group of adult skaters has approached the Parks Department with an offer of partnership in monitoring and maintaining the skate park. Such sponsorship groups have adopted nature centers, athletic fields, and dog parks across the county, helping to identify needed maintenance and other issues. The county anticipates formalizing a sponsorship arrangement for the group, whose Facebook page may be viewed at <https://www.facebook.com/skatersforarlingtonskatepark>.

The park rangers currently based in offices near the Bluemont tennis courts will be moving their office to Powhatan Springs. The rangers will begin and end their workdays there, helping to ensure better oversight of the park.

Bluemont Park: There will be a six-month test of extended hours, with the tennis courts illuminated until 11pm. Call the rangers' office at 703-525-0168 to report any issues.

Upton Hill Regional Park: Upton Hill will hold its annual Halloween celebration on Saturday, Oct. 25. Mini-golfers in costume can play at a discounted price. The batting cage and mini-golf will close for the season on Oct 30th.

An Eagle Scout project in early December will remove English Ivy from portions of the park.

Local Chef Partners with Ashlawn PTA

Taste by Katie, a gourmet dinner service in the Dominion Hills Center, is partnering this school year with the Ashlawn PTA. Chef Katie will be donating 5% of sales of more than \$10 per visit to the PTA, when customers identify themselves as supporters of Ashlawn at the time of purchase. This offer applies to walk-in customers only.

Reminder: 2014 Membership Dues

Have you paid your 2014 dues for membership in the Boulevard Manor Civic Association? If you are not sure, or if you wish to become a new member, use the "Check Membership" feature at www.boulevardmanor.org. From the menu on the left side of the home page, select Membership. At the bottom of the Membership page, select Check Membership. To protect members' privacy, you must enter the e-mail address stored in BMCA membership records to verify a paid membership.

If you prefer not to use PayPal, you may download a hard copy membership form, complete it, and mail it with your 2014 dues payment to BMCA membership chair Matt Smith.



The Annual Neighborhood Picnic, Sept. 14 at Upton Hill Regional Park. BMCA thanks Tony and Laura Ermovick for organizing the successful event. Thanks also to Claudia Maloney, Carlin Schwartz, Paul Svercl, Rob Pilot and many other volunteers who helped make the picnic so enjoyable.