



Between the Boulevards

June 2023

The newsletter of the Boulevard Manor Civic Association

Reeves Farmhouse Reuse Planning Continues

The “due diligence” phase has begun for planned reuse of the former Reeves home at 400 N. Manchester St. The project team includes BMCA representative Chris Tighe and staff from Habitat DC-NOVA, HomeAid National Capital Region, and L’Arche Greater Washington, DC. The first two organizations are nonprofits that build and renovate homes for vulnerable populations. They plan to rehabilitate the farmhouse to serve as a residence for adults with developmental disabilities. L’Arche GWDC is part of the L’Arche International Federation, which operates more than 150 communities around the world. L’Arche is slated to own and manage the property after construction is complete and a Certificate of Occupancy is approved.

The project team is coordinating with engineers, other technical experts, and Arlington County staff to develop detailed project plans. The project goals are to preserve the farmhouse structure, meet L’Arche’s programming needs, and comply with applicable codes and regulations. The team hopes for County Board approval of the project by September to enable them to meet established interim benchmarks and deliverables dates. If that schedule holds, a ceremonial groundbreaking can happen this fall with construction starting soon thereafter.

At the June 26 BMCA meeting, the project team will present more details on the plans and will answer questions. For more information, see the Reevesland Project FAQs at boulevardmanor.org.

July 4 Celebration

All neighbors are invited to the Independence Day ice cream social on Tuesday, July 4, beginning at 7:30pm at the Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St. For more than 20 years, BMCA has held this gathering, featuring free ice cream, toppings, and water. Neighbors may choose to bring a lawn chair or blanket, soft drinks, snacks, and mosquito repellent. Please do not bring fireworks or alcoholic beverages to the event.

Many neighbors stay after the ice cream social to watch the fireworks above the National Mall, which typically begin around 9:15pm. If you have any questions or would like to help at the event, please contact Lee Dioso at LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org.

Upcoming BMCA Events

July 4	Independence Day Ice Cream Social at Church of the Brethren, 7:30pm. See article.
September 24	Neighborhood Picnic at Bluemont Park Picnic Shelter. Watch listserv and boulevardmanor.org for details.
November 13	Veterans Day Dinner at Arlington Community Church, 6:30pm.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association

General Meeting

Monday, June 26, 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

Annual elections will be held for BMCA officers and for open BMCA Board positions. Also on the agenda:

- Planned reuse of the former Reeves house
- Discussion of County code enforcement
- Upcoming BMCA events
- BMCA committee reports

For more information, contact BMCA President Matthew Phillips at president@boulevardmanor.org.

Reevesland Learning Center Report

This spring, we celebrated our 13th year of LAWNS 2 LETTUCE 4 LUNCH, our unique school and community partnership to promote healthy eating. We asked neighbors, Ashlawn parents, and students to plant some of our free organic lettuce seeds and to share their harvest in early June with Ashlawn students and staff. On June 14, our fabulous Fiesta Salad-bration combined the organic lettuce harvest at school and in the community with 12 other healthy ingredients to serve over 600 Ashlawn students and staff.

In anticipation of the Fiesta Salad, neighbor and former Ashlawn parent **Ron Battocchi** visited Ashlawn classrooms to introduce students to his family recipe vinaigrette salad dressing. In 15-minute demonstrations, he showed the students how to make both a "simple" and a "fancy" version. The students tasted the two and then voted on the one they would like to see used on the Fiesta Salad. Ron presented to 10 classes and the fancy dressing always won by decisive margins. Ron has achieved rock star status at Ashlawn for his super delicious salad dressing!

This spring, neighbor and Yorktown senior **Ella Snyders** chose the Reevesland Learning Center for her Senior Experience with. Ella assisted in many class visits to the Reevesland Learning Garden and Ron's vinaigrette demonstrations, harvesting, maintaining the gardens, and delivering to the food pantry. Ella's special project was to assemble many pieces of the Reeves' family history and Reevesland Learning Center history for a special "Reevesland Week" at Ashlawn.

On June 1, members of the Reevesland Learning Center Board and some volunteer Reevesland educators met with representatives of the groups working with the County to reuse the farmhouse. We determined that the Reevesland Learning Center will be able to continue to use the garden during construction, though the porch will necessarily be off-limits. We hope to build a good working relationship with the various groups during the phases of construction and the new use of

the property as a L'Arche sponsored residence. (see previous article)

Six H-B Woodlawn juniors volunteered to move mulch to the garden pathways on their Community Day, June 2. We are grateful for their contribution! We also had Amy Slavin's 4th grade class volunteer to add mulch, but bad air quality kept them inside on June 9.

The Reevesland Learning Center continues to take weekly donations of our organic garden produce and herb bouquets to the food pantry at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church. Over the summer, we will continue our growing and sharing of some warm weather crops, such as the bite-sized kid favorite "cucamelons" or Mexican Sour Gherkins. The students will be looking for the cucamelons when the class visits to The Reevesland Learning Garden start again in September.

Joan Horwitt, President
 Sandra Kalscheur, Board Chair
 Mary Ann Penning, Board Vice-Chair
 The Reevesland Learning Center

BMCA Conservation and Beautification Committee Update

This spring, progress has continued restoring and beautifying the northwest corner of N. Manchester St. and Rt. 50. BMCA is grateful to Kenny Sutter and his

**3rd Annual Neighborhood Yard Sale
 September 30, 10am – 2pm**

All are invited to participate in a neighborhood-wide yard sale on Saturday, September 30. Simply register at the link below to benefit from free signage and multimedia advertising that will direct customers to your yard. Participants will be rewarded with a delivery from NiceCream!

For more information and to register, visit magnificentmanors.com/yardsale.

Environmental Outdoor Solutions team, as well as neighborhood volunteers, who cleared more invasive underbrush around the cedars and planted native perennials and flowering bushes.

Watering, necessary due to the lack of rain, will continue through the summer. In the fall, the committee plans more clearing in advance of next spring's plantings. Please take a moment to appreciate the flowers planted last year, along with the new plants that are flowering, including milkweed. The committee hopes to have spring, summer and autumn plants in bloom when the planting is complete.

Are you new to the neighborhood? Or a longtime neighbor interested in becoming involved in BMCA? Please join us by using the electronic form available at boulevardmanor.org (click "Civic Association" then "Membership") or by completing this form and mailing to the address shown below.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association Membership Form

Household Address _____ Arlington, VA 2220__

Member 1 Name _____

Member 1 E-mail Address _____

Add me to the Listserv Yes ___ No ___

I am interested in (see list of volunteer opportunities below): _____

Member 2 Name _____

Member 2 E-mail Address _____

Add me to the Listserv Yes ___ No ___

I am interested in (see list of volunteer opportunities below): _____

Membership Category	Cost
Individual Member	\$10
Couple (Two Adult Members)	\$20
Voluntary additional 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 Rob Piester, 5907 3rd Street N., Arlington, VA 22203

Volunteer Opportunities

- Conservation and Beautification
- Hospitality and Social Events
- Membership
- Newsletter
- Web Site
- Parks
- Reevesland
- Projects under the Neighborhood Conservation Plan
- Safety and Emergency Preparedness
- Serving as a BMCA Officer or Board Member