



Between the Boulevards

October 2023

The newsletter of the Boulevard Manor Civic Association

Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting

Monday, October 23, 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

Our fall meeting will include:

- A presentation by the project team for the planned reuse of the former Reeves home
- Reports on the BMCA treasury, the recent neighborhood picnic, and the Veterans Day benefit dinner
- Reevesland Learning Garden update

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

Reeves Farmhouse Update

At the BMCA general meeting on Oct. 23, neighbors will have an opportunity to view plans to rehabilitate the former Reeves home at 400 N. Manchester St. The house is slated to serve as a residence for adults with developmental disabilities. The project team will present plans, answer questions, and engage with neighbors. The team includes BMCA representative Chris Tighe and staff from Habitat DC-NOVA, HomeAid National Capital Region, and L'Arche Greater Washington, DC. BMCA has also invited Arlington County officials to the presentation.

The project has been proceeding through different levels of government review. Currently, state officials are reviewing the mandatory archaeological and historical report. While the project has met Arlington County's requirements for preservation of cultural resources, Virginia and the U.S. Dept of Housing and Urban Development require a more detailed accounting of the historical nature of the property and of the planned actions to comply with relevant stat-

utes. Those actions will include steps to preserve exterior elements, monitor construction work for compliance, and memorialize aspects of the home that will substantively change.

The project team expects the County Board to a final vote to confer the property to Habitat, hopefully before the end of the year. Afterward, site plans and permit applications will be subject to County review. Neighbors can expect to see visits to Reeves property by architects, engineers, historic preservation specialists, and others during this "predevelopment" phase. Once construction permits are issued, the first sign of work will be the installation of fencing and other safety measures.



2023 Veterans Day Benefit Dinner

Monday, Nov. 13, 6:30pm

Arlington Community Church

6040 Wilson Blvd.

BMCA and Arlington Community Church will host the 8th annual Veterans Day dinner. Attendance is free for BMCA neighbors. Dinner will include barbecue chicken and beef, salad, and a variety of side dishes.

We will be collecting donations for two charities that benefit our nation's veterans, **Wounded Warriors** and **Fisher House**. Cash donations or checks made out to the charities are welcome.

WELCOME, NEW NEIGHBORS!

Welcome to Boulevard Manor, one of the friendliest communities around! The Boulevard Manor Civic Association (BMCA) sponsors many well-attended social activities, including an Easter egg hunt, July 4th ice cream social, fall picnic, Veterans' Day dinner, and Christmas caroling. We operate an e-mail listserv and web page to help keep you informed. Visit www.boulevardmanor.org for instructions on subscribing to the listserv and joining the Civic Association. You can join by mail or by PayPal.

If you moved into our neighborhood in 2023, BMCA would like to present you a welcome gift. Please contact Claudia Maloney at ClaudiaMaloney@boulevardmanor.org to let us know you're here!

The Reevesland Learning Center Report – Summer & Fall 2023

Volunteers for the non-profit Reevesland Learning Center manage four “edible gardens” in Boulevard Manor: The Reevesland Learning Garden near the historic Reeves Farmhouse, at the Church of the Brethren, and two food growing gardens at Ashlawn (one inside the school courtyard and one next to the driveway loop on N. Manchester St.).

Most of the food we grow and activities we sponsor provide hands-on learning experiences for Ashlawn Elementary School students in curriculum-based lessons. For example, with the students, we can explore the life cycle of plants, study types of soil and compost, and create the traditional Three Sisters Garden of corn, beans and squash. We enjoy sampling what we grow.

Over the summer, The Reevesland Learning Center volunteers continued the Tuesday morning trips with organic fresh herbs and produce to the food pantry at Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church. We made herb bouquets in paper cones fashioned from the colorful pages of old seed catalogs and have shared our organic summer crops, including tomatoes, okra, beans, eggplant, zucchini, peppers, onions, potatoes, ground cherries and cucamelons.

We entered three items in the Arlington County Fair competitive exhibits: Painted Lady drying beans, ground cherries and red onions. The entries won blue ribbons!

Now that school has started, we have added class trips to three of the gardens from pre-K, Kindergarten, First, Second and Third Grades. Ashlawn students have planted about a dozen different lettuces and some flat-leaved spinach. These crops support the LAWNS 2 LETTUCE 4 LUNCH project. Visiting classes have looked for flowers and pollinators in the gardens and have harvested various types of seed pods. The students munched on tiny tomatoes, cucamelons, ground cherries and “lemon lettuce” (sorrel).

In late October, 2nd graders will plant garlic and celebrate the many varieties of winter squash grown over the summer. The students will make a Fall Harvest Scene by arranging our collection of about 30 winter squashes on straw bales and taking a class photo.

We welcome community volunteers and projects by Scouting Troops to help maintain and improve the gardens. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer.

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2023 BMCA Neighborhood Picnic

