



Between the Boulevards

February 2024

2024 BMCA Membership Drive

From Civic Association President Matthew Phillips:
It's the time of year when we reach out to neighbors, asking you to join BMCA or to renew your membership. I ask for your help to keep our Association flourishing. It costs only \$10 per adult for the year. Your membership dues are our sole source of funding, enabling us to pay for neighborhood events, including the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt, the 4th of July ice cream social, the neighborhood picnic, and the Veterans Day dinner (which features a fundraiser for disabled vets). Dues also cover BMCA's very low administrative expenses, such as the supplies for this newsletter.

At the next BMCA general meeting (see inset), we will be going over our 2024 budget. Our long-term goal is to have a sustainable and vibrant Civic Association. We can do that only with your help. Please establish or renew your membership either using the attached form and envelope or through the Membership link at www.boulevardmanor.org.

Bluemont Park Tennis Courts Update

Arlington County Parks & Recreation reports:
Since the last engagement held in 2023 our project team has been hard at work incorporating the feedback we received into the design plans. However, we did encounter some challenges along the way. Inflation and other external factors necessitated that we make thoughtful adjustments to the design to fit within our

Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt

Co-hosted by BMCA and the Church of the Brethren
Saturday, March 30, 10:30am at the Church (300 N. Montague St.)

Rain or shine! Egg hunt for children 4th grade and under. Surprise visit by a certain long-eared friend.



We need volunteers for the event. If you can help hide eggs, please contact Claudia Maloney at ClaudiaMaloney@boulevardmanor.org. Volunteers should arrive by 9:45.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association

General Meeting

Monday, March 4, 7:00 p.m.

Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

Our winter meeting will include:

- Latest Reevesland redevelopment news
- Reports from BMCA committees (Conservation and Beautification, Hospitality, Membership, Parks)
- Treasurer's report, including annual budget
- Appointment of Nominating Committee for June elections

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

budget while maintaining alignment with the community's vision for the project. Our work is almost complete, and we anticipate engaging the community in March – April 2024 once we have released the updated project design.

Learn more by visiting the project page at arlingtonva.us (search for Upper Bluemont Project).

News on BMCA Beautification and Conservation Committee Projects

Committee chair Josh Handler offers these updates:

Rt. 50 and Manchester Corner – East Side. Over the last couple of years, We've made great progress clearing out invasives at the corner and replanting with natives. BMCA owes much gratitude to our hardy band of volunteers and to neighbor Kenny Horton, who has provided the resources of his landscaping firm, Environmental Outdoor Solutions.

Next steps: We'll schedule some weekend workdays in March and April to square off the area cleared so far, clearing our way back to the property line and replanting with native pollinators and some bushes. We hope to connect with the nearby areas of Bluemont Park

done by invasives-clearing volunteers. Please watch the BMCA listserv for e-mail invites to upcoming work-days. And thanks for your patience; it will take a few years for the bushes we've planted to get established and fill out the space.

Rt. 50 and Manchester Corner – West Side. New project: on the west side, we plan to solarize the soil, start removing the invasive ground cover, and plant native pollinators. Because it's a sunny spot, the flora should be very colorful in the summer and fall after we finish.

Rt. 50 and Montague. The County has finally finished renovating the bus stop. Now we have the opportunity to beautify that area. Again, we'll take advantage of the site's ample sunshine by planting some native pollinators after we clear some of the grass.

Wilson and Livingston. We have been experimenting with some native flower beds at the northwest entrance to Boulevard Manor. If they appear to have established well by this spring, we'll seek to expand those plantings, replacing grass with native pollinators.

Rt. 50 Shoulder – Longer Term: The tangle of invasives (and trash) in the middle part of the Arlington Blvd. shoulder remains a challenge. The large honeysuckles are especially perplexing: our budget is insufficient to purchase the sizable natives we would need to replace the invasive bushes. Such large new plantings also would require a daunting amount of regular watering. Arlington County now has permission to plant trees along Rt. 50; you may have noticed that they have already planted some new trees in our neighborhood's section. We are trying to coordinate our efforts with the County on their tree-planting program. We'd like to clear a several more square yards moving eastward, anticipating that the County would then plant trees in the newly cleared areas.

Other. (1) The County has notified us that they can replace our neighborhood signs. The replacement may include moving the two signs on the south side closer to the neighborhood entrances. (2) BMCA is considering a special appeal to fund special projects that the committee would maintain over time. For example, we



In front of the Church of the Brethren, Boulevard Manor neighbor Greg Branch (left) built and donated a **Dog Library** inspired by an idea from Church property manager Don Hillmer (right). Toys, balls, sticks and poop bags are among the things to take and replace.

might hire professionals to redo the area at the west side of the Rt. 50 and Manchester entrance and at the Montague St. entrance. Such projects might encourage neighboring civic associations to make similar improvements on their side of Rt. 50. (3) Our state senator, Barbara Favola, has been supportive of effort to increase planting of pollinators. Please consider contacting her to urge VDOT to do more pollinator re-landscaping along Rt. 50 in Arlington.

The Latest on Reevesland

Chris Tighe, BMCA representative on the team working on plans to rehabilitate the former Reeves home at 400 N. Manchester St., reports:

Since we updated the neighborhood at the October 2023 general meeting, the team has determined that:

1. What we are planning, apparently, has never been done before in the U.S. Therefore, many of the processes are taking a bit longer than anticipated because we are moving through "uncharted territory."
2. Because this project has applied for a HUD grant, which requires state cooperation, Commonwealth of Virginia historical preservation requirements are being applied. Those requirements are much stricter than anticipated, which is causing delays.
3. Due to some of these delays, the scheduled conveyance of the former Reeves property from Arlington

Join the BMCA Listserv

In the BMCA Google Group, neighbors share information on community news, events, and issues. To join, simply email a request to LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org. Once subscribed, you can select how often you want the group emails delivered. If you do not post messages, your email address will remain anonymous.

County to Habitat DC-NOVA has been postponed. We are hoping that conveyance will proceed in March. Conversations with County officials indicate their willingness to proceed expeditiously, once the project meets state requirements.

We will discuss these matters at the March 4 BMCA meeting. If you need to get caught up on what has been done on this project to date, see www.boulevardmanor.org/reevesland-project-faq

Upcoming Events Recommended by Neighbors

March 23: Spring 2024 E-CARE. The biannual Environmental Collection and Recycling Event allows Arlington residents to safely dispose of household hazardous materials and old electronics. Learn more by visiting arlingtonva.us (search for E-CARE). **Saturday, March 23, 8:30 am to 3:00 pm at Wakefield High School.**

April 13: Arlington Bunny Hop 5K. This event combines a 5K race and fun run/walk to raise money for Bridges to Independence. A block party follows the race. Visit arlingtonbunnyhop.org for more details. **Saturday, April 13th beginning at 8:00 a.m., at Clarendon United Methodist Church, 606 N. Irving Street, Arlington, VA.**

April 28: Meet future residents of the Reevesland Farmhouse. At the Heart of L'Arche Celebration and garden gala, you can meet some of the people who are planning the rehabilitation of the former Reeves home, along with possible future residents. L'Arche GWDC works to create inclusive communities of people with and without intellectual disabilities. This free event is designed to share L'Arche's mission and raise funds for their programming (including operating costs for the farmhouse after it is built). Learn more and RSVP at www.larche-gwdc.org/heartoflarche24. **Sunday, April 28th from 3-5pm, at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Vienna, Va.**



BMCA volunteers have planted bushes and pollinators to improve our side of Arlington Blvd.

Twenty-four Years Ago in Boulevard Manor

Between the Boulevards

February 2000

Published by the Boulevard Manor Civic Association for the residents of Boulevard Manor, 3pp. Hill, Stone Ridge and Park View

N. Manchester Street: The Next Thoroughfare?

The Northern Virginia 2020 Transportation Plan includes a proposal for constructing an interchange carrying North Manchester Street over Arlington Boulevard (Route 50). Lane Noyzbelder, Arlington County staff recommended the proposed project to the County Board, asserting "the construction of an interchange and removal of the traffic signal on Route 50 will create a more efficient flow of traffic on Route 50 and help to reduce the amount of cut-through traffic on Manchester Street."

The staff, however, provided no evidence that the proposed project would not create a dramatic increase in traffic through our neighborhood as drivers take advantage of the new interchange to bypass Seven Corners. The BMCA is concerned that we might see Manchester Street transformed into a thoroughfare connecting Wilson Blvd with the Bailey's Crossroads area.

Do you have an opinion on these proposed changes? The BMCA is considering forming an ad hoc Transportation Committee to take up this issue. But we can only begin to take action if neighbors, particularly residents of Boulevard Manor, are willing to serve on the committee. To participate, call Paul Svered at 243-8693 or come to the Association Meeting on February 28.

Shovel Those Sidewalks!

After the recent snows, the Civic Association was contacted by the Police Department. The police reported that children walking to and from Ashlawn Elementary School were endangered because many neighbors had not yet cleared the sidewalks in front of their homes. Some children were avoiding the icy hazards by walking in the middle of the street, where auto traffic creates an even greater risk.

Please help keep the neighborhood safe by clearing a path in front of your home as soon as possible after any heavy snowfall. If you would prefer to pay for someone to shovel or if you are a young neighbor who would like to earn money shoveling, call Don Byron at 243-8625 to get contacted.

Our Community is noted for its friendly, caring neighbors. But communication is sometimes a problem.

GET WELL WISHES TO:
 Garrett Harvey 4th St.
 Eleri Collins Madison St.
 Mervyn Liss Livingston St.
 Clark George Madison St.
 Phyllis Boden Livingston St.
 Sheila Noonan Nottingham St.
 Virginia McClain Madison St.

WELCOME Caroline Dileo, born August 28, 1989, to Lee and Melin Dileo, Livingston St.

Please notify your Hospitality Committee of their changes in our neighborhood. It is regrettable that news of serious illness and death often escape even the closest neighbors. We would rejoice with news of new arrivals! Be a caring neighbor. Call Don Byron at 243-4025, or e-mail dbyron@erols.com.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association Meeting
 Monday, February 28, 7:15 p.m.
 Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St.

- We are working to get representatives of the Arlington County Board and the Virginia Dept. of Transportation to answer questions and listen to concerns about such neighborhood issues as cut-through traffic, congested parking on N. Manchester St., the proposed interchange of Manchester St. and Route 50, redevelopment of the Seven Corners - Bailey's Crossroads corridor, and future plans for Blument Park.
- Mark Silverwood will discuss his company's planned rehabilitation of the Patrick Henry Apartments.
- Also: Updates on the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority bid to buy and the future "Pavilion Springs" Park along Wilson Blvd.

New neighbors welcomed!

Sale of Patrick Henry Apartments

Silverwood Assoc., Inc., of Leesburg plans to purchase the Patrick Henry Apartments at 6122 Wilson Blvd. and will begin rehabilitating the entire complex. The property consists of 463 acres with 110 units in 11 buildings built in 1958. Arlington County has made the property eligible for funding through the Housing Fairness Act and it will be maintained as affordable housing.

Spring Cleaning

This spring, crews from the County Dept. of Environmental Services will make special trips through neighborhoods to collect yard waste for recycling. Call 236-6570 for more information.

Are you interested in a neighborhood cleanup day? Come to the BMCA meeting on February 28. If there is sufficient interest, the Association will arrange with the County for scheduled bulk trash pickups in the neighborhood. Here's a perfect opportunity to clean out your attic or basement, get rid of old furniture, etc.

Announcing the BMCA Web Site

Your Civic Association has joined the digital age with a home page at <http://further.com/bmca>. Much thanks to Scott Alford of Lombard Street for his work on the web site. At our site, you can find updates on Association activities, an electronic version of *Between the Boulevards*, and other helpful information. It's a fledgling site, hungry for more content. If you're interested in assisting with development of the BMCA web site, call Phil Klingelhofer at 524-5428.

Neighborhood Watch

The Arlington Police recently contacted the Civic Association asking for a list of our Neighborhood Watch block captains. The police would use this list to quickly communicate information across the neighborhood in an emergency. Since we don't have any block captains assigned, we were unable to provide a list to the police. If you're interested in helping to establish an active Neighborhood Watch in Boulevard Manor, please come to the BMCA meeting on February 28.

Parking Congestion at Blument Park

The County has been consulted about excessive street parking by Blument Park users and its effect on nearby residents. A shortage of street parking is evident during the evening rush hours and weekends and holidays during the warmer months in the 300 and 500 blocks of N. Manchester St. and adjacent streets. Talks with the County about gaining relief for our neighbors have so far been unproductive. If you can help us, please join our newly formed Parking Committee by calling chairman Bill Johnson at 243-5683.

Redevelopment and Enlargement of Seven Corners - Bailey's Crossroads Corridor Proposed

Fairfax County has advised the BMCA of a proposal to revitalize the Seven Corners - Bailey's Crossroads Corridor. Plans include modifying existing land use, adding urban design guidelines, and changing recommendations related to the transportation network. With insufficient advance notice, we were invited to attend a Fairfax County Planning Commission public hearing on the proposal. The Civic Association has sent a strongly worded letter to the Arlington County Board, stating our concerns about the lack of county involvement and the failure to provide our community with timely information on the proposed changes.

Washington-Lee High School Anniversary Dance

The W-L 75th Anniversary celebrations will include a Swing Dance. Invited are W-L alumni, current students, and all others who would like to have one hour of Swing Dance instruction followed by three more hours of dancing. The dance will be held on the evening of Saturday, March 18 from 6:00-1:00 at Washington-Lee High School. Admission is \$10.00 per person. For additional information, call Cindy Cruse at 532-2247.

Neighborhood Day 2000

Arlington's fourth annual Neighborhood Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 13. Watch the BMCA web site at <http://further.com/bmca> for announcements about how we plan to celebrate in Boulevard Manor.

are you a former BMCA member or an associated World War and extending through the end of President Eisenhower's administration.

VOLUNTEER! Be Part of the Solution

At the February 28 BMCA meeting, members will vote on a three-member nominating committee to list candidates for the four Officer positions and replacements for four Board Members who are completing two-year terms. Please call Paul Svered at 243-8693 or Don Byron at 243-8625 with suggested nominees for any of these positions.

The elections for these Officers and Board Members will be held at the May BMCA meeting.

Your Community Needs You!

The Boulevard Manor Civic Association provides many opportunities to help improve the quality of life in our neighborhood. Please join us! Call a BMCA officer or board member (see list) or just fill in the form below and return it to Don Byron.

1999-2000 BMCA Officers:	
President	Paul Svered 243-8693
Vice President	Jim Landrum 525-6980
Treasurer	Bob Messinger 527-5548
Secretary	Carol McGinnis 351-5195
BMCA Board Members:	
Don Byron	243-4025
Lee Dioso	351-9645
John Williams	527-5447
Jean, Sandy, Dusty Howitt	528-2946
Phil Klingelhofer	524-6438
Marian Liss	424-1443
Claudia Matney	237-8721
Laurie Robertson	522-8528
Tony Russo	527-8997
Larry Telford	242-7479
Mary Weber	243-4607

In the February 2000 issue of *Between the Boulevards*, the headline article focused on neighborhood concerns about a raised interchange proposed for the N. Manchester St./Rt. 50 intersection. In addition to the annual membership appeal, the newsletter announced BMCA's first web site and provided information about the 75th anniversary celebration at Washington-Lee High School. Also included was an appeal for neighbors to clear their sidewalks after winter storms (the ACPD had reported that Ashlawn students were walking perilously in the middle of the street to avoid ice on the sidewalks). All newsletters since Feb. 2000 are available at boulevardmanor.org.

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 it 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 Angela Horton, 545 N. Littleton St., Arlington, VA 22203*

Volunteer Opportunities

- Beautification and Conservation
- 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