

Between the Boulevards

June 2025

The newsletter of the Boulevard Manor Civic Association

From the BMCA Nominating Committee

Do you want to discuss and help address matters affecting our neighborhood? BMCA officer and board member candidates are still being sought for the June 2025 – June 2027 term. In these volunteer positions, you can influence the progress on neighborhood issues involving schools, roads and transportation, parks and recreation, and dealings with County government.

The Civic Association is especially hopeful that we can nominate for the open positions new participants. Residents who have recently moved into Boulevard Manor and neighbors who never served in BMCA before are most welcome to participate. We need new ideas and perspectives!

All four BMCA officer positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) will be up for election at the June 16 BMCA General Meeting, as will a number of board member positions. To see a list of the current officers and board members, go to boulevardmanor.org and, in the Civic Association pulldown menu, select the Officers and Board of Directors link.

Though all positions are a great way to get involved in our neighborhood, becoming a board member is the simplest. Duties of board members include participating in three Board meetings a year and providing input and voting on various issues. BMCA

If you want to learn more about the BMCA officer and board member positions, please contact the 2025 BMCA Nominating Committee before the June 16 General Meeting. The committee members are:

Tony Ermovick

tonyermovick@boulevardmanor.org

Christine Pommerening

christinepommerening@boulevardmanor.org

Thanks for your interest in supporting our community!

Join the BMCA Listserv

In our Google Group, neighbors share information on community news, events, and issues. To join, email a request to LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org.

Boulevard Manor Civic Association General Meeting

Monday, June 16, 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:

- Update on the project to improve safety and create a mini-park at the intersection of N. Montague St. and 1st Street N.
- Representatives of the Memorializing the Enslaved in Arlington project will discuss their efforts to place memorial plaques identifying locations where enslaved persons lived and died.
- Upcoming BMCA events
- BMCA committee reports

For more information, contact BMCA President Chris Tighe at president@boulevardmanor.org.

July 4 Neighborhood Celebration

All neighbors are invited to **the Independence Day ice cream social** on **Friday, July 4**, beginning at 7:30pm at the Church of the Brethren, 300 N. Montague St. A neighborhood tradition since 2002, the event is co-sponsored by BMCA and the Church. Free ice cream, toppings, and water are provided. 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 is scheduled to begin at 9:09. If you can help at the event, please contact Lee Dioso at LeeDioso@boulevardmanor.org



Update from Civic Association President

Hello neighbors! Just a few more days until summer. After this wet and unusually cool Spring, I am so ready for summer heat! We have a lot to talk about:

1. It's annual election time. As BMCA Board members Tony and Christine have written, the community needs YOU! Please consider running for a board position. The association is due for an infusion of new leadership, especially representing residents who have most recently joined the neighborhood! I have been asked by the Nominating Committee to run again for BMCA President. More than happy to do so – I serve at the pleasure of the community – but really want to make room for more and newer voices! We have open board seats, so please consider this terrific opportunity to make a difference.

2. The Farmhouse project: a wet Spring has delayed the asbestos and lead remediation, but that is quickly coming to an end. Next up is foundation work. You will soon see heavier equipment and more fencing on site. Please remember that the former Reeves property is now an active construction site. Unfortunately, someone has been pulling up the border stakes installed by surveyors at the site. These stakes are critically important and can be replaced only by surveyors that must be paid for each return visit. Please leave them be and remind children not to touch the stakes. If the vandalism continues, fencing will have to be extended. That consequence will reduce access to green space, potentially impacting the Reevesland Learning Garden. I must pass on this warning: anyone caught removing boundary stakes may be prosecuted and held financially responsible.

3. We are about to undertake a major overhaul of the BMCA website. A bit more complicated than we thought, but work will commence soon.

Membership and Contributions

If you haven't had a chance to renew your membership or to join BMCA since the beginning of the year, please take this opportunity to get up to date. Dues are \$15 for a single or \$30 for two or more adults in one household. You can scan the QR code below, which will take you through the process of payment using Zelle. Or you can write a check payable to BMCA and mail it with your name(s), address, and email address(es) to: BMCA c/o Angela Horton, 545 N. Littleton St., Arlington, VA 22203.

Want to Donate for Neighborhood Beautification?

BMCA is collecting additional funds for plants and landscaping assistance. Our volunteers are continuing efforts to beautify the Route 50 shoulder and other neighborhood areas. We have expended the budgeted amount for 2025 but still have more planting and cleanup we hope to accomplish. If you would like to support this work, please make a donation or add it to your dues payment, using the online or mail procedure specified above. Please note "Plantings" on the memo line.

Save the Date!

BMCA Community Picnic

Sunday, September 14, 2025, 12:00-4:00

Bluemont Park Picnic Shelter

Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cotton candy,
games/prizes, and moon bounce

~~ Hope to see you there! ~~

4. At the June 16 BMCA meeting, we will get an important update on the Montague & 1st St project. I particularly want to discuss the mini-park and ideas for how we can make its maintenance (and other beautification efforts) a neighborhood or youth group project.

5. Also at our meeting: We'll talk to the organization that is working to place "stumbling stones" to commemorate the enslaved within historic Arlington. I've been asked a LOT of questions about this project. The BMCA Board is not taking a position one way or the other, but because the project gets grant funding from the County, we'll have the organization at our meeting. BMCA recognizes residents' right to decide whether a marker may be installed in front of their house. And we strongly support their right to make that decision without pressure to decide either way.

6. We hope to also have a briefing by the Arlington County Fire Department. While I'm confident we know basic fire safety, it's important to get updated information about hazards, such as those associated with storage of e-scooters/bikes, grills, fireworks, kids having campfires in Upton Hill woods, and even natural gas lines.

I hope to see a well-packed BMCA meeting on the 16th!

- Chris Tighe

Boulevard Manor Civic Association

