

BCA News

May 2003 • Vol. 6, No. 4 • Post Office Box 5134 • Arlington, Virginia 22205

VISIT OUR WEBSITE! www.bluemontcivic.org



Bluemont Bus, Wildlife Habitat & Community Alert System

The May 28 BCA meeting will feature three guest speakers. Jim Hamre, Arlington's Metro liaison, will brief us on a planned bus route through Bluemont. One of the alternatives they are considering would travel up Kensington, 7th and Jefferson Streets, during peak period only. It would use the smaller ART buses.

Next, Eleanor Hodges of Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) will discuss the Arlington Community Wildlife Habitat Project (ACWH), a new program that educates and assists people in providing habitat for urban wildlife on their property, school grounds, places of worship, corporate property, or in a community garden. For more information or to request a free information packet, call ACE at 703-228-6427.

Finally, Christal Thompson of Arlington County will provide an overview of the Community Alert System, which will notify members of the community of a major emergency through a variety of channels such as text messaging and email. Registration is free and can be done online at www.arlingtonalert.com. Other means of communication under consideration include sirens, telephones, radios and the web. ■

BCA Officers Needed!

BCA president Carl Hallinan, Treasurer Carol Spicer, and Secretary John Huennekens have each decided not run for re-election this June. They will all be missed, particularly Carol, who has served as a BCA officer for many years.

The BCA nominations committee has found candidates for two of the positions, but this has created a new vacancy. We urgently need volunteers who would be willing to serve as Vice President or Secretary. Both positions require attending two meetings per month and the Secretary must record the actions of those meetings. No experience or special skills are required—only a little time and a civic spirit.

If you are able to serve in one of these positions, or know someone who might be, please contact Nominations Committee chair Bob Atkins at luddite2003@yahoo.com or (703) 527-8859. ■

Schools Committee Looks at ATS

In response to the interest of neighborhood school parents, the recently formed BCA Schools Committee will be exploring the relationship between Bluemont and the Arlington Traditional School (ATS).

Over the next month, the committee will evaluate the ATS admissions policy and how it serves Bluemont neighborhood schoolchildren, and propose improvements. ATS is a countywide alternative school with a lottery-based admission process open to children from all neighborhoods.

At the June 18 annual meeting, BCA members will decide whether to recommend any policy changes to the School Board. If you are interested in participating, contact committee chair Kate Mesches at 703/525-8262. ■

New Exhibit in Bluemont Caboose

The Bluemont Junction caboose now contains a display of the history of the W&OD Railroad and of Bluemont Junction. The exhibit contains maps, newspaper clippings, timetables, photographs of trains, stations, and bridges, a portion of the wall of the Junction's electrical substation, books, and other historical materials relating to the Railroad and the Junction.

A map and an aerial photograph of the Bluemont neighborhood—both dating from the 1930's—appear in the display. Arlington bike trail maps and handouts describing the display, the caboose, and the history of the Bluemont name are available in the caboose.

The caboose is open through October on Saturdays and holidays from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm and on Sundays from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. ■

News Briefs

Join Arlington's celebration of National Trails Day, Saturday June 7, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Bluemont Park Caboose. The celebration will include resource information tables, bicycle registration and the Discover Arlington scavenger hunt, with 10 locations on or near Arlington's trails. For more information, call the Arlington County Park Rangers at 703-525-0168. *(continued)*

A BCA committee is drafting amendments to the BCA charter to address changes in the way the Association functions. BCA members will vote on the proposed amendments at the Annual Meeting on June 18. If you would like to serve on the committee, or receive an advance copy of the proposal, contact committee chair Carl Hallinan at carlhallinan@comcast.net or (703) 812-4797.

Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment invites you to its 25th anniversary celebration, Saturday June 7, from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy Street. The event will feature exhibits, door prizes, food, music, and children's activities. For more information call 703-228-6427.

Several sexual assaults have occurred in the Ballston area and the Custis Trail since mid-April. The subject is described as a Hispanic male, 18-25,

approximately 5'6", 120-140 pounds with black hair, brown eyes and a medium complexion.

A Watershed-friendly Garden Tour of local homes that feature a variety of watershed-friendly elements, such as cisterns, rain barrels, rain gardens, backyard wildlife habitat, and native species will be held Sunday, June 1 from 1 to 5 p.m. For more information, contact 703-228-6427 or office@arlingtonenvironment.org or visit www.arlingtonenvironment.org.

BCA Calendar

Meetings are held in the multi-purpose room of Arlington Traditional School, 855 N. Edison at 7:00.

May 28 General Membership Meeting

June 10 Executive Board Meeting

June 18 Annual Meeting



Bluemont Civic Association

Post Office Box 5134
Arlington, VA 22205

BCA Officers and Representatives

President	Carl Hallinan
carlhallinan@comcast.net	812-4797
First Vice President	Judy Collins
Jc.swings@verizon.net	276-0124
Second Vice President	Talmadge Williams
ttwrec@aol.com	522-5575
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative	Judah Dal Cais
jdalcais@comcast.net	528-1551
Treasurer	Carol Spicer
spicerc@georgetown.edu	524-7843
Secretary	John Huennekens
jhuenn@gwu.edu	524-3583
Webmaster	Julie Downie
Newsletter Editor	Carla Uriona
Newsletter Distribution	Judy Collins

Civic Federation Representatives

Delegates	Alternates
Bob Atkins	Adrienne Pilot
Ed Fendley	Ellen Armbruster
Talmadge Williams	Rick Hodeges
Bob Waffle	Dan Laredo

Committee Chairs

Wilson Boulevard Safety Committee: Bob Waffle, waffle@earthlink.net, 358-9448
Wilson Boulevard Revitalization Committee: Judah Dal Cais, jdalcais@comcast.net, 528-1551
Ballston Partnership: Talmadge Williams, 522-5575
Metro Liaison: Henry McFarland, hmcFarland@hotmail.com
Emergency Preparedness Liaison: Scott Tate, scott@scotttate.com