

NEXT GENERAL MEETING 1/28/09

- **Crimson on Glebe**
- **Bluemont NC Plan**
- **Your Input & Concerns**

Left: Main Street of Bluemont's "downtown."

Jan 2009 A Public Service of Your Bluemont Civic Association

www.bluemontcivic.org

BCA Kicks off 2009 on Wednesday at Lubber Run

The first general membership meeting of 2009 will take place at Lubber Run Community Center (at the corner of N. George Mason Drive and N. Park Road) on Wed., 1/28, at 7:30 pm. (Arlington Traditional School is unavailable.)

Ryan Whittier, a development associate for Crimson Urban LLC, will be on hand to discuss the redevelopment proposal for 650 N. Glebe Road (currently the Goodyear tire center at N. Glebe and N. Carlin Springs Roads). The new 5-story, mixed-use building—called The Crimson on Glebe—will be LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified with 115 apartments and



Did YOU Re-NEW?



BCA relies on its members for funding. We HOPE you will not forget us in these lean times. Our future is *your* future as far as neighborhood affairs goes, so see the notice on page 4, and start this year off right!

How will the proposed Crimson on Glebe project affect our neighborhood?



BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

Last General Membership and Joint Executive Board Meeting December 9, 2008

Unfortunately, the invited speaker, Julie Mangis, from the Ballston-Virginia Square Partnership, was unable to attend.

The membership discussed the school superintendent's proposals to adjust school boundaries. These various options were to be considered at an upcoming school board meeting. BCA members discussed the pros and cons of the various options. On



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open — volunteer needed

► January Meeting

FROM P.1

9,000 square feet of ground-level restaurant/retail space. For more details, visit www.crimsonpartners.net/crimson_on_glebe.html.

On 1/28, the membership will vote on whether to proceed with a formal update of Bluemont's Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Plan. This two-year process would require BCA to distribute a survey to all households (approx. 2,000) within BCA's boundaries. The county would pay to print but not mail the survey. (BCA would be able to hand-distribute the survey along with its neighbor-wide newsletter in the spring or fall.) Kudos to BCA member David Van Wagner for volunteering to help the NC Plan committee.

The membership also will vote on whether to move the April meeting from 4/22/09 to 4/29/09 (to facilitate hand-delivery of the spring neighborhood-wide newsletter). Note that only current BCA members may vote. Dues (\$15, cash or check) can be paid at the meeting. ■

When — and Where — Do We MEET?

Glad you asked! Although the January meeting will deviate from its usual venue, BCA holds general membership meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month (September through June) at 7:30 pm. Those meetings are usually held at Arlington Traditional School (behind McDonalds), unless announced otherwise. Executive Board meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at ATS unless announced otherwise. Executive Board meetings are open to all BCA members. Visit bluemontcivic.org for updates on meeting times and locations.

Crystal City To Be Redeveloped

Crystal City, a key county economic center, has lost tenants due to the Pentagon's Defense Base Closure and Realignment plan. To reinvigorate the area, the Planning Commission voted to adopt a Policy Framework and Illustrative Concept Plan to guide the development of a final Crystal City Plan. (The County Board adopted the Plan on 12/13/08.) To develop a better mix of residential, commercial, and open space, many buildings will be torn down and replaced with larger buildings, the tallest of which could reach 300 feet. No word yet on how much additional demand the redevelopment would place on the county's recently expanded wastewater treatment facility. (The proposed Policy Framework and Illustrative Concept Plan may be found on the Crystal City Planning Website: www.plancrystalcity.com.) ■

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Plan Ahead!

BCA's spring general-distribution newsletter will be hand-delivered to over 2,000 households! Alert the neighborhood by advertising your product or service while supporting your civic association. Contact Judah dal Cais at jdalcais@verizon.net.



► December Meeting

FROM P. 1

December 18, the school board made a few adjustments to the boundaries of Taylor and Nottingham elementary schools but otherwise made no other boundary adjustments.

Planning Commission member Terry Serie reported on three pending site plan applications adjacent to Bluemont. American Service Center (on N. Glebe Road) has submitted plans to expand its building to enclose its car storage lot. Developer Crimson Urban LLC plans to build a 5-story residential building on the Goodyear site (N. Glebe and N. Carlin Springs). Planning Commission member Steve Cole is assigned to this project and will report back to BCA. JBG, developer for the Fairmont building at 4420 N. Fairfax Drive, has applied to the county to make changes in that site plan (previously approved in 2006 for a condominium building). Hearings to consider these projects will likely start in February or March of 2009.

NC Update

At the December meeting, NC Representative Carl Drummond reported that the county had not approved the request to install playground equipment near the rocks along the Bluemont Park trail. Construction has begun on the sidewalk, curb and gutter project for N. 9th Street, but its companion project for N. Frederick Street was not funded in the December funding round. If you are interested in developing an NC project for your block, contact Carl Drummond at carld10@aol.com. ■



IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Bon Air Rose Garden To Get a Modest Makeover

The landscape unit of the Parks Department works very hard to keep our local rose garden in tip-top shape. At present, no major renovations to the garden are planned. However, over the next several months, there will be some modest changes. At the far south end of the garden, several ornamental grasses and shrubs continually overgrow and make passage for patrons somewhat difficult. These plants will be relocated to other parks. A few shrub-type roses, called knock-out roses, will be removed from the southeastern hillside. And the small pocket gardens directly surrounding the flagpole will be renovated.

These changes will help the landscape unit concentrate its efforts on maintaining the ➡4

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Wilson Boulevard Redevelopment and NC Plan

The Bluemont Village Center Working Group met on 12/14/08 to discuss the proposed NC Plan update with respect to development along Wilson Boulevard. The update and related survey may help clarify Bluemont's "vision" of its main street. The focus will be on the three-block commercial area between N. George Mason Drive and N. Greenbrier Street (at the Texaco station).

At the meeting, group members decided to change working group's name to the Bluemont Village Center Working Group, which better describes its goals. BCA and Planning Commission member Steve Cole offered to contact local universities in hopes of finding an urban planning graduate student to help the working group evaluate options. ■



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Next BCA Meeting	1/28
Lubber Run Community Center	
FEBRUARY	
Capital Hospice 12k	2/1
Bluemont Park, 9am	
Feb. Exec. Board Meeting	2/10
Lacey Woods Invasive	2/25
Plants Removal, 10–noon	
Feb. Gen. Meeting	2/25
Rain Gardens for	2/28
Homeowners, 9:30am–12:30pm,	
Fairlington Community Center.	
For info and/or to register, call	
703-228-3610	
Four Mile Run Cleanup	3/14

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

FROM P.3
garden's fantastic display of one of the widest varieties of hybrid roses in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Capital Hospice 12K, Feb. 1

The DC Road Runners Club and Capital Hospice are co-hosting the Capital Hospice 12K and 3K Fun Run at Bluemont Park. Runners will make donations to Capital Hospice to support members of the community who need but cannot afford to pay for hospice services. Registra-

tion begins at 9 am, and the race begins at 10 am. Pre-register via www.active.com (in the Things to Do search box, enter "Capital Hospice 12K" as keywords and "Arlington VA" for the location). ■

2nd Saturday Invasive Removal Feb. 14

Bluemont has its own invasive removal program at Lacey Woods Park every second Saturday from 10 am to noon. This ↓



Bluemont Civic Association
PO Box 5134
Arlington VA 22205

Check the label — RENEW FOR 2009!
If the renewal date on the label says "Paid through 12/31/2008" (or earlier), please fill out the form below and send your check for \$15 to BCA, or bring it to the next BCA meeting!



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Make checks payable to Bluemont Civic Association, send to the address above or bring it to the next meeting.

volunteer effort is set up and sponsored by Arlington County's Remove Invasive Program (RiP) and the Parks Department. The next scheduled 2nd Saturday is February 14. Contact Nora Palmatier at 703-527-2349 or norapalm@verizon.net for info. ■

Four Mile Run Cleanup

On Saturday, March 14, 9 am to noon, there will be a cleanup of Four Mile Run, with multiple work sites along the stream. Contact the Arlington County park rangers for more informa-

tion at 703-525-0168. ■

Free Home Repairs

Do you need general maintenance work? If the answer is yes and you can't afford the work, then RPJ Housing (a nonprofit agency funded by Arlington County) may be able to help. Teams of volunteers make minor home repairs from plumbing to yard work.

To qualify, you must own and live in the home to be repaired. Income restrictions apply. Call RPJ Housing at 703-528-5606, or visit www.rpjhousing.org. ■