

NEXT GENERAL MEETING 11/18/09

- D&V Conditions Vote
- Jane Kim on Bluemont Village Center
- H1N1 Swine Flu
- Your Input & Concerns

Nov-Dec '09 A Public Service of Your Bluemont Civic Association

www.bluemontcivic.org

BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

NEXT GENERAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 11/18, 7:30 pm

(Note: This meeting has been moved from 11/25 to avoid the Thanksgiving holiday.)

Lighting and Zoning and Codes, Oh My

October General Meeting Crowded and Lively Once Again

Holiday Inn Lighting Presentation — A representative from the Holiday Inn's management team and several representatives from Walsh, Colucci, Lubeley, Emrich & Walsh, P.C. explained the light proposal for the N. Fairfax Drive hotel, which employs 150 people. These lights must be added by January 2010 in order to meet new company-wide standards and the hotel's licensing agreement with Holiday Inn. New 70-watt and 150-watt green lights would be installed on the front of the hotel and on the east side, but not on the south side facing nearby residences. The county classifies these lights as additional signage, which therefore requires a site plan amendment. The site plan amendment will be presented at the County Board's November meeting. County staff is recommending denial of the application. The membership made and passed the following motion: "Based on the presentation this evening BCA supports the site plan amendment."

Arlington County Police — Two officers substituted in for BCA's community liaison Officer O'Daniel. The officers reported no major crimes in Bluemont recently. Officers are patrolling on bicycles every other week to discourage vandalism by school kids along the bike paths. Neighbors are asked to call the non-emergency police phone number to report graffiti or late night party noise. In answer to a noise-related question (discussed at the September meeting), the officers noted that there would be a new program making it possible for code enforcement staff to monitor excessive noise at com- ➔

Paul Ducharme, a resident of the Carlisle Park townhouse development will present a negotiated list of conditions under which the community would agree to allow D&V Auto Service Center to continue operating its rental truck business. The membership will then discuss and vote on these conditions. Please note that only paid BCA members are permitted to vote. (See membership renewal information in this newsletter.)

Virginia Tech graduate student Jane Kim will discuss her plans to assist BCA in developing its Bluemont Village Center concept.

December 8 Joint Meeting

BCA will hold a joint Executive Board and general membership meeting at 7:30 pm on 12/8/09 at ATS. There will be no meeting held on Dec. 23. ■



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Ready. Rake. Recycle.

The county's 2009-2010 bagged leaf collection program started on 11/2/09 and runs through 1/15/10. To recycle your leaves, place leaves in brown paper biodegradable bags only. Do not use plastic bags! Leaf bags will be collected on the next business day after your regular trash collection day through 1/15, including holidays, except Christmas and New Year's Day. (If your trash is collected on Fridays, your last leaf bag collection will be on 1/11/10, with no collection on 1/18/10. Visit www.arlingtonva.us/des to find the locations where you can pick up free bags through 1/9/10 (while supplies last). The Web page also provides detailed leaf collection information and guidelines.

Vacuum leaf collection runs from 11/13/09 through 12/24/09. Crews will make two complete passes through each neighborhood. Signs will be posted two to three days before trucks arrive. To receive schedule updates, please sign up for the leaf list-serve (www.arlingtonva.us/des) or call the leaf collection information line at 703-228-6565. ■

► October Meeting FROM P.1

mercial establishments at night and on weekends using a sound-measuring device.

Zoning Office Presentation — Zoning Administrator Melinda Artman and County Planner Melanie Jesick explained the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) and County Board use permits and variance process. Artman and Jesick answered a number of questions about the consistency of enforcement, encroachment, and the limitations of the zoning office. Artman also noted that just three accessory dwelling units — all located in new homes — have been added to the county's housing stock this year. Complete details of the variance and use permit process are at www.arlingtonva.us (click on the "Zoning" link).

D&V Auto Service Center Motions from 9/30/09 — The membership discussed and then passed the following two motions: 1) BCA supports the mechanical automobile repair services being performed at the D&V Auto Service Center located at 5201 Wilson Boulevard. 2) BCA supports negotiations between D&V Auto Service Center (located at 5201 Wilson Boulevard) and nearby residents to determine a list of conditions that D&V would have to meet in order for BCA and residents to support the continued operation of the rental truck business.

Robbie Guenther, who owns D&V, will appeal Zoning Administrator Melinda Artman's decision to prohibit automotive repairs and the truck rental business. The matter will be heard and considered by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on December 8. Paul Ducharme, a resident of the Carlisle Park townhouse development that abuts the D&V site, volunteered to contact nearby neighbors and set up a committee that will negotiate with Guenther to develop a list of conditions under which the community would accept the rental truck business to continue operating. The committee will forward these conditions to the membership at the 11/18/09 meeting for discussion and a vote. ■

Year-end BCA Meeting Schedule Changes

General membership meetings are usually held on the fourth Wednesday of each month, while Executive Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday. **With the holidays upon us, please note date and time changes in "Mark Your Calendars" on page 4.** Meetings take place at Arlington Traditional School (ATS) unless announced otherwise. Visit www.bluemontcivic.org for current information. ■

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Nov. 8 Village Center Walk-About

Arlington County staff member and Virginia Tech graduate student Jane Kim has agreed to work with BCA on the Bluemont Village concept through the early spring of 2010 as part of her capstone project for graduate school. Before finalizing her role in the project, the Bluemont Village Center Working Group walked with her along the Wilson Boulevard commercial area of the neighborhood on Sunday, 11/8/09. Details on the walk will be provided at the November 18 meeting. ■

Missing Links Deadline

Neighborhood Conservation (NC) has contacted BCA to remind us of the November 30 application deadline for Arlington County's Missing Links Program. Missing Links provides funds to complete portions of missing sidewalks (that span no more than three properties) in residential areas. For more details or an application, please contact BCA's NC Representative Carl Drummond at CarlD10@aol.com. ■

Turn Over a New Leaf in 2010 By Becoming a Tree Steward

Arlington Tree Steward volunteers are dedicated to improving the health of our urban trees through educational programs, tree planting and care, demonstrations and tree maintenance. Tree Stewards work with county arborist staff to provide direct care in public spaces, assist in planting trees, and notify staff of tree problems. ➡4

Renew for 2010!

Save a stamp by bringing cash or check for \$15 to the 11/18 or 12/8 meeting. Or mail a check, made payable to Bluemont Civic Association, to BCA Treasurer, P.O. Box 5134, Arlington VA 22205. (See this newsletter's address label to determine your membership status; if it says "Paid thru 12/31/2009," you need to renew for 2010.)

Please provide (or update) your information on the form below.

Name(s)

Mailing Address

Phone Number

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(optional—for BCA notification only)



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MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BCA General Meeting 11/18

DECEMBER

W-L Holiday Bazaar 12/5
10 am to 4 pm, Washington-Lee High School, 1301 N. Stafford St. Free. Features holiday gifts, collectibles and hand-made items, ethnic foods and holiday music.

Joint Executive Board and General Meeting 12/8

JANUARY 2010

Executive Board Meeting 1/12

HAPPY THANKSGIVING
from the **Bluemont Civic Association**

BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

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Bluemont Civic Association

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Is this your last issue?

SEE RENEWAL INFO, PAGE 3

▶ IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD FROM P.3

Training sessions start soon. Find out how you can become a Tree Steward Volunteer at <http://offices.ext.vt.edu/arlington>.

Tree Recipients Survey

If you received free trees from the county's Neighborhood Day Tree Giveaway Program,

please take the online survey at www.tinyurl.com/treesurvey. Questions? TreeStewards_ArlAlex@verizon.net. ■



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