

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING 4/21**

- Jane Kim on Bluemont Village Forum
- Officer O'Daniel of the ACPD
- Your Input & Concerns

◀What's YOUR favorite Bluemont spot? Share it on our Flickr group! Info at the BCA site (below) ▼

April 2010 A Public Service of Your Bluemont Civic Association

[www.bluemontcivic.org](http://www.bluemontcivic.org)

## What's YOUR Opinion?

### 3 Easy Ways To Submit Your NC Survey Comments: By mail, in person, or online

Last year, BCA voted to formally update the Bluemont Neighborhood Conservation (NC) Plan. We began the process with a preliminary survey to determine community support for the village center redevelopment concept. Based upon those survey results, BCA held a design forum in February so that local residents could review and discuss various design elements that



could be used to guide any future redevelopment of the Wilson Boulevard commercial corridor. Now we are distributing a comprehensive, county-mandated questionnaire along with this newsletter to all households (approx. 2,000) within BCA's boundaries. Like the census, the NC survey is an important planning tool that will serve as a guide for updating Bluemont's NC Plan. Please submit your survey responses by June 1, 2010. There are three easy ways to reply. Complete the hard-copy survey and mail it to P.O. Box 5134, Arlington VA 22205 or bring it to the April 21 or May 26 BCA meeting. Or, complete the survey online by visiting [www.bluemontcivic.org](http://www.bluemontcivic.org).

The NC Plan update committee will use residents' input from the February design forum and the enclosed NC survey to substantively update Bluemont's NC Plan. Once the membership votes to approve the updated plan, BCA will forward it to the county for final approval. ■

## BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

### Next General Meeting Wed., April 21, 7:30 pm at ATS

We have invited Va. Tech urban design grad student Jane Kim to present the results of February's design forum, which she led as part of her graduate project. (See the related article on p.2.)

Kim will unveil her recommendations for a unified design framework—known as the Bluemont Village Center concept—to guide future redevelopment along the Wilson Boulevard commercial corridor between N. George Mason Drive and N. Greenbrier Street. Kim's work along with the results of the survey included with this newsletter will be used to update the Bluemont Neighborhood conservation (NC) Plan (last published in 1999). To help answer members' questions on NC and the update process, BCA has invited Tim McIntosh, the county's neighborhood planner in charge of the NC Program, to the April meeting.

BCA also has invited Arlington Police Liaison Officer James O'Daniel to answer ques- ➔2

## How Did I Get This FREE Newsletter?

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▶ **BCA MEETINGS FROM PAGE 1**

tions and offer tips on personal safety and how to safeguard property. ■

**March Meeting Recap**

On 3/24, the membership hosted a discussion of the proposed referendum to change Arlington's form of government. We thank Arlington Coalition of Police President Ken Dennis and former County Board member Roye Lowry for providing a spirited debate of the issue. Members also voted to approve budgets for BCA's 5/15 barbecue and for the implementation of an electronic version of the NC Plan survey ((\$100 each). Virginia Tech graduate student Jane S. Kim also gave a brief overview of the 2/17/10 Bluemont Village Center Design Forum. ■

**When Do We Meet?**

General membership meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month, September through June. Executive Board meetings (all members welcome) take place at 7:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month year round. We usually meet at ATS. However, meeting dates and/or the location may change due to holidays or other scheduling conflicts. Visit [www.bluemontcivic.org](http://www.bluemontcivic.org) for up-to-date information on meeting times and locations.

**All This for Just \$10?**

The Bluemont Civic Association is an independent, all-volunteer civic group that has served Bluemont since 1945. We receive no County funds. Prorated dues paid in April are just \$10, and membership is open to all Bluemont residents and businesses.

**HERE'S WHAT YOU GET WITH YOUR BCA MEMBERSHIP:**

• **Free Monthly Newsletter**—

Keep up with what's happening in Bluemont and Arlington. Receive monthly newsletters by mail and electronic alerts—optional—via e-mail.

• **Advocacy**—As part of Arlington's Civic Federation, BCA is Bluemont's local civic organization. It represents Bluemont's interests and serves as a link between residents and county government.

• **Sidewalk, curb, gutter and lighting improvements**—BCA's Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) representative attends NC meetings on Bluemont's behalf and helps local residents navigate the process to obtain sidewalk, curb, gutter and lighting improvements.

• **Building a sense of community**—Neighbors helping neighbors can build relationships and help foster a greater sense of community.

• **Free community barbecue**—Each year, BCA invites the whole Bluemont community to join members for a cookout (this year's barbecue takes place on May 15).

• **Voting privileges**—As a BCA member in good standing, you can vote for officers and representatives. You also can vote on motions and help shape BCA's positions on issues facing our neighborhood.

Bring \$10 (cash or check) to the meeting on 4/21 or mail it in with the membership form on page 5. Want to know more about BCA? Visit our Web site at [www.bluemontcivic.org](http://www.bluemontcivic.org). ■



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Where the sidewalk ends...  
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where none now exist.

## Recent BCA Accomplishments

• **N. Frederick Street curb, gutter, and sidewalk.** Originally scheduled to be considered at the March 14 County Board meeting, the NC project for N. Frederick Street was pulled from the agenda. On March 16, activist Jim Hurysz spoke out against the Frederick Street project and the six other NC projects being considered. Luckily BCA member Bob Atkins was on hand, and he spoke in favor of the Frederick Street project and the other NC projects on the docket. Ultimately, the Arlington County Board voted unanimously to approve funding for all seven NC projects. Bond funds approved by voters in 2008 will be used to construct a sidewalk, curb, and gutter for N. Frederick Street between I-66 and Wilson Boulevard. Our thanks go to hard-working NC representative Carl Drummond who has been shepherding this project through the long funding-to-construction process.

• **Harrison Street Bike Trail Spur.** Late last year, the county finally completed the link between N. Harrison Street (next to the I-66 overpass) and the Custis Trail. Now hikers and bikers can easily access the trail from Harrison Street. Our thanks go to BCA member Chris Healey who wrote and submitted a park enhancement grant (PEG) that helped to fund this project. ■

**McCarthy SERVICES**

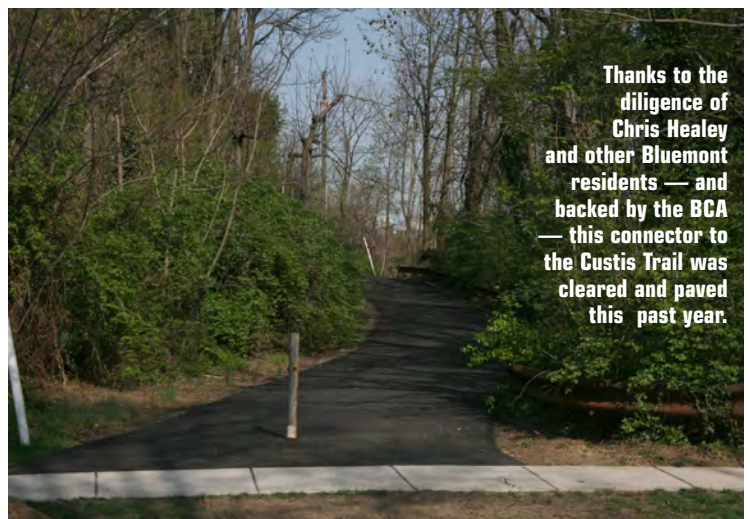
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Chris Healey  
and other Bluemont  
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the Custis Trail was  
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## Neighborhood Day BBQ May 15

Come one, come all to BCA's annual Neighborhood Day barbecue on Sat., 5/15, from 11:30 am to 1 pm behind Fire Station #2. There will be free burgers, hotdogs, snacks and soft drinks. In past years, fire station personnel have allowed Bluemont parents and kids to take an impromptu tour of the station. We still need volunteers for set up and clean up; please contact Judah dal Cais at president@bluemontcivic.org or 703-528-1551 to volunteer. ■

## Tree Giveaway Ends April 28

Many thanks to Urban Forestry Commission and BCA member Nora Palmatier for serving as our tree-giveaway coordinator. The trees are free but must be planted on homeowners' private property. There are several species from which to choose: American sycamore, the river birch, and the swamp white oak (60' trees) for larger spaces or the sweetbay magnolia (20' tree) for smaller spaces. Contact Nora at norapalm@verizon.net or call 703-527-2349 by 4/28/10 to order your tree. Nora will assist you in selecting the right tree and will notify you once your pick-up date (in May) and location have been determined. ■

## Missing (Sidewalk) Links

If your street needs curb, gutter, and sidewalk in front of three or fewer properties to connect existing sidewalks, Missing Links may be right for you. To qualify, the project must involve NO utility relocation, NO streetlight installation, and NO easement purchase. Applications are due soon, and BCA approval is required for each application. For more details, contact Carl Drummond at CarlD10@aol.com. ■

## Capital Hospice Plant Sale

Hospice will hold a fundraising plant sale on Sat., 5/1, from 10 am until 2 pm at the Halquist Memorial Inpatient Center, 4715 15th Street North, (between N. George Mason Drive and Glebe Road. Sale items include reasonably priced native plants, perennials, annuals, shrubs, trees, bulbs, ground cover, and gardening items. The rain date is Sun., 5/2. ■

## Walk for the Animals

The Animal Welfare League of Arlington will hold its annual fundraising walk on 5/8 (rain or shine). The 3-mile walk/1-mile stroll to benefit the county's homeless animals starts in Bluemont Park (329 N. Manchester Street). To register or get more details, visit [www.awla.org](http://www.awla.org) or call 703-931-9241. ■

## Taste of Arlington in Ballston

Sample the cuisine of over 40 Arlington restaurants on Sun., 5/16, noon to 5 pm (rain or shine) on Wilson Boulevard in front of Ballston Common Mall. Taste ticket booklets are sold for \$20 (for 8 tastes) in advance online at [www.tasteofarlington.com](http://www.tasteofarlington.com) or for \$25 at the event. Proceeds benefit Community Residences, Inc., a nonprofit organization that provides housing, programs and services for individuals with intellectual, mental and physical disabilities (as well as the homeless) in VA and MD. ■



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## BCA Seeks New Leadership

As an all-volunteer civic organization, BCA's ability to function is tied directly to your willingness to volunteer. We need members to serve as President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Neighborhood Conservation Action Committee (NCAC) Representative, and Civic Federation delegates and alternates.

You need no experience or special skills—just a willingness to spend a few hours each month to help your neighborhood.

Please forward your recommendations to Judah dal Cais at [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org). ■

## FREE Newsletter

FROM P.1

approximately 2,000 doorsteps in our neighborhood. Delivering our newsletter requires a commitment of just a few hours twice a year, and we are always looking for new carriers. Some volunteers need a break; others need a substitute on occasion. If you would like to help, please contact BCA's newsletter distributor David Van Wagner at [dpvanwagner@mindspring.com](mailto:dpvanwagner@mindspring.com). ■



## Help for Spring Yard Work

Spring is here, and it's time to work on your lawns, and prep your vegetable/herb gardens!

The association has a tiller available for loan, but in order to use this item your BCA membership must be current. The Mantis Tiller is an electric, light-weight, quiet, and easy to use tiller, de-thatcher, lawn aerator, planter/furrower, and border/edger. To reserve the Mantis tiller for your lawn and garden, please contact BCA President Judah dal Cais at [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org). ■

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## JOIN UP... OR JUST RENEW

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Name(s)

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E-mail Address (optional for BCA use only)

If not delivering in person, mail check for \$10 to BCA Treasurer, PO Box 5134, Arlington VA 22205

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**BCA General Meeting** 4/21

**7:30 PM at ATS**

Free Tree Giveaway 4/28

deadline (see article, p.4)

### MAY

Capital Hospice Plant Sale 5/1  
(see article, p.4)

AWLA Walk for the Animals 5/8

Bluemont Park (see article, p.4)

Executive Board Meeting 5/11

**BCA Spring BBQ** 5/15

BCA General Meeting 5/26

### JUNE

Executive Board Meeting 6/8

BCA Annual Meeting 6/23

## BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

[bca@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:bca@bluemontcivic.org)

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### Treasurer

Judy Collins-703-276-0124/jc.swings@verizon.net

### Secretary

Mary Thorne-mary.thorne3@verizon.net

### Civic Federation Representatives

Delegates: Kate Mesches, Talmadge Williams, Ed Fendley, Terry Serie. Alternates: Bob Atkins, Judah dal Cais, Sam Ferro, Larry Smith

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← **YOUR AD (COULD HAVE BEEN) HERE** →

You may have missed our spring general distribution to the 2,000 households and businesses in Bluemont, but there are always opportunities to reach our community right around the corner. The next general distribution issue is scheduled for September, and members-only issues run in May, June, October, November, and December.

**Rates and information are available online at [bluemontcivic.org/rates.pdf](http://bluemontcivic.org/rates.pdf)**

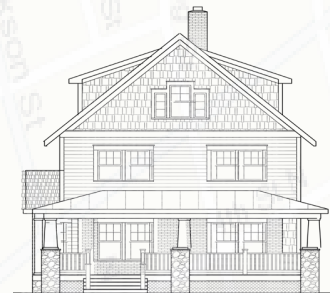


## Watch the transformation...

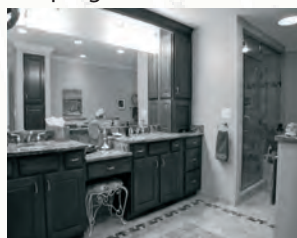
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