

PLEASE JOIN US 4/25:

Zanna Worzella from BikeArlington  
Tina Leone from the Ballston BID  
NC Plan Update  
Your Input and Concerns

◀ Red and white and blooming all over:  
pocket park at N. Harrison and 9th Rd. N.

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

**BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE**

**NEXT Meeting, 4/25, 7:30 pm,  
Arlington Traditional School**

*(The Executive Board meeting will be held at 7:00 pm and is open to all paid BCA members.)*

On the agenda for the general membership meeting is a presentation by Zanna Worzella, BikeArlington Events and Outreach Coordinator, who will share information about the Capital Bikeshare expansion in Bluemont and the benefits of BikeArlington. Tina Leone, Executive Director of the Ballston Business Improvement District (Ballston BID), will also be present to discuss the newly formed BID and its efforts to boost economic development in Ballston. Members of the BCA Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) Update Committee will be present to discuss the newest chapters.

**LAST EXEC. COMMITTEE AND  
GENERAL MEETING, 12/14**

At the February 22 BCA meeting, a number of important issues were discussed. BCA President Judah dal Cais recapped the BCA position on the 800 N. Glebe site plan amendment to convert ▶▶2

# Who lived here? What used to be there?

Ever wonder about some of the earlier occupants of your house? Who they were? What they did for a living?

Maybe you're a long-time Bluemont resident whose memory has faded and you can't recall who lived across the street or around the corner from you when you first moved in.

All of these questions are easy to answer through materials available at the Arlington Central Library. The Central Library's Virginia Room has Haines and Hills criss-cross directories that contain residential and business listings arranged by street address dating back to the early fifties.

By locating the street address of a home or business, you can research the occupants of an address over a nearly 60-year time period. Throughout the fifties and sixties, the directories not only list who lived at each residential address (including spouses), they also list each occupant's profession and employer.

The directories also offer insights into how Wilson Boulevard businesses have evolved over the years. Those of you who wish for an ice cream parlor in the neighborhood might be interested (and a ▶▶5

**We're here for you — and have been since 1945!**

**That's right, folks, your Bluemont Civic Association is always here, striving to make our neighborhood a great place to live. ▶▶2**

**Picture This**

If you have photos of former businesses or locations within the Bluemont area, we would love an opportunity to scan them for our archives — and share them in BCA News! Email [sam@ferroplusferro.com](mailto:sam@ferroplusferro.com).



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## We're Here for You

from p. 1

All of the BCA volunteers, we hope like you, are proud of our part of Arlington but think it can be even better! From simple improvements like sidewalks where there aren't any to promoting your interests with potential businesses and developers, our goals are your goals. Safe, walkable streets; neighborhood-friendly stores and services; improvements in our terrific parks—all not only improve life and property values, but also build a strong sense of community.

### Help Yourself—Become a BCA Member or Leader

Our civic association is an independent, all-volunteer group that has served Bluemont since 1945. We receive no County funds. Membership is open to all Bluemont residents and businesses. If you got this at your door, you should join!

For the prorated amount of just \$10, you'll receive all issues of the BCA News (mailed or emailed, your choice), as well as access to our new Bluemont Tuesday discounts (p.4). Signing up for optional electronic alerts is easy too. Once you've joined, you are eligible to serve on the Executive Board or in other leadership roles. You likely have talents that can help the BCA.

### Join or renew online today at [bluemontcivic.org](http://bluemontcivic.org)!

Our system is easy to use and makes future renewing a snap. ■

## BCA MEETINGS FROM P. 1

approximately 1,500 square feet of ground-floor retail space into office space for the leasing and management company. BCA's position was to not object to the conversion of the space located in the Peck site's building, but to ask the County to look into whether the Virginia Tech building next door is complying with the retail agreement that was set forth in the original site plan conditions. After a detailed description of how members of the Executive Board and others had arrived at this decision, participants felt comfortable with the position.

The general membership meeting began with a presentation by members of the Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update Committee. Chair David Van Wagner began by explaining the history of the NCP. Each section is being updated by various volunteers, and draft sections will be presented as they are completed. Initial sections were provided, and are also posted on the NCP Website at <http://bluemontncp.wordpress.com>.

David Van Wagner and David Hughes updated the first chapter, which includes an Introduction with Background & Demographic Information, an Executive Summary section, and a History of Bluemont. Caroline Haynes presented the draft Urban Forestry section, noting that supporting data were taken mostly from the County's latest urban tree canopy report (survey). Van Wagner emphasized the committee's openness to comments and corrections. Comments may be submitted via email to [bluemontncp@gmail.com](mailto:bluemontncp@gmail.com) or on the NCP Website. Van Wagner also mentioned that the committee intends to roll out additional chapters in March and April. There is a need for additional committee members to take on specific chapters, including Historic Preservation and Zoning. Contact [bluemontncp@gmail.com](mailto:bluemontncp@gmail.com) if you are interested in volunteering.

There was a special update by Joan Horwitt about the Reeves dairy farm property (located off N. Manchester St.). Horwitt explained that Arlington County purchased the farm from the original owner's heirs in 2001. Since then, the land has been used variously for educational purposes. Horwitt got involved as a volunteer, promoting the "Lawns 2 Lettuce 4 Lunch" program, which works with neighbors and

## We'll Meet You At The Next Meeting!

BCA routinely meets at 7:30 pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month with adjustments for holidays. General membership meetings are held each month, except for July and August, and are open to all Bluemont residents. Executive Board meetings are held monthly (immediately prior to general meetings) and are open to all paid BCA members. Check [www.bluemontcivic.org](http://www.bluemontcivic.org) for updates and changes.

# Join the BCA



If you don't have access to a computer to join or renew online, use this form.

New Member  Renewal

NAME(S)

MAILING ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL (FOR BCA USE ONLY)

### GO PAPERLESS AND SAVE TREES

Get BCA Neighborhood News electronically by checking this box. Be sure to provide your e-mail address!

►Bring cash or check for \$10 to the April 25 General Meeting, **or**

►Mail this form with your check to  
BCA Treasurer  
P.O. Box 5134  
Arlington VA 22205

**BCA MEETINGS FROM P. 2**

schools to increase the volume of locally grown food. The program now has 501(c)(3) status and is collaborating with community partners to transform the farm into the "Reevesland Learning Center." Horwitt requested the BCA's and its members' support at the County public budget hearing in March. Her organization is advocating for funds to rehabilitate the farmhouse so it does not sit vacant for another year. By attending County meetings in support of Reevesland Learning Center, we could help the County see the value of the proposed Learning Center and encourage it to provide funds for the cause. ■

[Note: Full BCA meeting minutes will be posted to the BCA Website once they have been approved by the membership (for General Membership meetings) or by the Executive Board (for Executive Board meetings.)]

**BCA ANNUAL ELECTIONS**

A new BCA leadership team will be elected at the Annual Meeting in June. These team members are your neighbors who devote extra time to attend meetings, sit on committees, and stay connected to what's going on in our neighborhood and the greater Arlington area to ensure Bluemont is a better and safer place to live. The Nominating Committee has already started efforts to find viable candidates to run for offices.

President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Newsletter Editor will open in June, however, members are encouraged to run for any position in which they are interested. Please contact BCA President Judah dal Cais for more information, [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org) or 703-528-1551. ■

**Civ Fed Highlights**

BCA is part of the Arlington County Civic Federation which works to empower citizens to improve their communities by mobilizing and coordinating the resources of government, business, nonprofits, the faith community, neighborhood leaders, and citizens themselves.

Highlights from the Feb. 7 meeting follow, while a full report from Civ Fed delegate Suzanne Sundburg is available online at [bluemontcivic.org](http://bluemontcivic.org).

**County Board Q&A** focused on

- budget priorities; the upcoming Capital Improvement Program bond referendum.
- maintaining a AAA bond rating.
- working with school officials in order to address the capacity issue.
- loss of affordable housing, particularly along Columbia Pike.
- poor condition of state-maintained N. Glebe Road



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## BCA Benefits

### Bluemont Tuesdays

There is really a lot going on in Bluemont! The Wilson Blvd. business corridor is abuzz with activity. The Bluemont Civic Association is kicking off a new program in May called "Bluemont Tuesdays." On the last Tuesday of the month, BCA members will receive a 10% discount at participating restaurants and stores. See page 2 to learn how to become a BCA member. Members will need to show their discount card in order to receive the discount. Already a member? Look for yours to arrive soon. Just another benefit of joining the BCA!

### Good Dog Owner!

We love our Fidos and FiFis, and hope that all pet owners will do their dog-gone-dest to respect neighbors and laws. That means:

- **Leash the Lab.** Walk that dog, but realize a free-roaming or long-leashed canine poses danger to itself, people and pets—no matter how harmless it seems to you.
- **Pick Up that Poodle Poo.** Just like your best friend, youngsters (and oldsters) like to scamper through the grass. But nothing sours an afternoon like stepping in unbagged dachhund dung in parks, sidewalks or front yards.
- **Belay that Barking Bloodhound** As melodic as it may seem to you, few folk want to be serenaded by your baying hound any time of day—and especially not in the wee hours. (Full article at [bluemontcivic.org](http://bluemontcivic.org).)

# BLUEMONT BUSINESS BUZZ



When you think of how you'd like to spend an evening out, the words "friendly service" and "good food" probably come to mind. Those principles drive Fettoosh owner and chef Abdelmalik Amarir as he prepares Moroccan and Lebanese dishes at this Bluemont restaurant. Located at 5100 Wilson Blvd., Fettoosh, which is the name of a popular Lebanese salad, opened almost a year ago. A restaurant by the same name was once operated in Georgetown, which is where Abdel learned to cook Lebanese cuisine. After that restaurant closed, he decided to open his own right here in Arlington, where he and his family have lived since 1990. Abdel has been cooking since he was a teenager in his home country of Morocco. Seven days a week you will find him cooking at the restaurant, offering glasses of mint tea to customers, and always greeting everyone with a smile. Some of Abdel's favorites to cook are the Lebanese dish shish tawook, and the Moroccan dishes chicken mhamar and lamb with prunes, both made with a tagine. On Fridays, Abdel offers couscous specials all day, in addition to the usual Lebanese and Moroccan treats. Whether he's cooking with cumin or tumeric, lemon juice or garlic, one thing you will certainly taste in the food is heart. Abdel's desire to serve good, authentic food and ensure that all customers leave happy make Fettoosh a welcome addition to the neighborhood. ■

### Join the BCA for BBQ

Come celebrate Neighborhood Day with BCA from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm on Sat., May 12, at Fire Station #2 (near the intersection of Wilson and George Mason). There will be free burgers, hotdogs, snacks, soft drinks, and plenty of fun—fire station personnel have allowed parents and kids to take impromptu tours of the station in the past.

**Volunteers are needed!** Please contact Judah dal Cais at [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org) or 703-528-1551 to help prep and/or clean up. ■



Hot Dog! David Van Wagner doles out dogs at the 2011 BCA Barbecue.

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Stop in and say hello. We are in your neighborhood!

## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

### Who Lived Here? from p. 1

little disappointed) to learn that Bluemont used to have a High's Dairy Store and a Tastee Freeze in years past.

Following is a snapshot of some Wilson Blvd. business property owners at various points since 1955, excerpted from the directories by David Van Wagner during his work on the Bluemont NC Plan.

Address	1955	1967	1977	1987	1997	2012
4617	Carney & Drew Development / Darwin Realty	Lowe Zackie Excavating Equipment	Lowe Zackie Excavating Equipment	Allcraft Bicycle Shop	El Rancharo	El Rancharo
5019	Jack's Lunch	Two Chefs	Two Chefs	Two Chefs	Two Chefs	Two Chefs
5021	Brandon Delicatessen	Brandon Delicatessen	Brandon Delicatessen	Adong Market	Hunan Gallery	Panda Café
5104	address not listed	B&B Refrigeration	Minnesota Paints	International Mart	El Sabroso	Pupatella Neapolitan Pizzeria
5201	Arnold's Esso Service Station	Arnold's Esso Service Station	Cooper Page Exxon	B&D Towing Company / L&C Service Center	D & V Service Center	D & V Service Center
5216	address not listed	Venus Art Music	Venus Art Music	Khyber Halal Market / Tony Ban Tailoring	Cintra Restaurant	Layalina
5517	Tip Top Market	no business listed	High's Dairy Store	Michael's Market	George's Lebanese Restaurant	La Union

\*Sources: Haines Directory—Northern Virginia Suburban (1977–2012); Hills Arlington County Directory (1955–72) ■

### Neighborhood Conservation Plan News

BCA Neighborhood Conservation Plan Update Committee is continuing its efforts to update Bluemont's NCP. By the April 25th BCA general membership meeting, the Committee hopes to have posted on the BCA Website six different draft sections of the revised NCP for Bluemont residents to read and offer comments. The sections to be posted include the following: (1) Commercial/Business Areas, (2) Housing, (3) Public Facilities and Services, (4) Urban Forestry, (5) Street Conditions-Transportation-Traffic Management, and (6) Introduction-Executive Summary-History.

As new sections are rolled out, the sections' authors will provide a brief overview of their work and answer questions at BCA general membership meetings. Please visit <http://bluemontncp.wordpress.com> to review the draft chapters and post your own suggestions. ■

### You May Ask Yourself, How Did This Get Here?

Twice a year (spring and fall) BCA reaches out to all 2,300 households (members and non-members alike) in Bluemont. BCA volunteers have delivered this newsletter to you free of charge. Our hard-working newsletter distributor, David Van Wagner, always needs substitute and replacement carriers. The time commitment is very limited. Please contact him at [dpvanwagner@mindspring.com](mailto:dpvanwagner@mindspring.com) to volunteer. ■



### The House That Sears Built

If you had been passing through Cherrydale in the summer of 1925 you might have come across Charles and Ethel Taylor digging the basement for their Sunlight model bungalow. The newlyweds ordered a Sears kit house for \$1,620 and erected it themselves on a lot they bought for \$250.

Sears Homes, sold out of catalogues from 1908 to 1941, were available in 440 different models. The kits came in many shapes and sizes — from two-rooms to 23 — and models were tweaked every few years. These dwellings were a true representation of the American Dream; people

from all over the nation, from all different levels of society purchased them, thanks to the payment plan that made them easily

affordable. Close to 1,000 kit homes were built in the Arlington area, and fewer than 800 remain today. Kit homes were delivered by rail, which is why there were so many in Arlington. Sears was not alone — Aladdin, Montgomery Ward, and Lewis also sold kits. There may well be a few in Bluemont, possibly on N. Jefferson St. between 7th and 8th and another on N. Wakefield near 7th St. N., both built in the 1920s.

If you think you have a Sears Home, contact Newsletter Editor Carla dal Cais for help in





Two Capital BikeShare stations like this will soon arrive in our neighborhood

Photo: bikearlington.com

## Capital Bike Share in Bluemont

Capital Bike Share is on its way to Bluemont with two planned stations—one at the corner of Wilson Blvd. and N. George Mason Drive, and the other at N. Glebe Road and N. 11th/N. Wakefield Streets. Visit the BikeArlington Website: <http://www.bikearlington.com/pages/bikesharing/planned-arlington-stations/> to learn more. You will also be able to suggest future station locations using the Crowdsourcing map. A few in Bluemont have already been suggested, and more input might bring other stations into our neighborhood! ■

## Task Force On Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety

The BCA Task Force on Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety (ARSPS Task Force) is a group of concerned BCA members that is studying options to improve Bluemont's arterial roads (e.g., Wilson Boulevard, George Mason Drive). Under its charter, the Task Force is investigating different ways to accomplish the following:

1. make Bluemont's arterial roads safer and more accessible for pedestrians;
2. help achieve the BCA's goal of ensuring that arterial sidewalks meet Arlington and ADA design guidelines; and
3. allow for the safe, orderly flow of bicyclists, motor vehicles, pedestrians, and transit through our community.

The Task Force meets every third Saturday of the month at 8:00 am at Two Chefs Restaurant (5019 Wilson Blvd.). Meetings are open to any BCA member with an interest in the group's work, and other interested stakeholders are welcome to share their views and to join its meetings.

Find out more and stay updated at <http://bluemontroads.wordpress.com>.

BCA members interested in joining the Task Force should contact Chris Healey ([cphealey@me.com](mailto:cphealey@me.com)) or Ed Fendley ([edfendley@gmail.com](mailto:edfendley@gmail.com)). ■

## WALKARLINGTON COMES TO BLUEMONT

WalkArlington, a County-wide initiative, has created a series of self-guided walking tours called Walkabouts to help residents discover the beauty and history of Arlington neighborhoods. With the help of BCA and County staff member Ritch Viola, BCA applied for the County's Walkabout program and was one of four that were approved by the WalkArlington staff. The Bluemont Walkabout would take place in 2013, and Ritch is looking for fellow neighbors who want to be part of the organizing committee. Contact Ritch via email [Rviola@arlingtonva.us](mailto:Rviola@arlingtonva.us) or by phone 703-228-3699 if you are interested. ■

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Artomatic is funded in part by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, an agency supported by the National Endowment for the Arts.

## Wait — What's Bluemont!?

It's the neighborhood in which you live! Stretching from Ballston to Bluemont Park, Carlin Springs Road to Washington Blvd., it's the best of Arlington. With vibrant restaurants, shops, and Metro on the east to two of the area's finest parks on the west, plus bike trails, businesses, and diverse, quiet neighborhoods, it is the envy of many. Well, we don't have to sell you—you already live here! But did you know that:

- in Arlington, it is the civic associations who work with the County government?
- with approximately 2,300 households, we are one of the largest neighborhoods in the civic association network?
- our area was called Stonewall Jackson before Bluemont—and that Civil War skirmishes took place here?
- the Bluemont Junction Trail for biking and walking was a railroad line until the 1960s?
- Or, fast-forwarding to 2012, that BCA has a Facebook page you can join in on? Search for it! ■

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Your position statement

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**BCA Meetings-ATS 4/25**  
**(Exec Board: 7pm; General 7:30)**

RiP (Remove Invasive Plants) 4/14  
 10am-noon, Lacey Woods Park

Pedestrian Safety Task 4/21  
 Force Meeting (see p.6)

Earth Week Community Fair 4/22  
 12-3pm, GMU Arlington Campus,  
 3351 Fairfax Dr., Arlington

BCA Neighborhood Day BBQ 5/12  
 (see p.4)

Ballston Arts & Crafts 5/12  
 Market, Wellburn Square

Artomatic (see ad p.6) 5/18

May General Meeting 5/23

## BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

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

### President

Judah dal Cais – 703-528-1551  
[president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org)

### First Vice President

George Rovder – [georgerovder@hotmail.com](mailto:georgerovder@hotmail.com)

### Second Vice President

Matt Fehling – [matt.fehling@alumni.unc.edu](mailto:matt.fehling@alumni.unc.edu)

### Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative

Larry Smith – [LrsML@aol.com](mailto:LrsML@aol.com)  
 Alternate: Mark Haynes – [haynes@concordiapower.us](mailto:haynes@concordiapower.us)

### Treasurer

Judy Collins – [703-276-0124/jc.swings@verizon.net](mailto:703-276-0124/jc.swings@verizon.net)

### Secretary

Chitra Kumar – [chitraku@gmail.com](mailto:chitraku@gmail.com)

### Civic Federation Representatives

Robert Atkins, Terry Serie, Suzanne Sundburg,  
 Sandra Munnell. Alternates: Sam Ferro, Ed  
 Fendley, Dean Foster

### BCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS & REPRESENTATIVES

#### Webmaster

Dave Leichtman – [dave@leichtman.org](mailto:dave@leichtman.org)

#### Newsletter Editor

Carla dal Cais – [cecathey@gmail.com](mailto:cecathey@gmail.com)

#### Newsletter Design/Layout/Photos

Sam Ferro – [sam@ferroplusferro.com](mailto:sam@ferroplusferro.com)

#### Newsletter Distribution

David Van Wagner – [dpvanwagner@mindspring.com](mailto:dpvanwagner@mindspring.com)

#### Wilson Boulevard Safety Committee

Bob Waffle – [rwafile@comcast.net](mailto:rwafile@comcast.net)

#### Bluemont Village Center Working Group

Judah dal Cais – [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org)

#### Ballston Partnership Representative

Talmdge Williams – [ttwrec@aol.com](mailto:ttwrec@aol.com)

#### Metro Liaison

Henry McFarland – [hmfcarland@hotmail.com](mailto:hmfcarland@hotmail.com)

#### Emergency Preparedness Liaison

James Thorne – [james.thorne7@verizon.net](mailto:james.thorne7@verizon.net)

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## IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

### Bluemont Trail Update

Arlington County's Parks and Natural Resources Division would like to thank the Bluemont Civic Association community members for their positive feedback and cooperation regarding the County's work on the Bluemont Junction Trail's Green Corridor Initiative.

Invasive plant removal from Fairfax Drive to N. George Mason Drive is complete, and planning for tree planting in the area has begun. Trail users may notice white pin flags marking proposed planting locations. Planting will likely take place soon to take advantage of the mild weather and favorable growing conditions. The County plans to immediately restore areas bordering residential properties where significant amounts of invasive plants were removed.

Contact Lois Barb at 703-228-7980 with any questions about the Green Corridor Initiative. ■

### Bocce Petition Up For Vote

David Van Wagner and Richard and Caroline Young are submitting a petition of support for BCA to request the Parks and Recreation Department to build a bocce/pétanque court in Bluemont. Approximately 13' wide and 50' long and surfaced with rock dust or decomposed granite, it would foster community spirit in a fun way for all ages. The proposed location is between N. Illinois and N. Emerson Streets along the Bluemont Trail. At the April BCA meeting, members will vote on submitting the petition to the County. If you wish to sign the petition, contact [president@bluemontcivic.org](mailto:president@bluemontcivic.org) or call 703-528-1551. ■

### CIV FED from p.3

#### Storm-Water Management and Water Quality discussion included

- new Virginia storm-water management regulations with which Arlington must comply in 2014.
- pollution from erosion due to loss of much of the County's original stream network to development.
- Stormwater Wise Landscapes Program has been initiated to help the County meet the more stringent regulatory requirements and improve water quality. ■

### SEARS HOMES from p.5

determining its origin.

Thanks to Kathryn Holt Springston, an Arlington resident and expert on Sears Homes, for contributing to this article. ■

### Got a Bluemont story to share?

Contact Carla at [cecathey@gmail.com](mailto:cecathey@gmail.com) or 703-967-8458. ■

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