



Annual Meeting/Elections
Steve Cole & Terry Serie on Safeway RFP
Safeway Task Force & NC Plan Updates
Your Input & Concerns

◀ **Gooooa!!!** Site of countless kids' soccer games, find out why it's called Fields Park, p.4

JUNE 2012 A PUBLIC SERVICE OF YOUR BLUEMONT CIVIC ASSOCIATION

www.bluemontcivic.org

BCA MEETINGS AT A GLANCE

All Politics is Local

BCA Annual Meeting & Election June 27 at 7:30pm

At the final meeting before our summer break, we will elect new officers and representatives at BCA's Annual Meeting, to be held at Arlington Traditional School.

Who is Eligible to Vote?

Members in good standing (i.e., those whose dues payments are current) who attend the meeting will elect officers and representatives for 2012–2013. If you have not paid dues for 2012, please bring proof of residency in Bluemont (such as a driver's license or utility bill) and check or cash for \$7.50 to join/renew membership thru December 2012 (OR \$20 to join/renew membership thru December 2013) to the June 27 meeting. Once you have paid, you will be eligible to vote that same evening. Individual members have one (1) vote; household members have two (2) votes, and businesses have one (1) vote per business. Members must attend the June 27 meeting and vote in person. There is currently no mechanism for online or absentee balloting.

Slate of Candidates

President	Judah dal Cais
First Vice President	George Rovder
Second Vice President	John Herickhoff
Treasurer	Sandy Munell
Secretary	*none*
NCAC Rep	Larry Smith
Civ Fed Reps	Bob Atkins, Suzanne Sundburg Sandy Munnell, Terry Serie
Civ Fed Alternates	Dean Foster, Sam Ferro, Ed Fendley ■

NEXT MEETING 6/27

Join us for our next general membership meeting—7:30 pm on Wednesday, June 27, at Arlington Traditional School. This is the Annual Meeting where we will elect officers and representatives. 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 Steve Cole and Terry Serie on the Safeway Site RFP. As well, members of the Safeway Task Force will give a presentation about their scope, purpose, and upcoming meetings. Members of the BCA Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) Update Committee will also be present to discuss the Commercial, Traffic Management, and Street Conditions chapters.

LAST MEETINGS 5/23

Highlights from the May Executive Board and general membership meetings included the following:
 ■ Arlington Public Schools – Allison Denton & John Chadwick gave a presentation explaining the County's primary option to ▶▶2

\$10 off \$40

Good for any Saturday in June & July from 4–9pm

BALLSTON COMMON MALL | 703-778-3568 | WWW.UNIONJACKSBALLSTON.COM

5201 Wilson Boulevard
 Arlington, VA 22205
 (703) 525-0440
 dvservicecenter.com

D&V AUTO SERVICE CENTER

Complete Auto Repairs
 Domestic & Foreign Cars
 Major Credit Cards Honored

New NCP Sections To Be Presented

The BCA Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) Update Committee is continuing its efforts to update BCA's NCP. At the June 27 BCA General Meeting, the authors of three different draft sections of the new NCP will present an overview of their work: a Commercial/Business Section, a Street Conditions Section, and a Traffic Management/Transportation Section. Simultaneous with these presentations, the sections will be posted for BCA residents to read and offer comments on www.bluemontcivic.org and www.bluemontncp.wordpress.com.

The new sections join four other sections that have already been posted on Housing, Public Facilities and Services, Urban Forestry and Introduction/Executive Summary/History. These are still open for review and the Committee encourages Bluemont residents to pass along their comments as the Committee attempts to reflect your views and aspirations for Bluemont.

The Committee will be wrapping up its work this summer and in preparing the final NCP could use help from anyone with editing experience. If you would like to lend your assistance, please contact David Van Wagner at dpvanwagner@mindspring.com or Caroline Haynes cmhaynes@comcast.net.

The final NCP should be ready for a membership vote in the fall. ■

address the challenge of planning for the growing school-age population in Arlington.

■ **Arlington Regional Master Naturalists Presentation** – Nora Palmatier shared tips for removing harmful ivy from trees in the neighborhoods. The Tree Stewards, funded by the Arlington County Tree Canopy Fund, provides educational programs to protect trees. For more information, visit www.treestewards.org or www.armn.org.

■ **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – March General Membership minutes were approved by the membership. April minutes were also approved.

■ **June Election Nominating Committee** – John Herickhoff and Bob Atkins announced the slate of nominees for the June 2012 election, as it currently stands.

■ **Civic Federation Update** – Dean Foster reported on the resolution at the latest Civic Federation meeting denying backyard hens. The resolution was voted back to the zoning committee.

■ **Treasurer's Report** – Judy Collins stated that BCA has 221 members who have renewed through 2012, and that membership has diminished since a year ago. The association will try to encourage renewals.

■ **Neighborhood Conservation Plan Committee** – David Van Wagner reported that the committee would present on infrastructure, traffic management and transportation, and commercial usage at the June 27 BCA meeting.

■ **President's Report** – Judah dal Cais mentioned that 800 North Glebe has requested a site plan amendment to put in blinds to increase restaurant patrons' comfort and to increase signage.

Dal Cais updated the membership on the motion passed by the BCA board during his absence at the March 28 meeting to prohibit him from signing the Missing Links application submitted by homeowner Curt Rich for curb, gutter, and sidewalks for N. 8th Rd. and N. Frederick St. Judah had already signed Curt Rich's Missing Links application on March 25. Tim McIntosh approved the application and the Neighborhood Conservation Program accepted it as a Missing Links project. Construction started at this location in June.

■ **New Business: Safeway Site Request for Proposals (RFP)** – dal Cais introduced the topic of the recent RFP released by Safeway agents for the development rights to build on and above the site at Wilson Boulevard between Emerson and Frederick Streets. A lively discussion ensued with members asking many questions about the process that will follow and the possible bounds of the redevelopment plans. ■

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER

The BCA is taking its annual break for the summer. General Membership meetings will resume in September. But there are ways for you to stay involved with BCA over the next few months. You can attend one of the three working groups.

■ **The Task Force on Arterial Roads Sidewalks and Pedestrian Safety** meets every third Saturday of the month at 8:00 am at Two Chef's Pizza (5019 Wilson Boulevard). The meetings are open to any BCA member with an interest in the Task Force's work. For more information contact Chris Healey (cphealey@me.com) or Ed Fendley (edfendley@gmail.com).

■ **The Bocce Working Group** is tasked to work with the County's Parks and Recreation Department to select an appropriate location in Bluemont for installing a bocce court. In selecting a location(s), the group will take into consideration both the impact of the bocce court on nearby residences and the goal to ▶▶5

BLUEMONT BUSINESS BUZZ



Picture a shop with vintage and funky finds; a bright oil painting, a Dom Perignon serving tray, a set of crystal martini glasses. That's **No Place Like Home**, a store on the first floor of the little gray house on the corner of Wilson Boulevard and N. Frederick Street. Opened by long-time Bluemont resident Renee Henninger in August 2008, No Place Like Home has a welcoming vibe and lends itself to easy wandering, as you discover unique items around each corner. About half of the items are hand selected by Renee at estate sales or other locales and the other half are consigned from local people, all with an eye toward what she thinks her customers would like. Growing up all over Europe as her family moved with her father's job in the Army, she developed an attraction to art, houses and décor, and people's stories. What better way to bring these interests together than to open a shop where every piece has a story to tell and an artistic aura.

No Place Like Home has become a place where neighbors connect, like a local watering hole. People drop by to say hello and share stories about what they have been doing. Some meet others for the first time in her shop and become friends. This is one of the things Renee enjoys most, creating a sense of community and hearing people's stories in the process. In the near future she will have a week celebrating everything about cooking and looks to have a flea market with some friends. This summer, stroll on by No Place Like Home and get in touch with your funky side or discover a new style. And if you find yourself feeling comfortable and at home, that's just the way Renee wants it. ■

Judy, Judy, Judy!

BCA applauds Judy Collins for her many years of service to Bluemont! She is hanging up her hat as Treasurer after nine years in that office. Over the years she has also served as First Vice President and worked on newsletter distribution. **Thank you, Judy!**

Our New Neighbors to the East

You may have seen some of the signs — the new BikeShare station at Welburn Square, a revived Twitter account, the Taste of Arlington. The Ballston Business Improvement District (BID) is steadily making its presence known in the area and plans to improve economic development in Ballston. With boundaries stretching from N. Glebe and Washington Blvd. to N. Glebe and Quincy St., the Ballston sector includes more than 25 blocks of commercial and residential properties. The BID's goal is to promote Ballston as the hub of Science and Technology in the DC Metro area and will do that via the following services and programs: marketing, events, and branding, physical enhancements, transportation enhancements, and supplemental beautification. Funds for the BID come from a tax on commercial property within the boundaries. Apartments and condos are not included. Each commercial property is assessed a special tax of \$0.045 per \$100 of assessed value. For example, a property worth \$10,000,000 is assessed \$4,500 annually. This money then stays in the district and cannot be used elsewhere in the County.

Located at 901 N. Glebe, the BID is headed by Tina Leone, a soon to be returning Arlington resident, who most recently was President and CEO of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. Leone looks to create a sense of place for Ballston and enhance its image as a prime location to live, work, and play. Stay updated on the BID's work via their Web site, www.iloveballston.com, or by following them on Twitter, @BallstonBID. ■

Grand Opening June 28

fresh local friendly

ballston freshfarm market

Thursdays 3-7pm

Welburn Square across from the Ballston Metro

Find us online at ballstonbid.com

BYGONE BLUEMONT HISTORY

Howard B. Fields

Our legacy is the footprints we leave behind. And, to quote Marion Blakey, you can't leave a footprint that lasts if you're always walking on tiptoe. Howard B. Fields, the longest serving Sheriff in Arlington County, most certainly never walked on tiptoe. Born in 1873, Fields served as Sheriff for a total of 24 years and was known for his tough, no nonsense demeanor. He was described by those who knew him as a Western-style Sheriff with a handlebar mustache, and eyes that were poison. Fields was, nonetheless, a kind and gentle man, one who cared for community members and gave charity to those less fortunate. The home he and his wife Cora shared sat on the land where the Fire Station No. 2 and Fields Park are now located. It was also near there where Fields was struck and killed by a car at the age of 79. He was a colorful character who participated in cock fighting and poker games and was re-elected despite these hobbies. His footprints remain in Bluemont and the greater Arlington area from the park that's his namesake to the people whose lives he touched. Howard B. Fields, a man who carried a big stick and a big heart. ■

IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Bluemont's Bell

Many of us have activities we enjoy on Federal Holidays. Whether it's grilling out, gathering with friends, taking in a parade, or raising an American flag, these activities become traditions that we look forward to. There's a tradition in Arlington that takes place right in our neighborhood, one that many people are not aware of, and for those who do know, they only know part of the story.



Imagine, you're in your backyard or on your front porch, relaxing on your day off from work and you hear it, a deep, loud tone. You walk toward the sound, but by the time the bell is in your sights, there's no one around. Whoever was there has vanished and you're left wondering if it was all in your head. On federal holidays neighbors gather to ring the bell that is located near the corner of George Mason Drive and Wilson Boulevard. Young and old they enjoy taking turns tugging the clapper and creating the resonating sound.

The idea of the bell was first conceived as an addition to a garden commemorating the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Elizabeth Weihe, longtime Arlington resident and beautification activist, worked with Arlington County Department of Parks and Rec and the Arlington Constitutional Bicentennial Commission to incorporate the bell. Purchased with County beautification funds, the former church bell weighs 250 pounds and was cast in 1962 in St. Louis. The 30-pound clapper is removed from the bell except for ceremonial bell ringing.

The Constitutional Garden was dedicated on October 10, 1987 at a bell-ringing celebration. The plan for the garden, coordinated by former County staff member Roberto Moranchel, was to enhance the attractiveness of the busy intersection, and the bell was installed as a reminder of the Constitution.

The garden is maintained by the County and replanted to coincide with the seasons. The park won a Virginia Living Legacy Project award and was touted as the "most impressive in the state" by the Virginia Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution in a November 23, 1998 letter. The next ringing will take place on July 4 at noon. Join your neighbors as we continue the tradition!

Thanks to Judith Knudsen and John Stanton of Arlington Public Libraries' Virginia Room for their assistance with the research for this article. ■



This way to the field at Fields Park.

facebook

Find F

Bluemont Civic Association
Timeline Now Highlights
Liked

Bluemont Civic Association

79 likes

Liked
Message
*

Hot Fun In The Summertime?

With summer comes lazy days of lemonade stands and firefly filled evenings. Here are some things to keep in mind as you set out in search of fun and relaxation.

Mosquito & Tick Watch

The summer brings months of outdoor activities and fun in the sun. It also brings an increase of mosquitoes and ticks. Be vigilant of conditions that can breed mosquitoes and be sure to check for ticks regularly.

Stop Mosquitoes Where They Start

- Eliminate standing water
- Change the water and clean bird baths
- Empty water that collects in folds of tarps used to cover woodpiles, boats

Prevent Tick Bites

- Avoid tick-infested areas
- Dress appropriately
- Use tick repellent
- Conduct frequent tick checks

Where Can I Cool Off?

There are many public pools in Arlington: Wakefield Swimming Pool, Washington-Lee Swimming Pool, Yorktown Swimming Pool, and Upton Hill Pool. Upton Hill, the only outdoor public pool, is just down the street from Bluemont on Wilson Blvd. From June 16 – August 19 Upton Hill is open daily from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm, closing at 6:00 pm Monday – Friday from August 20 – August 31. In addition to the main pool, there is Ocean Dunes Waterpark, which offers waterslides and a dumping bucket and play feature. And if you want a break from the water, you can play a round of mini golf or take a swing at the batting cages. You can also host a birthday party at the Waterpark or rent a nearby shelter for a picnic.

Check out three spraygrounds located in Arlington. Drew Playground (3514 22nd St. S.), Hayes Park (1516 N. Lincoln St.), and Lyon Village Park (1800 N. Highland St.) are open Memorial Day Weekend to Labor Day Weekend. Times vary so check the Arlington County Website.

Extreme Heat, Be Aware

As the temperatures rise everyone should pay attention to how long they are in the sun. Be especially aware of certain groups in our community. Seniors are especially susceptible to heat-related illness, so check on your older neighbors. The Arlington Agency on Aging can help older residents obtain a fan. Call 703-228-1700. Arlington also administers Virginia's Cooling Assistance Program, which provides relief from summer cooling bills for qualifying Arlington households. Applications may be obtained and submitted June 15 - August 15 at 2100 Washington Blvd. 1st Floor. For more information call 703-228-1350.

Children will likely be playing outside more. Make sure they get plenty of water and take breaks from the sun, especially when it's extremely humid. Be sure to apply sunscreen frequently and limit sun expo- ▶▶6



The Porch Is Yours...

...is the title of a free Community Performance/Potluck Picnic, to be held Saturday, July 28, at 2:00 pm in Bluemont Park at the Reevesland house. Come and enjoy food, music, dance, readings, and performance art. The rain date is Sunday July 29 at 2:00 pm. ■

In September from p.2

have a location that maximizes usage of the court. Please contact BCA President Judah dal Cais for more information, president@bluemontcivic.org or 703-528-1551. Attend the June 27 BCA General meeting to learn more about the newest special group, the Safeway Task Force. ■ BCA's Neighborhood Conservation Plan (NCP) is in the process of being updated, thanks to the hard work of the **NCP Update Committee**. Over the summer, please visit <http://www.bluemontcivic.org> or www.bluemontncp.wordpress.com to review the NCP draft sections and to post your comments. This document will be the voice of what residents want for Bluemont.

There are still other ways for you to be involved in BCA. We are in search of someone to serve as Secretary and as Newsletter Editor. We could also use a few extra hands with newsletter distribution in September and April, when the newsletter is hand delivered to every house in Bluemont. It takes a village and assistance is always appreciated! ■

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BCA Meetings-ATS	6/27
(Exec Board: 7pm; General 7:30)	
Ballston FamFresh Market	6/28
3-7pm every Thursday	
July/Aug Exec Meeting	TBD
Constitution Bell Ringing	7/4
see story, p.4	
Ballston Arts Market	7/14
10am-4pm second Saturdays	
The Porch is Yours	7/28
Community Potluck, see p.5	

HAPPY SUMMER
from your
BCA

BCA Neighborhood News

is a service of YOUR community civic association.

bca@bluemontcivic.org

President

Judah dal Cais – 703-528-1551
president@bluemontcivic.org

First Vice President

George Rovder – georgerovder@hotmail.com

Second Vice President

Matt Fehling – matt.fehling@alumni.unc.edu

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

Representative

Larry Smith – LrsML@aol.com

Alternate: Mark Haynes – haynes@concordiapower.us

Treasurer

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

Secretary

Chitra Kumar – 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

Newsletter Editor

Carla dal Cais – cecathey@gmail.com

Newsletter Design/Layout/Photos

Sam Ferro – sam@ferroplusferro.com

Newsletter Distribution

David Van Wagner – dpvanwagner@mindspring.com

Wilson Boulevard Safety Committee

Bob Waffle – rwaffle@comcast.net

Bluemont Village Center Working Group

Judah dal Cais – president@bluemontcivic.org

Ballston Partnership Representative

Talmdage Williams – ttwrec@aol.com

Metro Liaison

Henry McFarland – hmcFarland@hotmail.com

Emergency Preparedness Liaison

James Thorne – james.thorne7@verizon.net

Free website listing when you advertise with us! bluemontcivic.org/docs/rates2011.pdf



Bluemont Civic Association

PO Box 5134

Arlington VA 22205

In the Summertime from p.4

sure during the peak intensity hours, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Don't forget your pets!

Give them plenty of water and try to limit outdoor exposure when it's hottest. Plan longer walks for dogs in the morning and evening when it's cooler. Never leave your pet in a car when you travel or do errands. Leaving them even briefly can lead to heat exhaustion, heat stroke, brain damage, and even death. These tips were brought to you by Arlington County and the Animal Welfare League of Arlington. ■

Re//Build

- Non-Profit – all donated materials tax deductible
- Selling used /new quality building materials at 50% discount or more
- Installation of new and reclaimed hardwood flooring
- Energy audits, home weatherization and air sealing

6625-B Iron Place | Springfield, VA 22151 | 703.658.8840

www.rebuildwarehouse.org