



Barcroft News

October 2005

Vol 103, Issue 02

President's Report

By Pat Williamson

Thanks to all the neighbors who attend our September 1 meeting. We are so pleased to announce that Heidi Wicker has signaled her interest in assuming the position of Recording Secretary. Please come to the October 6 meeting to cast a vote for her!!

TravFick reports that the bollards (new and improved!) should be in place on Buchanan Street by the time of our next meeting. You may have seen cars crossing the center line and using the spaces in the speed humps to navigate more quickly past the hump. Bollards are obstructions in the speed hump spaces designed to prevent passenger cars while allowing for emergency vehicles. This safety concern has waited long enough to be addressed by the County.

After a great initial presentation at the September meeting by Elizabeth Rives, 7th Street neighbor and certified Tree Steward, will provide a presentation at the October meeting titled **RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT NOW**. Arlington's tree canopy is dwindling and we can all help to bring it back by learning more about our native trees.

The three candidates for the Arlington County School Board race -- Bill Barker, Cecelia Espenosa and Ed Fendley -- will share their ideas with us at the October meeting in a candidate's forum. We hoping for a great turnout of neighbors to welcome these folks and let them know how important Barcroft School is to us.

October Meeting Agenda

Regular Monthly Meeting of Barcroft School and
Civic League --
800 S. Buchanan Street

7:30 pm

Welcome and Committee Reports

7:40 pm

Election of New Recording Secretary

7:45 pm

RIGHT TREE, RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT NOW

Elizabeth Rives, Neighbor and Tree Steward

8:30 pm

School Board Candidates Introduction --
Bill Barker, Cecelia Espenosa, Ed Fendley

8:35 pm

Five minutes presentation of candidate platforms

8:50 pm

Questions from members and guests

9:30 pm

Adjourn

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Deadlines: 10th (ads) or 15th (news/editorial material) day of the month preceding the issue month.

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 All phone numbers are area code 703.

Classifieds

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Nanny— Rossmerry Cayoja, a nanny, with a love and devotion to children, seeks employment in the Barcroft neighborhood. Rossmerry is honest, friendly, caring and with excellent references. She would like to work full time if possible, but is flexible. She is currently available from 8:30 – 6:00 pm Monday – Wednesday. However, within two weeks of a job offer, she can be available 8:30-6:00 pm Monday – Friday. Call 703-553-4029 or 703-795-5323 for more information.

Nanny Share Available: Barcroft family is looking for a family to share reliable, legal nanny of 2 1/2 years. We need 1 full time or 2 part-time babies/children to share beginning in October. Please call Timi Kenealy at 703-302-5210 or 202-203-4576 (work).

Nanny Available: Excellent Barcroft References. Available Monday—Thursday full time. Fluent in English and Spanish. Call Lisa 703 486 2983 for more specifics / references. Call the nanny, Maria at 703 379 4845 to speak with her directly.

**COME TO THE BSCL MEETING.
 JOIN THE FUN.
 CONTRIBUTE TO THE DECISIONS.
 MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS.
 ENJOY THE HISTORIC SURROUNDINGS.**

**FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH.
 7:30 PM Eastern Standard Time**

Keep up with events by joining the Barcroft chat group and news list.

Go to:
www.bscl.org

The Woman's Club of Arlington

Fall Festival

The Woman's Club of Arlington, 700 S. Buchanan St. Arlington VA will host a Potluck Luncheon at 12 noon on Monday, Oct 3 followed by speaker, Gloria Sauck, Missionary Nurse to Kenya at 1:00 pm.

Everyone is invited to a Fall Festival at Our Savior Lutheran School on Saturday, October 29th from 11am to 2pm. There will be carnival games. Win tickets to turn in for prizes at the prize booth. There will be hot dogs and drinks for sale.

All are welcome! For more information, contact Pat Fisher at 703-978-0238.

Join us for the fun. For more information call the school office at 703-892-4846.



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Spend an autumnal day in Loudoun County...

Farm Color Tour Scheduled for October 15 and 16

Fall is a beautiful time of year in the Loudoun Valleys, with views of the Blue Ridge, Short Hill and Sugarloaf Mountains. From 10:00am to 4:00pm on Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16, enjoy this free self-guided tour down tree-lined country roads to privately owned Loudoun County farms. Visit an alpaca or horse farm, pet goats and sheep, tour a winery or pick your own pumpkin.

Meet the farmers who produce the best of Loudoun's fall harvest, including apples, honey, gourds, pumpkins, and herbs. The weekend is sure to be fun for the whole family!

Tour information:

www.LoudounFarms.org

Loudoun Convention & Visitors Association
 1-866-771-7697.

Barcroft Buddies

Barcroft Elementary School is looking for community volunteers to participate in the Barcroft Buddies program. The school began this program last year as a part of its efforts to respond to the requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act and, after a very successful first year with over 50 volunteers, the school is continuing the program this year.

Barcroft Buddies volunteer for one hour each week and work one-on-one with a 3rd, 4th or 5th grade student. The school can accommodate volunteers before, during or after school or on Saturday mornings. The school provides an individualized packet of reading materials, training, super-

vision and matches volunteers with a student. While the focus of the program is on reading, the hour sessions allow time for assisting with homework or working on writing. No specialized skills are needed and volunteers speaking English or Spanish are welcome.

The school organizing the program to begin in the next several weeks. If you are interested in volunteering, please call Barcroft's principal, Miriam Hughey-Guy at 703 228-5838 or Suzanne Day at 703 271-9383.

Halloween Front Porch / Yard Decorating Contest

Give Barcroft children a Ghoulish welcome this Halloween.

To enter the contest e-mail Editor@BSCL.org.

Your address will be placed on a spooky map and voting ballot.



Maps / ballots will be available at the
Community House
October 29, 30 and 31.

Walk the neighborhood. Cast your vote.
Return your ballot to the Community House.



NEW BSCL MEMBERSHIP YEAR

Somehow we missed getting the 2005-2006 Membership Form into the September newsletter, so it's here in the October issue. Seeing that the new BSCL year has started, it's time to renew our BSCL - or join if you are not yet a member. Dues are only \$3 per adult or \$6 per couple.

We are always hoping to increase membership. It shows interest in your neighborhood. The larger our membership base, the better we are heard by the county and others organizations. Last year was great, but we're hoping this year will be even better than that.

Volunteers do most things within BSCL. The more volunteers, the easier things get done. The membership form provides several opportunities. Perhaps you'll find one that interests you.

Once again we ask for your continued support of the Barcroft Community House Fund. Through your generosity, much has been accomplished. But much remains to be done in the interior of the building including the ceiling, walls, lighting and windows. We need to build a significant reserve before undertaking this remaining effort. The latest estimate is \$40,000. Any contribution will be appreciated.

Local Housing Market Cools Off

Homeowners have placed their properties on the market in unprecedented numbers in the past few months. This summer the supply of homes grew to over 20,000 in the DC Metro area. With demand falling, the market shifted and began a cool-down period, as there wasn't enough buyer demand to absorb the additional listings, sales fell in July and August to their lowest level in two years. The housing market seems to be returning to "normalcy" after a frenzied era of multiple contracts, bidding wars and desperate buyers waiving their right to property inspections or appraisals.

Currently in the DC area suburbs, where prices have about doubled in four years, some sellers who expect results within days of posting a for-sale sign have been disappointed. Homes are sitting on the market longer, many with price reductions. Buyers now have the time to pick and choose among neighborhoods before buying and carefully consider the lofty prices they are paying. Pricing and condition are more important in the current climate.

Arlington County has seen some incredible price appreciation so far this year. Barcroft sales have been brisk as well. As of this writing on 9/14/05, there have been 19 homes sold and settled in the neighborhood, with an average list price of \$636,210 and an average sales price of \$652,219.

Contact us for our report on the "44 Money Making Tips For Preparing Your Home To Sell" and other helpful reports. Call or visit our web sites:

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www.homesaleadvisor.com

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Help Deliver the Barcroft News

Several prestigious routes have recently become available. Delivering the newsletters door to door takes approximately 30 minutes once a month. Be a good neighbor and deliver the news to your friends and neighbors.

Call Noreen Atkinson at 703-979-4868 or e-mail her at NoreenAtkinson@Verizon.net.

"So you think you can dance?"

Barcroft neighbor and dancer, Jamille McGee, is in LA filming the finals of the FOX show "So you think you can dance." He lives with his family on 1st Street South in a home full of artists, dancers, and writers.

NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS***Barcroft Elementary School***

The Barcroft staff developed an exemplary school project, **The da Vinci Project**, modeled after Leonardo da Vinci, a true Renaissance man whose boundless curiosity led him to explore the world.

Like Leonardo, students combine creative and scientific thought throughout their learning experiences. This highly regarded Exemplary School Project provides students at all grade levels with focused thinking and problem solving activities.

Kenmore Middle School

Kenmore is a member of the Kennedy Center and Schools: Changing Education through the Arts partnership.

This partnership provides teachers with the tools and resources to effectively integrate the arts into classroom instruction.

Wakefield High School

Technology is a focus for all students beginning with a required 9th grade course and expanding to higher level classes including Network Administration, JAVA and Cisco.

Wakefield also boasts a state of the art Technology Center complete with a television production studio.

Visit our local schools and find out more about the great programs they offer!

Right Tree, Right Place, Right Now

So, you want to plant some trees in your yard to reduce your energy costs by 5-10 percent, increase your property value by 10-20 percent, and beautify your surroundings, but you don't know which tree to plant, where to plant it, and when to do it?

Let's start with the easy answer: the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago. The second best time is **NOW**. And, early autumn is an especially good time to plant trees because it gives them a head start on the spring growing season. Your trees' roots will have a chance to take hold while weather conditions are more favorable and they don't have to work so hard to make food for new growth.

The other questions, however, require more space to answer than I can possibly write in this newsletter. That's why you should attend the next association meeting on Thursday, October 6 where you will learn more about appropriate tree and site selection for your landscape, as well as general planting and maintenance tips.

Many Barcrofters have noticed how many trees we've lost in our neighborhood over the last several years. Some of it is from extensive infill construction, some is the result of disease and damage, and the rest is from old age. Indeed, communities across America are losing five trees to every one that is replanted. Such a rapid rate of loss is not only significantly changing the character of our neighborhoods, but it is also having a profound negative impact on the environment.

You can help ameliorate these ill effects by planting trees in your yard. But, trees can only provide benefits if they are healthy and live for a long time. Trees should not be planted where they cannot live or will interfere with power lines or buildings. They should not be planted where they cannot survive cold winters or hot summers because they will die and have to be removed.

I encourage you to learn about planting the right tree in the right place so we can keep our neighborhood as beautiful as it was when George Washington first surveyed the land so long ago.

**By Elizabeth Rives
Alexandria-Arlington Tree Steward
Barcroft Neighbor**

Hurricane Katrina

Some Barcroft residents' friends and family were directly affected by the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Please know that our thoughts are with you and those you love at this time.



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RECIPE CORNER

Submitted by: Kathy Kerr

THAI RED CURRY WITH VEGGIES AND SHRIMP Serves 4

I often get the "unusual" ingredients at the Asian supermarket at the corner of Columbia Pike and S. Dinwiddie St.

- 1 lb dried noodles (*spaghetti noodles work well*)
- 1 T oil
- 4 cloves garlic
- 1 tablespoon minced ginger
- 1 onion, sliced thinly
- 2 carrots cut in to quarter inch rounds
- 1 red bell pepper, diced
- 1 15-oz can coconut milk (*I prefer low-fat which is also available at Trader Joes*)
- 1 teaspoon to 3 tablespoons red thai curry paste. It comes in a small can. (*I use at least two*)
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 lb. shrimp
- Fresh cilantro and/or basil (*I use regular basil or thai basil which is available in little plastic bags at that Asian supermarket. It smells slightly like licorice*)

Cook noodles as directed.

Heat oil in wok or frying pan. Saute garlic and ginger for 30 seconds. Add onion and saute until softened. Then add carrots and red pepper. Saute about 7 min.

Add coconut milk, curry paste and soy sauce and stir until the paste is well blended with the coconut milk. Add a little more curry paste if it isn't spicy enough.

Add shrimp Lower heat. Simmer 3-4 min or until the shrimp are done.

Ladle over piles of noodles and shower with torn basil and/or cilantro leaves.



**We welcome you to join us
For the High Holidays
Rosh Hashanah begins October 3
Yom Kippur begins October 12
Call or email the office for details.**

Col

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Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The perfect time to give your whole body some attention.

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Arlington County Neighborhood Walkabouts

Saturday, October 1st

Locations and times:

- 1) Taylor Elementary School, 2600 N. Stuart St.,
11 am
- 2) Arlington Arts Center, 3550 Wilson Boulevard,
1 pm
- 3) Village at Shirlington, 4000 block 28th St. S., 3
pm

Part of the "Way to Go, Arlington!" campaign, these three tours of some of Arlington's most walkable neighborhoods aim to encourage walking for exercise and enjoyment and showcase the surprising variety of terrain and walking environments within Arlington's 26 square miles. Participants can tour Donaldson Run, home of Arlington's first large-scale natural stream restoration project. In Ashton Heights, guided by County Board Chair Jay Fisette, they will see the stunningly renovated Arlington Arts Center, which

will offer an optional guided tour at 2 p.m. Over at Shirlington, they will enjoy Arlington's café-filled culture center - currently enjoying a remarkable renaissance - and stroll through some of Fairlington's 340 acres of historically-significant condos.

Route maps will be provided and there'll be souvenirs for all participants. The walkabouts will go, rain or shine -- precluding serious storm warnings or other hazardous conditions.

The final walkabout of the day through Fairlington/Shirlington will end with a reception sponsored by several of the eating establishments in the Village at Shirlington.

Everyone is welcome, even canines on leashes.

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Master Transportation Plan Public Forum

A public forum will be held this fall to gather public input for Arlington's rewrite of its Master Transportation Plan. All users of Arlington's transportation systems are invited to attend and provide their opinions on how Arlington's transportation system can be improved.

Saturday, October 1 @ 9:00am at Aurora Hills Community Center
735 18th Street South

The forum will be approximately two hours in length. A presentation will be made that summarizes the conditions of the many components that make up Arlington's transportation system. Attendees will be asked to provide written comments on what they feel are the most important transpor-

tation issues affecting Arlington now and in the foreseeable future. Attendees will also be provided an opportunity to work in a group setting to develop concepts that should be included in the Master Transportation Plan rewrite.

The location is served by public transit and is accessible for persons with disabilities. Parking for motor vehicles and bicycles is available on site but may be limited due to other activities taking place. Light refreshments will be provided.

For additional information about the forums and the Master Transportation Plan rewrite please contact Mr. Ritch Viola, the project manager, at 703 228-3699 or rviola@arlingtonva.us

Upcoming Historic Events

The events below are sponsored by the Arlington Historical Society or by Arlington County's Conservation & Interpretation Section.

Historic Arlington Days

Friday, October 7, 2005 7:30 p.m..

This year's program will celebrate the "Music of Arlington." The event will explore the musical traditions of Arlington House during its historic period. Event activities include performances by the Federal City Brass Band and baroque violinist Risa Browder. Attendance at this event is free, but is by reservation only. You may make reservations by calling (703) 235-1530. Tours of Arlington House are available at 7:30 p.m., 8:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 9:00 p.m. The music will be ongoing during the evening, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Parking at Arlington House is available only with a reservation for the event.

Haversacks - A Soldier's Necessities & Luxuries

Wednesday, October 19, 2005 3:30-4:30 p.m.
Join this hands-on program for ages 7-11 to learn about the items a soldier would carry. Reservations required: call 703-228-4747 or register online <https://registration.co.arlington.va.us/> and reference program # 612601B. Meet at Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site.

Civil War Era Dinner

Saturday, October 29, 2005

Seatings at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00p.m.

Join a delicious journey to our culinary past. Sit down dinner included entrée, salad, vegetable, dessert and drink, all cooked in the manner of the 1860s. Tickets \$20, children under 5, \$10. Call 703-243-7329 to make reservations or for more information. Meet at Fort C.F. Smith Park & Historic Site.



Barcroft School and Civic League
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