



December 2006

Barcroft News

Vol 104, Issue 4

President's Report

by Pat Williamson

Thursday, December 7, will officially usher in the holiday season for Barcroft. Join neighbors at the Community House at 7:30 pm for a wonderful evening of family music, stories, potluck snacks and maybe even a visit from YOU KNOW WHO in the red suit. Please bring a dessert or drinks to share. Musicians contact Julie Gorka, Kathy Kerr, Michael Nazareth or Randy Swart.

Thanks to the many neighbors who attended the November 2 regular monthly meeting. There was a discussion of the sounds generated by the musical instruments at the Barcroft Elementary School Musical Garden. The vote taken at the close of the discussion was in favor of the School continuing to make the instruments available. A recommendation was made that Ms. Hughey-Guy look into procurement of a webcam to help monitor the use of the instruments after dark.

The BSCL will continue to monitor the results of the Barcroft Elementary's sound dampening efforts. BSCL hopes that the neighbors closest to the

garden will not be disturbed anymore and that members of the community will still be able to enjoy Barcroft's musical garden.

It was agreed that BSCL and the Barcroft School PTA will appoint a representative to each other's meetings. It is preferable that the representatives not be parents of current Barcroft students. Contact pwilliamson@weta.com or Miriam Hughey-Guy at mguy@arlington.k12.va.us.

We also got to meet our new police commander for District 3, Captain Michelle R. Nuneville.

Bryant Monroe gave an update on activities along Columbia Pike including exciting progress further east at the "town center". The biggest item for our part of Columbia Pike right is the design of the new Arlington Mill Community Center. BSCL needs representative to the Arlington Mill Steering Committee. Please contact pwilliamson@weta.com to volunteer.

Hope you Thanksgiving was wonderful. See you on December 7.

Join neighbors for sweets, music and stories
as we celebrate the season on December 7th at 7:30 PM
at the Community House
BARCROFT HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

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

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IT'S NOT TOO LATE

The new BSCL Membership Year starts every September. So, if you haven't renewed your membership in the last 3 months, it has expired.

Check the Current Membership List on our BSCL web-page (BSCL.org).

If your name isn't there, print the Membership Form, and send in your dues. Everything you need to know is on the form.

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

Go to:
www.bscl.org.



We welcome you to join us
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 Call or email the office for details.

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Come Celebrate Christmas with Us

Sunday, Dec. 17

5:00 p.m. Children's Christmas Pageant
 6:00 p.m. Caroling in the neighborhood

Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24

5:00 p.m. Worship for all ages with traditional carols
 10:30 p.m. Christmas music and caroling in the church.
 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist.

Christmas Day, Monday, Dec. 25

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with carols.

Come Worship with us in the New Year too

Beginning Sunday, Jan. 7, 2007

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Worship Services. (Nursery available at 10)
 9:00 a.m. Christian Education (Begins Jan. 7, Nursery available)

All Are Welcome!

Conservation Plan Update

Look for your Neighborhood Conservation questionnaire in early January. Your block captain will bring it around and collect it by the end of the month. If you have not already volunteered to be a block captain, please email Randy Swart at randy@bscl.org

DON'T PARK ON THAT PILE OF LEAVES

Think of it this way: Dry leaves are like dry paper, fire officials say, and can ignite at about 400 degrees. Parts of a vehicle's undercarriage, even if the vehicle has been driven only a short time, can heat up to about 600 degrees.

Washington Post
December 1, 2005

Snow Brigade

Snow is probably coming despite global warming. We will have two County snowblowers to use for clearing walks to Metrobus, for those who cannot clear their own, and of course our Community House.

If you are unable to clear your own walk and would like to be included on the Snow Brigade route please call Randy at 703 521 2080 or e-mail randy@bscl.org.

If you would like to volunteer please email Jim Kerr for the Abingdon side of the neighborhood (jim@bscl.org) or Randy Swart for the Wakefield side (randy@bscl.org).

IT HAPPENED IN ARLINGTON

A 1990 Honda Civic was destroyed after a man parked on a pile of leaves outside his apartment. The resident had only driven about 10 miles. When he went back outside a short time after parking, the car was engulfed in flames.

Washington Post

December 1, 2005

THE SPOOKS WERE OUT!

Congratulations to the 2006 Spooky Stoops contest winner—**4649 South 4th Street**. We don't know who Dylan is and we don't want to find out! The judges ran the other way after tripping over a third tombstone. Thanks for the fright!

Runner ups in this year's contest include **4508 South 8th Street** where the goblins got lost in the smoke and **4206 South 6th Street** where the spirits were definitely alive and well. The judges barely made it to either of these doors alive.

A judges note of appreciation goes to the following:
4645 South 5th Street: a crafty homemade skeleton
4608 South 2nd Street: a very spooky snow man
4604 South 2nd Street: an enormously big spider
4617 South 8th Road: a pink spider web (a favorite of the many princesses out there)

Thanks to all the enthusiasm and creativity shown around Barcroft to make this holiday festive and scary!

Free! Yoga Class

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2007 from 10:00 am to 11:15 am at the Barcroft Community House (800 South Buchanan Street).

YOGA FLOW is a dynamic yoga practice conducted in a vinyasa style -- a flowing sequence of movements consciously linked by the breath. Participants nurture mindfulness, gain strength and flexibility, and enhance overall wellbeing. A vinyasa practice is challenging to the body and the mind. Come discover the many benefits of this style of yoga practice. (Bring your yoga mat.)

First eight-week session begins Jan. 17 to Mar. 7: Wednesdays, 10:00-11:15 a.m. Full session advance registration: \$100. Drop-in: \$15 per class. Instructor Info: Barcroft resident, Sabrina Huffman, has over 15 years of experience teaching a wide variety of group wellness classes. She holds certifications from Yoga Alliance and the American Council on Exercise. Questions? sabrinahuffman@mac.com.



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Red, Yellow, Orange and Brown Leaves, Leaves, Leaves

Are your leaves still scattered in your yard, lying in a heap in front of your house or hanging on to your trees? No worries, the county vacuum truck will take another spin around Barcroft in December. Check the county web site (www.co.arlington.va.us) to find out when...



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NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS
Barcroft Elementary School

Barcroft Elementary and the Arlington Virginia Federal Credit Union kicked off their Student Credit Union program for the third year. United States Treasurer Anna Escobeda Cabral was in attendance to talk to students about money and savings. To encourage young students to save, the program began with a reading of *It's a Habit, Sammy Rabbit* by the author, Sam Renick. The book is the first in a series of adventures in which Sammy Rabbit learns the value of saving.

Kenmore Middle School

Kenmore students and staff members took part in this year's mini-walk for the homeless by walking through all physical education classes on Oct. 27. Almost 300 children and adults registered and contributed more than \$900 to help prevent homelessness in Arlington.

Wakefield High School

Forty-two Wakefield seniors, including six trained peer mentors are participating in a College Summit pilot program for APS.

This web-based program guides students through each step of the college admissions process and is designed specifically to meet the needs of first generation, college-attending students.

SUPPORT
 OUR SCHOOLS

Arlington County Events

Investor Education

Central Library auditorium
 Saturday, December 9, 9:30 AM

Gain valuable investor survival skills in a three-hour seminar sponsored by the American Library Association and the Investor Protection Trust. The seminar, developed by the Evelyn Brust Foundation, will include an optional one-on-one counseling session.

The seminar includes material provided by the Investor Protection Trust (IPT), U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, CPA's and the PBS Television series, "Moneytrack."

To register, please call 703-228-6321 or email dcross@arlingtonva.us or mdecker@arlingtonva.us

FitArlington Cafe

Walter Reed Community Center
 Saturday December 2, 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Come create with us! On Saturday, December 2 Arlintonians are invited to begin a large-scale cooperative effort to redesign physical activity and health back into the fabric of our culture. That's the lofty goal of the first FitArlington Café.

Join the community-wide dialogue on how to inspire fitness right here in Arlington. Walter Tejada, Ed Fendley, and Barbara Favola will lead the discussion as to how we can help Arlington to nurture an active and healthy lifestyle for our residents and our guests.

RSVP to elegg@arlingtonva.us.



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Our Nature Centers

ECO ADVENTURE: Handmade Paper

Tuesday, December 5

6:45 - 7:45 p.m.

Ages 10-12

Did you ever want to throw your homework into a blender and spin it on high? Then join us at this session as we create beautiful handmade paper from old recycled scraps. For information call 703-228-3403.

\$3 fee collected at the park on the day of the program.

Registration required, register on-line <https://registration.arlingtonva.us/vsiwebtrac.html>. Program # 623103B Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., Arlington, VA 22207.

POLA NEGRI Movie Night

Sunday, December 10

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Adults.

Gulf Branch's most exciting (human) resident. Pola Negri lived in the Nature Center when it was still a private home. We'll discuss the life and times of this screen siren and then enjoy a big screen viewing of the 1927 silent classic, "Barbed Wire." Popcorn and soda will be served.

For information call 703-228-3403.

\$5 fee collected at the park on the day of the program.

Registration required, register on-line <https://registration.arlingtonva.us/vsiwebtrac.html>. Program # 623105B Meet at Gulf Branch Nature Center, 3608 Military Rd., Arlington, VA 22207.

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Did you see the Bulgarians dance?

If you were at the July 4th Barcroft parade, you may have noticed a group marching in the parade clad in unusual costumes. When asked where the costumes were from, the answer was an enthusiastic "Bulgaria!". The "Ivan Dimitrov Dance Ensemble" meets every Monday evening at Barcroft House to do Bulgarian dancing, which is known for its complex footwork and unusual rhythms. The dance group was established in 1997 by Ivan Dimitrov, a native of Plovdiv, Bulgaria, and the group's artistic director. We had another opportunity to view this spectacular traditional dance form on Sunday, October 22.

A Message from our police
Captain Michelle R. Nuneville

We are coming close to the holiday season and with the holiday season comes an increase in robberies as well as cars being broken into.

Please watch your surroundings when you are out this season; keep a small amount of cash on you and keep your holiday gifts/packages in the trunk of your vehicle or not in plain view.

Nov. 7: The Votes Came In

Barcroft Voted! (61% of active voters voted):

- Webb by 72%
- Moran by 69%
- Zimmerman by 70%
- Baird by 53%
- For parks bond by 73%
- For Metro bond by 83%
- For infrastructure bond by 69%
- For utilities bond by: 84%
- For schools bond by: 71%
- **Against** marriage amendment by: 73%
- For church incorporation amendment by: 80%
- For tax exemptions for some properties: 76%



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Holidays in Loudoun

Friendly farmers, in Loudoun County, provide assistance in tree selection, bow saws for cutting, and loading your tree in your vehicle. Many farms have hot chocolate, marshmallow roasts and fun activities for children. The brochure also features holiday floral products such as wreaths, roping, poinsettias and other products grown and produced on Loudoun farms.

The free Christmas in the Loudoun Valleys brochure, with map and directions to all farms and locations is available at the Loudoun Convention and Visitors Association in Leesburg and all Loudoun County libraries. To have a brochure mailed to you, ask for one by email (ahiggins@loudoun.gov) or call the Department of Economic Development at 703-777-0426. For further information, check the website at www.LoudounFarms.org.

Fame for Local Musician

Neighbor Kathy Kerr was recently featured on NPR's Online program "All Songs Considered" Open Mic segment, as part of the band Gypsy Meltdown.

With Kathy Kerr on fiddle and mandolin, Colleen Reed on flute, saxophone and percussion, and Keith Gillis on guitar, the band is active in the traditional American folk dance scene.

The members of Gypsy Meltdown say their music has two moods. One springs from what they call the "entrancing, seductive feel of the gypsy meltdown in contra dancing," and the other comes from the "exuberant, high-energy romping and leaping of Gypsy," Colleen Reed's German Shepherd.

Listen to the band at:
www.gypsymeltdown.com

Toys for Tots

Calling all toys! For the second year in a row, the Arlington County Fire Department will partner with the other fire departments in the National Capital Region to support the U.S. Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.

Now through Dec. 24, Arlington fire fighters will collect new, unwrapped toys and distribute those toys to Arlington children in need. Please bring new, unwrapped toys to:

- All Arlington fire stations
- Arlington County government center, 2100 Clarendon Boulevard, lobby (Courthouse)
- Fire Prevention offices, 1020 N. Hudson Street (Clarendon)
- Fire Training Academy, 2800 S. Taylor Street (Shirlington)

Last year, the region's fire departments -- including Arlington -- collected more than 64,000 toys (valued at approximately \$1 million).

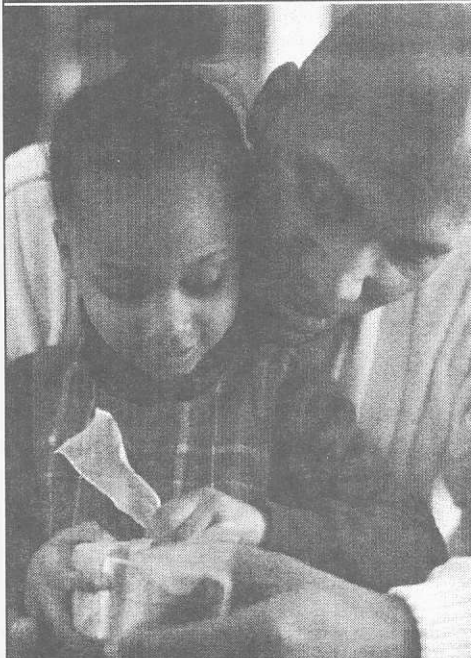
The Toys for Tots program began in 1947 when Major Bill Hendricks, USMCR and a group of Marine Reservists in Los Angeles collected and distributed 5,000 toys to needy children. The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to "deliver a message of hope to needy youngsters that will motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders."

For more information, contact Captain Brian D. Frantz, 703.228.0098, Bfrantz@arlingtonva.us.

Is writing for the BSCL Newsletter one of your new year's resolutions?

Share with your neighbors. Tell us what you think. Write it in the BSCL Newsletter. E-mail your contribution to editor@bscl.org today.

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Why $\frac{3}{4}$ of Homesellers Don't Get the Price They Want for Their Home.

A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 step system that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they list their home for sale.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable. In answer to this issue, there is a free special report entitled “*The 9 Step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar*”. Call my toll-free House Hunter hotline today at 1-800-895-1307 and enter ID# 8200. This is a 24 hour recorded message, call anytime.

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