



March 2007

Barcroft News

Vol 104, Issue 7

President's Report

by Pat Williamson

Join with neighbors on Thursday evening, March 1, at 7:30 pm, for the regular monthly meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League at the Community House where Susan Lane, Arlington County Agency on Aging, will provide a presentation at the meeting on the many services available to seniors and their caretakers through the county and non-profit agencies. Some of these services include, but are not limited to Medicare and Medicaid information, tax relief, transportation services, assistive services for daily living, meals on wheels, reverse mortgages, identity theft, fall and fire prevention, library services for the homebound and the blind and physically handicapped.

Also on the agenda, Randy Swart will update us on the response to the surveys distributed for the Neighborhood Conservation Plan. PLEASE return your completed survey as soon as possible. If you cannot locate a copy, please contact me at 703-887-

8514 or pwilliamson@weta.com and I will bring you a copy.

The Spaghetti Dinner was an incredible success once again this year. The neighborhood cooks have embraced and enhanced the Palance recipes! I love their salad dressing the best. Thanks to everyone who helped, brought desserts and bought a plate. It was truly a group effort! A successful fundraiser as well as a great time.

Snow plowing has not been very consistent during our terrible February ice storm. Residents of the 4800 block of 7th Street, 8th Street, 8th Road, and 9th Street had yet to see a plow at all days after the storm. Pick up the phone and call 703-228-6555 to report streets that are not being plowed in a timely manner. Many thanks to Randy Swart and the snow brigade for clearing the Community House sidewalks and the homes of requesting Barcrofters. Contact randy@bscl.org if you can help in the future.

Barcroft Elementary School
5K+ School Walk for Diabetes
March 10, 2007
8:30 AM
Warm Up and Stretch
Care—Cure—Commitment
Details Inside...

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

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Classifieds**LOOKING TO RENT YOUR HOME?**

Responsible military family looking to rent a home in the Arlington, VA area as of July 1st for two years with a third-year option. Three or four-bedroom/2 bath preferred. Has an older dog who won't dig; very docile. Please contact Amy or Larry at almeehan@comcast.net or 904-215-0511.

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

... to become a member of BSCL.

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.

Also, it is not too late to send out those holiday greeting cards. Really, your friends and families won't mind. Remember, it makes sense to wish a happy new year until July!

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

Go to:
www.bscl.org.



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Yoga in Barcroft

Try a class or a private session

Yoga Flow class: Wednesday mornings 10:00 - 11:15 a.m. at Barcroft Community House (ongoing through end March). Drop in for \$15 per class.

For info on private instruction, email sabrinahuffman@mac.com

Instructor info: Sabrina has over 15 years of wellness teaching experience. She is a registered yoga teacher (RYT 200) with Yoga Alliance and certified by the American Council on Exercise.

Barbershop Performance

"JAMES TOWNE"--(Being the True Story of the First Barber Shoppe Chorus in America)--In commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, the Arlington Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society will present an a cappella four-part barbershop harmony tribute to this historical event.

A romantic sub-plot involves Pocahontas and a comedic one has Luigi V, the great-great grandson of one of Columbus's sailors. The featured quartet is Last Kids Picked-two fathers with their singing sons.

Saturday, March 17 at 2:15 and 8:15 p.m.,
Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre,
S. 2nd St. and Old Glebe Road.

Tickets:

Door- Adults: \$15/Seniors & Students: \$12.

Advance-\$10.

Tickets: 703-521-9331 or e-mail bsbass@aol.com.


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NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS
Barcroft Elementary School

Barcroft's Y.E.S. Club organized a winter coat and coin drive with fourth and fifth-graders to help those in need in our community. Students and staff collected 40 used coats and \$310.40 that went toward buying new adult winter coats. The coats were donated to the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (ASPAN).

Kenmore Middle School

The Kenmore Student Council is holding a talent show and coin war to raise money for Darfur. During lunch students are encouraged to put money into a jar for their grade level. The goal is to see which grade level has the most points each week while raising money.

The talent show will be held at 2:45 and 7 p.m. on Feb. 28. Tickets are being sold for a donation of a \$1 or more.

Wakefield High School

Wakefield students recently performed at the new Signature Stage. The *Signature in the Schools* world premiere production of *Eve of Destruction* was set in Basra, Iraq in March 2003 just before the U.S. coalition invasion. *Eve of Destruction* focused on young people, both Iraqi and American, trying to find their way in a world consumed by war, a world filled with questions and complications and challenges, a world that their generation will be made to inherit and will be asked to tend.

2nd Annual Barcroft Elementary 5K+ Walk for Diabetes

The second annual Barcroft Elementary Kids 5K+ School Walk for Diabetes will be held at Barcroft Elementary in Arlington, VA on Saturday, March 10, 2007. Denise Brown, Barcroft's Physical Education teacher, will start the event at 8:30 a.m. with a group warm-up and stretch. The walk will begin in the parking lot of the school and proceed out and into the surrounding community.

Alarming statistics are now showing that an increasing number of children, particularly those in the African-American and Hispanic/Latino communities are being diagnosed with Type II Diabetes. According to the American Diabetes Association Fact Sheet in 2005 there were 176,500 children under 20 years of age with Diabetes (Type I & II).

Barcroft Elementary students are taking steps to better educate themselves about the disease and living healthier lifestyles. Monies raised through donations will be given to the American Diabetes Association for research and education. Care, Cure, and Commitment are three words that describe the student's purpose.

Please join our school and community for a day of exercise and take a stand against a disease that can be beat. For further questions regarding support and /or participation in the walk, please contact Stephanie Jones at 703-920-2116 or Margie Farrar-Simpson at kenmarsim@aol.com.



FREE Special Report From Realtors Mike Webb and Claudia Webb:

29 Essential Tips That Get Homes Sold Fast (And For Top Dollar)

Mike and Claudia are now offering their special report "29 Essential Tips That Get Homes Sold Fast-- And For Top Dollar." Vital reading for anyone selling a home now or in the near future.

In this special report Mike and Claudia share many of the tips that professional utilize to help maximize a home's potential and actual worth---and most importantly help you drive up the selling price. You'll learn many important things you need to do, but more important may be the things it tells you not to do, things that could cost you dearly at the negotiating table.

**To get your free copy of this report,
Call Mike and Claudia Webb
703-979-3016**

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Join the Force

W&OD Trail Patrol Seeks New Members

The 45-mile W&OD Trail begins in Arlington and runs all the way out to Purcellville. The Trail Patrol is seeking new members to be on-scene ambassadors of safety, courtesy, information, and goodwill.

All adult trail users--cyclists, walker, runners, skaters, carriage pushers, dog walkers, horse riders, or wheel chair users--are eligible to apply. Two orientation sessions are already scheduled for 2007: on Saturday, March 31st, 10 AM, at the Vienna Community Center and on Tuesday, April 3rd, 7 PM, at the Herndon Library. Future sessions are planned for other trail communities. For further info please contact Allen Muchnick - muchnick@capaccess.org

Police Reports by e-mail

The Arlington County Police Department is now providing a weekly summary of significant crime reports. The crime reports will be distributed by email to subscribers who sign up for the service on the County's web site at www.arlingtonva.us. Look for Public Safety and click on Police.

Significant crime reports will continue to be available on the Police Department's web site each weekday.

Thank You, Thank You
to
The Barcroft Snow Brigade
for working overtime this February
clearing sidewalks of ice and snow.

Kenmore Silent Auction

Over 250 items will be auctioned off at the Kenmore Middle School - 2007 Silent Auction! Don't miss this community event and opportunity to bargain hunt at your local middle school.

March 9, 2007

6.45 pm

Kenmore Middle School

Bargains include Marymount Univeristy credits; over 50 restaurants; over 10 hotels and inns; Disneyworld tickets; Air Tran tickets; theatres; sports and many, many more items.

Please come and enjoy this night with entertainment by the Kenmore Jazz Band, Orchestra, Band and the Chorus. In addition, food available for purchase.

Showing off the school's technology focus, a website has been created for you to bid online: www.arlington.k12.va.us/schools/kenmore/pta/auction/ebid.htm

Questions? please call Renee Gorsky at 703 516 7007 or email at jgors914@aol.com.



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Spend your Summer working at a Camp

Arlington needs more than 250 counselors for summer camps where kids play their favorite sport, learn Shakespeare, paint a portrait, build a robot, nurture animals, run a business, and yes, sit around the campfire and sing. Some counselors teach painting, ceramics or photography. Others work in camps that promote sports, nature, early childhood education, working with people with disabilities, theater and outdoor recreation.

Depending on the applicant's skill level the salary ranges from \$10 to \$17 an hour. Candidates must have a high school diploma and experience working with kids. The jobs begin in June. You can apply now by going to the parks and recreation section of the county web page or calling 703-228-6589.

Look for that **BARCROFT BUNNY** at The Annual Egg Hunt **Saturday April 7th, 10 AM Sharp, at the Community House**
 Details in the April edition of the Barcroft News



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Join the Barcroft Players

The Barcroft Players are gearing up for a production of "A Thousand Clowns" in mid-May. Some parts have been cast, but we still need people for two more parts: one female and one male.

You don't necessarily have to live in Barcroft to join in, so please pass the word to your actor or actor wannabe friends who don't receive the Barcroft News. This show is great fun, so if you or someone you know is interested in playing a role, please contact Barbara Swart at (703) 521-2080.

Award for Randy Swart

You already know that neighbor, Randy Swart, gives freely his time and experience to make Barcroft a better place. Did you know that he also works to make Bicycle helmets better? He does and he has been recognized for his contributions!

Randy Swart, a long time Arlington community leader, has been honored with the ASTM International William F. Hulse Memorial Award for his "outstanding contributions to the development, promotion and use of voluntary, full-consensus standards that enhance safety in sports and recreation."

Since 1989, Swart has been director of the Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute, a nonprofit organization that serves as a consumer advocacy program and technical resource for bicycle helmet information.

Check out the organization's web site at www.bhsi.org. You will learn much about helmets (buying, fitting and wearing).

Congratulations Randy!

OPINION—School Board Races

By Eric Harold

Virginia's *Candidacy Requirements For Local Offices In November 2007* spell out the following for County or City school board elections: "This election is required by law to be **non-partisan**. This means that no candidate for school board may be nominated by a political party but does not prohibit political endorsement of a non-party candidate."

Yet if any candidate in Arlington County wishes to seek the endorsement of the Arlington County Democratic Committee (ACDC), they are required to drop out of the race if they do not win the ACDC endorsement. That's not an endorsement; it's a nomination.

This is the open secret of County school board races. The candidate you get to vote for in the general election is not, as required by law, a non-partisan candidate but one that has been selected by the few ACDC members that come out for a caucus in May. As noted in several recent Sun Gazette and Arlington Connection articles on the upcoming school board election: "Technically, all school board posts in Virginia are nonpartisan. But political parties get around that restriction by 'endorsing,' rather than formally nominating, candidates."

This process, run primarily by the Arlington Democrats, stifles debate and limits voter options. This process, along with ACDC's open campaigning of the County Board and School Board candidates as a ticket (did you notice the Chris Zimmerman/Sally Baird signs last election?), crosses the line that separates "pushing the envelope" to violating, if not the letter of the law, certainly the spirit of the law stipulating that School Board candidates be non-partisan.

Green Living Challenge

Take the Green Living Challenge

Do you think you have the greenest house on the block? Would you like to save money, have fun, and make your neighborhood a healthier place to live? Enter the Green Living Challenge and start making changes today to benefit yourself and the environment.

The Green Living Challenge encourages residents to take environmental actions to make Arlington a healthier, more sustainable community. The contest, part of the County's Fresh AIRE initiative, lists actions that individuals can accomplish with relative ease that will make a big difference in protecting our air, water, and natural resources.

"It is my hope that many Arlingtonians will participate in this Challenge," said County Board Chairman Paul Ferguson. "This is a fun, easy way for Arlingtonians to make a difference. Each of us can take steps every day that cost little or no money, but can help reduce waste, save energy, cut costs and make our County a better place to live."

Residents of Arlington are challenged to complete as many of the actions as they can before October 31, 2007 and earn "green points" for themselves and their neighborhood. Participants who earn one hundred points will get certification as a green household. Participants who complete any actions and submit a challenge form by the October 31 deadline will be eligible for prizes, with a drawing to be held in November. There will also be a neighborhood challenge, modeled after the successful 2005 Wildlife Habitat Challenge, which focused on creating wildlife habitats. The contest organizers will tally points for Green Living Challenge actions completed by residents in each neighborhood to identify Arlington's greenest neighborhoods.

Arlington County and Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) are jointly hosting the Challenge. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.arlingtonenvironment.org/greenchallenge> or call 703-228-6427.

Would you like to organize the Green Challenge in Barcroft? Be the point person for Barcroft as we work to make Barcroft even green-er by competing in the Green Living Neighborhood Challenge. All the points accumulated by neighborhood residents will be tallied for each civic association to identify the greenest neighborhood in Arlington. ACE can provide flyers and other materials to help get your neighbors involved. Interested? E-mail editor@bscl.org or call 703 486 0879.

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Youth Track & Field

Saturday Morning Youth Track & Field Program for ages 6-14 will begin in early March. Online registration begins on Tuesday, February 20 at <https://www.youthleaguesusa.com/arlington/Registration.html> Walk up registration will be on Saturday, March 3 from 9:00 am – Noon at TJ.

This is an instructional program where all participants will learn the basic fundamentals of track & field. The program will run for 9 weeks and will be held on Saturday mornings. Ages 6-8 from 9:00 – 10:15 am and ages 9-14 from 10:30 – 11:45 am.

For more information on the Youth Track Program please call Jen Groner at 703-228-1809.

Into the Garden

Virginia Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners make available to local residents the following free seminars:

Science-based strategies for keeping your lawns green and our waters clean.

Saturday, March 3rd
Mt. Vernon Community Center,
Alexandria, 9 AM – Noon

Wednesday/ Thursday, March 7th and 8th
Lee Community Center, Arlington, 7 – 9 PM

Guidance on how best to handle pruning in your garden.

Saturday, March 10th (bad weather date March 31st)
Bon Air Park, Arlington, 9 AM – Noon

For information, reservations and directions call:
703 228-6414.

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Wednesdays, February 28; March 7, 14, 21 & 28, 7:00 PM

Palm Sunday, April 1

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM*. Blessing of the Palms
and Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, April 5

7:30 PM. Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 6

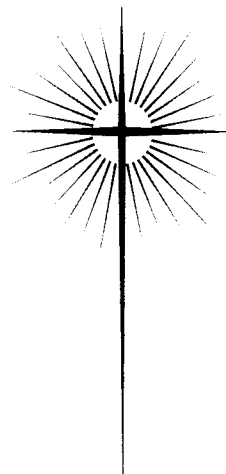
12:00 noon and 7:00 PM. Good Friday Liturgy

Easter Sunday, April 8

8:00 AM and 10:00 AM*. Holy Eucharist.

Reception and Easter egg hunt following 10:00 service

*Childcare provided



The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:5

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How to Sell High: Avoid These 3 Mistakes When Pricing Your Home

When you decide to sell your home, setting your asking price is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. Depending upon how a buyer is made aware of your home, price is often the first thing seen, and many homes are discarded by buyers as not being in the appropriate price range before they're even given the chance of a showing.

Your asking price is often your home's "first impression", and if you want to realize the most money you can for your home, it's imperative that you make a good one.

This is not as easy as it sounds, and a pricing strategy should not be taken lightly. Pricing too high can be as costly as a home seller pricing too low. Taking a look at what homes in your neighborhood have sold for is only a small part of the process, and on it's own is not nearly enough to help you make the best decision.

A recent study, which compiles 10 years of industry research, has resulted in a new special report entitled "**Homesellers: How to get the Price You Want (and Need).**"

This report will help you understand pricing strategy from three different angles. When taken together, this information will help you price your home to not only sell, but sell for the price you want.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your copy of this FREE report, call 1-800-895-1307 and enter ID# 8016.

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