

October 2007

Barcroft News

Vol 105, Issue 2

President's Report

by Heidi Wicker

Many thanks to all who participated in last month's BSCL meeting. We came up with a collective list of projects, available on the website at www.bscl.org, that we would like to see the County finish in our neighborhood in the next decade or so. The next step will be drafting our Neighborhood Conservation Plan update, which explains in narrative form what the neighborhood would like to see done, and prioritizes projects for the County. We hope all will participate in this vital process for our neighborhood and let us know what projects are most important to you.

Please join your neighbors for the next BSCL meeting, Thursday, October 4 at 7:30p.m. at the Community House. Our Arlington County Police Captain Michelle Nuneville and her officers will be joining us for a discussion of recent criminal and other illegal activity in our neighborhood. We also

anticipate having representatives from the County Board on hand.

At the last meeting, neighbors brought the concerns about areas near Four Mile Run Park and Columbia Pike before the membership. I hope neighbors with concerns in those or other areas of the neighborhood will come share their experiences at the meeting, so that we can discuss with the County and police representatives how we can most effectively fight crime and ensure enforcement of County regulations in Barcroft.

On Saturday, October 13 at 10:00am, all are invited to gather for an invasive plant removal day down on the W&OD trail. Barcroft Master Gardener Shirley Gay is organizing it and will provide more info as the date approaches. It will be a great way to get out in the fall air and meet your neighbors while helping to improve the trail. Watch the website for details.



HALLOWEEN PARADE

Saturday, October 27, 2007

South 8th and Monroe Street

Begins at 3 PM

Wear your costume.

Gather afterwards at Alcova Heights Park.

Sponsored by Barcroft Elementary PTA and Alcova Heights Community Assoc.

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Deadlines: 14h (ads) or 15th (news/editorial material) day of the month preceding the issue month.

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SPOOKY STOOPS CONTEST

Enter the 4th annual
 Barcroft Spooky Stoops Contest.

Decorate your yard, porch or front stoop.
 Give those witches and ghouls a fright
 this Halloween.

E-mail editor@bscl.org to enter your
 address in this year's contest.

Keep up with events by joining the Barcroft
 chat group and news list.
 Go to: www.bscl.org.



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Neighbors in the News

Barcroft neighbor and martial arts instructor Rob LaPointe taught a Tai Chi workshop for the National Children's Medical Center's Annual Staff Retreat.

Rob has owned White Birch Kung Fu & Tai Chi on Columbia Pike since 1989.

He, his wife Izumi and their children Austin and Tyler have lived in Barcroft since 1991.

Has your neighbor done something noteworthy?
Please tell!

editor@bscl.org

Nutritious Choices for Children

You are invited to hear a nutrition specialist speak about keeping our children healthy with great food choices.

Barcroft Elementary School PTA Meeting
Tuesday, October 2 from 7—8:30 PM
Childcare provided

Recycling Event on October 6

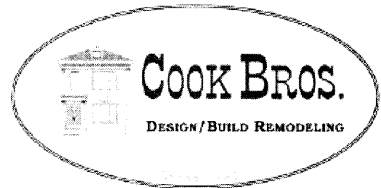
On Saturday, October 6th from 8:30am to 3pm Arlington County will hold an Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (E-CARE) at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, 2nd St South at Glebe.

The County will accept household hazardous materials for safe disposal, computer and electronics for recycling, shoes and eyeglasses for programs in developing countries, and bicycles for collection by Bikes for the World.

There is a handling fee for computer monitors (\$15) and televisions (\$20). A donation of \$10 per bike is requested to ship the bike to a developing country.

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New BSCL Membership Year

In this issue of the BSCL Newsletter, you will find the 2007-2008 Membership Form. 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.

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. Any and all contributions are appreciated.

October BSCL Meeting

Community House 800 South Buchanan Street

October 4 7:30 PM

Be a part of it!

Solar Homes Tour

The 17th Annual Tour of Solar Homes and Buildings will take place from 11 am to 5 pm on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 6 and 7. The tour will be the biggest yet, with over 40 homes in the DC area including three interesting ones in Arlington. Half the houses will be open Saturday, the remaining on Sunday.

Allen Muchnick of Arlington is organizing a bicycle tour for each day visiting some of the homes. You can email him at allenmuchnick@yahoo.com for details.

Homes and buildings on the tour will display a mixture of solar passive and solar powered designs including photovoltaic (PV) systems, solar hot water systems, radiant heat, efficient appliances and energy saving building construction techniques. Many of the homeowners also practice energy and water conservation, recycling, composting and drive fuel efficient or alternative energy vehicles.

Visitors will be able to tour the homes and discuss the systems with the homeowners.

Tickets can be downloaded for free from the website at <http://www.solartour.org>,

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More on Solar Power...

The bi-annual Solar Decathlon will take place October 12 – 20 on the National Mall.

Teams from colleges and universities construct demonstration homes using the latest advances in solar power and energy-saving technology.

The team houses in the solar village are open 10 am to 5 pm weekends and 11 am to 3 pm weekdays, except for judging day on Wednesday, October 17. For more information, visit <http://www.solardecathlon.org>.

Make your house a solar home!

Consult on a Senior Project

Wakefield High School is creating a skills and language bank for the school in an attempt to get more parents and community members connected to students through Senior Project.

With the faculty and staff alone, Wakefield has a growing bank of adults who are willing to serve as consultants and / or panelists for Senior Projects, in their areas of interest or expertise. Lisa is going to actively shake the bushes in the community to get local professionals and businesses involved as well. To view and print the Skills Bank form visit the Wakefield website at:

www.arlington.k12.va.us/schools/wakefield/
click on Senior Project at the top of the page

Senior Project is a challenging and worthwhile graduation requirement. At Wakefield, each senior chooses, defines and accomplishes a significant *real world* project. The project, which includes both research and field experience, reflects approximately 150 hours of work. Students document their hours in journals and write about their experiences in personal essays.

Each project culminates in a 10 to 25 minute oral presentation before an assessment panel. Wakefield is proud to say that all students -- regular, advanced, those who speak English as a second language, and special education students -- have an equal and exciting opportunity to achieve excellence in this program.

Upon completion, many students say that Senior Project is their most significant accomplishment so far and that this success has given them the confidence to tackle whatever challenges lie ahead.

For further info please contact: Lisa_Labella@apsva.us

Healthy Children at Barcroft

At Barcroft Elementary - tree, volcano and snake have new meaning. The Wellness Committee, led by Barcroft neighbor Paula Levin-Alcorn, introduced yoga as a way for children to relax, focus, stretch their minds and their bodies.

Tree, volcano and snake are yoga poses you may see children demonstrating as they pause on their way to school. They will have plenty of opportunities to practice them at Barcroft. The wellness committee introduced an after-school yoga class as part of the established enrichment program. Students got their first try at the poses in their pajamas. That's right! Jennifer Moore, of Moore Than Yoga, offered a free class for the community at the Barcroft school on a recent Friday night. Children and adults alike came dressed in the PJs. The Wellness committee is planning to offer yoga before SOLs (Standard of Learning tests for 3—5 grades) to help maximize relaxation and focus required for the tests.

The Wellness committee is also focused on nutritious choices for our children. Nutrient rich cereal bars are given to students before SOLs. The committee helped to remove junk food snacks and juice from the school cafeteria. On Tuesday, October 2nd, a nutrition specialist will speak at the monthly PTA meeting. The community is invited to come to this meeting.

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NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS

Barcroft Elementary School

Did you notice that Barcroft was a little more colorful when you strolled by Barcroft Elementary School during the week of September 16?

Colorful art covered the sidewalks, parking lots and playground as part of Chalk 4 Peace. Chalk 4 Peace is a global arts project (started here in Arlington) that encourages sidewalk art from artists of all ages on the theme of peace. I hope you had a chance to join our young Barcrofters as they created their masterpiece or a chance to enjoy their peace-minded art!

Kenmore Middle School

Kenmore Middle School is as one of 16 schools in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area that are members of the Kennedy Center's Changing Education Through the Arts (CETA) program. The partnership with the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, which began in 1999, helps teachers develop their expertise in integrating the arts with the teaching of other school subjects (such as history, language arts, science). The Kennedy Center and the schools work together to develop, implement, and evaluate an in-depth staff development program of courses, workshops, coaching, and study groups.

Wakefield High School

The design team, led by Bowie Gridley Architects, completed the Wakefield Feasibility Study. This study reports on the investigation of existing conditions at the site, summarizes the educational specification, and presents three design concept alternatives. As of July, the School Board has suspended the activities of the Building Level Planning Committees (BLPCs) of three on-going APS capital projects, Wakefield included.

Join Now to Help Your Neighborhood School

Local grocery stores donate money to area schools based on customer purchases (this system replaces the old system of gathering and counting paper receipts.) By linking your "customer savings card" to Barcroft Elementary School, you will be supporting school activities at no additional cost to you. You can register at the store by giving the cashier our school number, online or by emailing your name and card numbers to Susan DuBois at susan.dubois@mac.com. Most programs allow you to submit up to three schools on one card and you can search for other participating schools online.

Harris Teeter: Barcroft's number is 4238. Register online at <https://www.harristeeter.com/default.aspx?pagelid=32>

Giant Food: Barcroft's number is 02199. Register online at http://www.giantfood.com/aplus/pin_aplus.htm

Safeway: Barcroft's number is 6472509. Register online at <https://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supporter/registration/step1.jsp>

We are also participating in the BoxTops program. Cut out any boxtops found on a variety of grocery products and drop them off in the school office. Barcroft gets \$.10 for each box top. For more information visit <http://www.boxtops4education.com/>

Although our Sally Foster catalog fundraiser has ended, you can still support the school by ordering online. The products will be shipped directly to your house for a nominal shipping fee. Please go to www.sallyfoster.com and use our school ID number 289676 at checkout to purchase your wrapping paper, gifts and Harry London chocolates. The school receives 50% profit from your order on all sales made through Jan. 15th.

Thank you so much for supporting Barcroft Elementary School.

Become a Potomac Riverwatcher

Do you paddle, fish, sail, bike, hike or swim along the Potomac and its tributaries? If so, you should come to one of Potomac Riverkeeper's fall 2007 Riverwatcher Training Sessions!

Our Riverwatcher Training Sessions are a crash course in how to spot and report pollution while you're out taking a stroll along the riverbanks or paddling the river itself. The sessions feature informative guest speakers and materials detailing how you can do your part to clean up our watershed. Water monitoring equipment will also be given out to interested Riverwatchers.

If you would like to come, call (202-222-0707) or email (keeper@potomacriverkeeper.com) for more information and directions. Check out our website at www.potomacriverkeeper.org.

Saturday, October 6, 2007
9:30am to 11:30am
Indigo Landing Restaurant
1 Marina Drive
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 548-0001

If you want to participate but can't make the training on October 6, call for additional training dates in the area.

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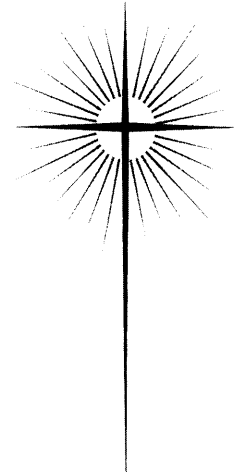
Worship with us Sundays at 8:00 AM or 10:00 AM. Pray and praise together, hear an inspirational sermon and receive Holy Communion. Adult and children's education at 9:00 AM.

Reflect and pray with us on Wednesdays at 7:30 PM. Informal candle-light prayer and reflection.

Celebrate Fall with us at our Harvest Tea on Saturday, November 3 from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.

Share fellowship and discussion in our book club: Tuesday, November 6, 7:30 PM.

Bring your pets for *The Blessing of the Animals*, Sunday, October 7, 5:00 PM in the church gardens.

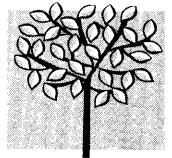


Barcroft Art Fest

On Saturday, October 13, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., the Arlington Artists Alliance will sponsor the Barcroft Art Fest at the Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan Street. This event will feature the work of twenty-one local artists in oil, watercolor, ceramic, and wood. Among the artists will be Barcroft resident Gary Trusty, a woodturner. Barcroft neighbors George Bowles and Kim Kostyal are also participants. George is an oil painter, specializing in startling photorealism, and Kim Kostyal is exploring multimedia. Kim is assisting in overseeing the successful entry of the Alliance in its first showing in Barcroft. There will be many original works to view and to purchase. The Alliance is anticipating meeting and talking with other artists from the neighborhood, and increasing its representation of Arlington as a true world community. If you are an artist, or interested in art, come and enjoy the exhibition. All items are original and available for purchase. Many artists will be present to answer questions about the works and the organization.

The Arlington Artists Alliance was formed in 2000 with the purpose of encouraging artistic endeavor within the county. It is a nonprofit organization. Originally, there were eleven members, now there are over 100. Artists display works in many public places and government offices, support an academy for lessons, and offer scholarships for classes.

ARLINGTON'S CHAMPION TREES!



**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 23,**

**CENTRAL LIBRARY
(1ST FLOOR AUDITORIUM)
1015 N. QUINCY ST.**

OPENING REMARKS BY COUNTY BOARD MEMBER, CHRIS ZIMMERMAN!

Adults are cordially invited to attend an informative and educational presentation highlighting Arlington's Champion Trees. Participants will have an opportunity to learn how to participate in this new tree program and view slides of our very special "senior" trees-many of which are current state champions. Tree Stewards, from the Virginia Cooperative Extension will be on hand to provide additional tree-related information.

How to Register:

Registration for this **FREE** program is required by calling Long Branch Nature Center at 703-228-6535. Space is limited, so call early to reserve your space.





Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, VA 22204

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 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.

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<input type="checkbox"/> New Member Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership (\$ 3.00)	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Membership Renewal	<input type="checkbox"/> Couple Membership (\$6.00)	\$ _____
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E-Mail Address: _____

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Do you wish your e-mail address(es) removed from the Web Page? Yes No

I/we would like to volunteer to help with:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barcroft Players | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Events (Dinners, Cook-outs, etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution (Newsletters, Flyers, etc) | <input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July Parade & Picnic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing | <input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Efforts (as the arise) |
- Serve on a Committee -- Specify which: _____
(Crime Resistance, Parks, Renovations, Landscape, Traffic)
- Other (please specify): _____