

June 2011

Barcroft News

Vol 108, Issue 10

**Special BSCL Meeting about the
National Guard Bureau Parking and Traffic Issues**
Thursday June 2 at 7:30 PM
at the Community House



Have you noticed that huge new building at Rt. 50 and S. George Mason Drive? The National Guard Bureau is moving more than 1,000 additional staff from Crystal City. They will all be in place by July — with just one parking place on site for every four people. Where are they going to park? Maybe in front of your house? All along your street? **See page 3 for more details.**

Come Celebrate

Our Nation's 235th Birthday & the 23rd Annual

Barcroft 4th of July Parade

Barcroft Community House

800 S. Buchanan Street

Parade begins at 10:00 AM SHARP

Participants should arrive by 9:45 AM

See page 4 for more details.



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News Deadline: 15th day of the month preceding the issue month.

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Arlington County Civic Federation

Delegates Eric Harold, Randy Swart,
 Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr
Alternates Karen Darner, David Michelson,
 Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.bscl.org

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

FOR SALE: Retiring teacher selling teaching materials and books for all ages. Please contact Teresa at 703-685-4335.

Lawn Mowing - Spring, Summer and Fall - call Bou or Moussa at 703-521-1953

Mother's Helper —6th grader would love to do any odd jobs you can think of! Rebecca Bean 703-553-4093
 beccab50@gmail.com

Mother's Helper and Pet Sitter - 6th grader, (includes: taking out trash and watering plants) Call Tyler LaPointe at 703-979-1083 or 703-585-8507

Vacation-related help—Responsible teen can water plants, bring in the paper and mail, care for pets, mow lawn, handle trash cans, etc. Dylan Vega 703-271-5987
 dylanvega@gmail.com

Alexandra's Babysitting - teen available week nights and weekends. Alexandra @ 703-892-6712

Babysitter - 11th grader available after school and weekends. Please call Jenna at 703-685-1071

Teenage Babysitter - Week nights and weekends: Sarah @ 703-521-8756

Babysitter: Red Cross certified 11th grader available. Call Abby at 703-892-1090

Babysitter --6th grader, Red Cross certified. Jenny Claire 703-998-5338

Rebekah's Pet Care (walking, feeding, sitting) 703-521-8756.

Yard Work: Teen available for mowing, raking and other yard work. Call Thomas at 703-979-5838

Ongoing Need: Baby items, books, educational toys, household items etc for the Even Start Program at Barcroft School. Call Jenny Lindenauer at 703-228-8846 or email: jennifer_lindenauer@apsva.us

Barcroft Community Playgroup 9:30-11:30am Friday mornings at the Community House. Contact **Jenny Ditta** chrisnjenny4@comcast.net or **Jason Kiker** jkiker@gmail.com, or just stop by!

Wanted: Stories and ideas for the Barcroft News. Contact Kathy Kerr 703-892-6458 or email: kathykerr@gmail.com Do you have an interesting neighbor she should interview? Are you interesting yourself??

BSCL President's Report and Special June Meeting

By Bryant Monroe

Our March meeting focused on the growth of the National Foreign Affairs Training Center and the Army National Guard Readiness Center at Rt. 50 and George Mason Drive. We held a joint meeting with the Alcova Heights Civic Association and met with representatives from the Centers and Arlington County. It was a tough discussion, which underscored the traffic and parking impact on our community.

The move of the National Guard Bureau (NGB) staff from Crystal City to the new George Mason Drive facility is now underway, with over 1,000 additional staff in place by July. With one parking place on site for every four people, parking issues are sure to get more difficult.

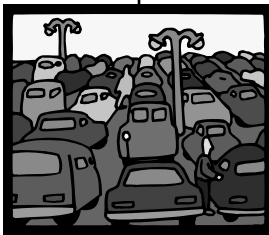
Because this impact is upon us now, we are having a special June meeting (we normally don't meet in June) with NGB, State Department and County staff to get an update on the move, steps they are taking to make it as smooth as possible, and to discuss working with the community. A working group of these staff has been established, and they joined us at our last meeting to hear the discussion with **Delegate Patrick Hope**. A staff member from **Congressman Moran's** office will join us to hear the June discussion to better understand the impact this move has on our community. As noted by many Barcrofters, there has been little if any attention paid by the media to date.

Please join us **Thursday June 2** for what I hope will be an open discussion with key staff

willing to collaborate with us. While they did not make any of the decisions on the move and the number of parking spots built at the new facility, they are left to work out the implementation. I ask that we have an honest and civil conversation as these folks are going above and beyond to try to help.

State Delegate Patrick Hope

Many thanks to Delegate Patrick Hope for joining us at our May meeting. He offered very interesting comments on the Legislative session in Richmond, particularly in light of the hard budget environment and the redistricting process. He responded to questions, and intends to keep informed about the NGB growth and its impact on Barcroft. From my perspective, he is doing a terrific job and we are fortunate to have him working for us.



Final Notes

I've had a great experience as president these past two years, and want to thank all the neighbors who make so much happen. My two-year term expires this month. Unless you're involved (as many are) you might not know the time and effort folks put in on managing the Community House, the holiday events we love (July 4th Parade!) and the hard work on issues such as the 8th Street house fire. It's been my privilege to see first-hand this talent and hard work. Best wishes to the great slate of officers for the 2011-2012 year, including veteran BSCL leader **Pat Williamson**, our incoming president. Have a great summer! See you at the 4th of July Parade!

Come Celebrate

Our Nation's 235th Birthday & the 23rd Annual

Barcroft 4th of July Parade

Monday, July 4th, 2011

Parade begins at 10:00am sharp.

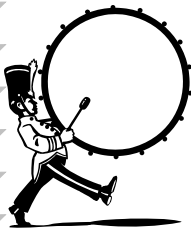
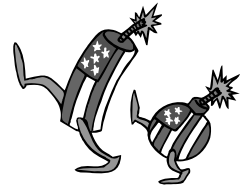
Participants should check in by 9:45 am
at the Barcroft Community House
800 S. Buchanan Street

Anyone can join the parade. No registration required.



Make this the zaniest year ever!!! Decorate those strollers and bikes, paint those faces and bellies or come dressed as your favorite super hero or rock star! Turn your bike into a helicopter, put wheels on your surfboard, make a fun float or banner !!!

Come join in the fun and see why *Washingtonian Magazine* rated Barcroft as one of the top 20 neighborhoods for families to live in the Metro area !!!



This Year's Event Features:

The Marine Corps Color Guard, AFD Fire Engine, Our Barcroft Grand Marshall Uncle Sam, the Coolest Science Show ever with Eric Energy, followed with an Awards Ceremony, family and friends, food, BBQ, drinks, & the singing of our National Anthem.



Please bring a salad, dessert or other dish to share.

Sponsored by the Barcroft School and Civic League.

For more information or to volunteer,
call **Andrew Hunter** at **(703) 979-8247**

Foxes in Barcroft

By Kathy Kerr

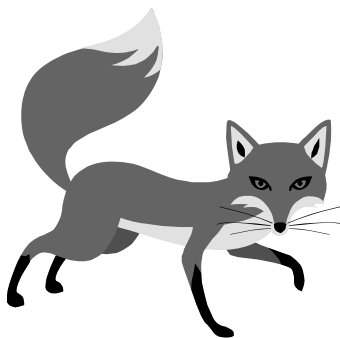
The BSCL email chat list recently has had many fox stories—screaming in the woods, following dogs in the mating season, sunning themselves on neighbors' decks, baby foxes (called “kits”) and horribly sick mangy-looking foxes.

About 6 months ago, Barcrofter **Carol Frisbie** saw a mangy, hairless fox in her yard in a very weakened condition. It was wintertime and her heart went out to this pitiful animal.

She contacted the Animal Welfare League to see if anything could be done. Staff there directed her to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator named Erika Yery. Ms. Yery helps to coordinate some 400 volunteers throughout Northern Virginia who work to save foxes suffering from mange. Mange is caused by mites and is not contagious to humans or other animals. It causes constant intense burning and itching which results in loss of fur. Mange does not make the fox vicious or dangerous to humans, dogs and cats. Rather, these foxes are very weak and are unable to hunt for food. Thankfully, it's readily treatable with a veterinary serum, injected in a scrap of food (hotdog or piece of chicken).

Carol keeps the serum on hand, provided by the County wildlife center, and has recently successfully treated at least two foxes who were at the end of their strength. Their condition improved dramatically and quickly.

The sick foxes need to have 2 doses of the serum, about 2 weeks apart. Carol's property



extends down into the forest behind her house. She has established a small feeding area there away from people and pets, including her own dog. The foxes learn there is food there and this makes it easy to inject the food with the serum and get them to eat it.

Carol reports that foxes are very timid and unaggressive. (Long Branch Nature Center staff does say that during mating season, foxes may follow dogs but are extremely unlikely to attack.) Foxes do not invade homes, do not attack cats or dogs and do no damage. Their mouths are small so the largest animal they can hunt is the size of a rat. Carol notes that Arlington has a severe rat problem and that the foxes significantly help to reduce the rat population. Dogs and cats are simply too large for a fox to want to attack. Worried about rabies? The last CDC-verified case of a human contracting rabies from a fox in the entire USA was in 1961.

Carol says that foxes are “such beautiful and intelligent little animals that need our compassion as we squeeze them out of their woodland territory.”

She adds: “Though normally timid and reclusive, foxes can sound like they're being murdered during mating season. Ah, Spring!”

Want to share some fox stories or hear more about what's going on in Barcroft? Join the BSCL Chat List: www.bscl.org/chatlist.htm or send an email to kathykerr@gmail.com

What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary—SUMMER 2011

By *Jenny Ditta*

Join us for great events happening at Barcroft Elementary from June to August, including our special fitness program, Monday Mornin' Movers (MMM). Depending on the weather, we meet at the outdoor track or in the gym from 8:30 – 8:50 a.m.

On **Friday evening, June 3**, Barcroft will host the **Asian/Pacific-American Heritage Night Celebration**. Please join us for special "Taste of Asia" cuisine, featuring a sampling of restaurant dishes and home-made specialties. And look forward to wonderful family entertainment as well. All are welcome!

The Barcroft PTA will celebrate **Farm-2-Table Week from June 5 – 10**.

Each day, chefs - including Food Network veteran and CakeLove owner, Warren Brown, will come to the school and use locally-grown foods to cook delicious, nutritious recipes for the students to sample. The celebration commences on **Sun. June 5**, where the Barcroft PTA will have a booth at the **Columbia Pike Farmers' Market** equipped with stickers, balloons, and a healthy-eating scavenger hunt for the kids. The food celebration ends on **Friday, June 10, with Dinner and a Movie from 6-8 PM p.m.** Please join us!

On **Friday, June 17**, Barcroft staff will participate in the **2nd Annual Barcroft v. Hoffman-Boston Basketball Game**. At last year's event, 100 Barcroft students and parents watched a great game, enjoyed wonderful food, and cheered our Teacher and Staff team to victory! Go Team Barcroft!

The **5th Grade Graduation Ceremony** is **Tues-**

day, June 21. Congratulations to our wonderful 5th grade students!

The **Final Day of School** is **Friday, June 24**. Barcroft School is on a year-round schedule. After **Summer Break** in **July**, the **2011-2012 School Year** will resume for our Barcroft students on **Tuesday, August 2**.

We hope that everyone enjoys a lovely summer. To learn more about "What's Happening at Barcroft" in 2011, go to:
www.apsva.us/15452010312423667/site/



"WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE?"
 Dinner and a Movie
 The culminating event to our
 Farm to Table Week!
 Friday June 10 from 6:00 -8:00 p.m.
 Barcroft Elementary Cafeteria

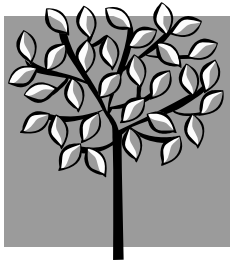
Dinner by Chipotle 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.
 followed by the witty and provocative documentary
 "What's On Your Plate?"
 This is a family-friendly film, appropriate for
 children www.whatsonyourplateproject.org/

Babysitting and a movie for younger children
 in the Music room Tickets only
 \$1.00!
 Proceeds to benefit Arlington Food Assistance
 Center (AFAC) .

Tickets sold June 1 & 2 from 8:15 - 9:00 a.m. in the
 school lobby and Sunday June 5 at the Barcroft table
 at the Columbia Pike Farmers Market and at the Farm

Kenmore Middle School

Two classes worked with a storm water specialist and the Watershed Outreach Program Manager from the Arlington Department of Environmental Services to learn how to clean the tree boxes in the Kenmore parking lot where trees are growing out of the drains. The tree boxes are designed to filter the water before it hits the stream. The trees look much better with their new haircuts!



6th grade students tested water in Four Mile Run and then designed a community action project as part of science class and a partnership with Arlingtonians for a Cleaner Environment (ACE)

Wakefield High School

JUNE EVENTS

Wednesday, June 1 at 7 PM—the Wakefield Orchestra and choral groups will perform in the auditorium.

June 2 at 7:30 pm—the Concert, Symphonic and Jazz Bands will perform. Joining the Wakefield ensembles that evening will be the Arlington Community Band. All are invited!

June 7th - 3rd annual "A Night of the Arts", an evening program of vocal, dance and musical performances by students and alumni, plus student art and photos. Opening reception at 6:00pm with art exhibit and a silent action, followed by performances at 7:10. All proceeds benefit the 2011 WHS Fine Arts Scholarship Fund.

June 9th at 9:30 AM — Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new school on the "pool deck".



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Saturdays from 10:00 am until Noon
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Around the Neighborhood

IN MEMORIUM



Condolences to the family and many friends of **Mary Taylor**. Mrs. Taylor passed away on May 16 at age 103. She was the longest living resident of Barcroft. See an article about her in the June /July 2010 issue of the Barcroft News.

<http://www.bscl.org/news1006.pdf>

GARDENERS NEEDED

Julie Smith writes: I have a kindergartner at Barcroft and have recently volunteered to be in charge of the garden there. It is a great resource but is languishing at the moment for lack of hands-on work. I know there are some fantastic gardeners in our neighborhood and am wondering if any would be willing to volunteer a bit of their time to 1) educate me and other interested parents and teachers, 2) donate some of their bulbs/cuttings/whatever, and/or 3) work in the garden. **Susan DuBois** started the garden after receiving a grant. Contact Julie at 703-979-2179.

Glencarly Park Update

At the May Barcroft meeting, M. Valerie Mosley of the Arlington County Parks Department presented the final plans for the new, improved Glencarly park (located at the corner of Four Mile Run Trail and Columbia Pike, on the Barcroft side of the street). The plan was approved by the BSCL, and we sent a letter to that effect to Arlington County.

Plans are to begin construction next spring! If you have any questions, or would like additional information, contact Elizabeth Kiker at: elizabeth.kiker@gmail.com.

Scholarship Awarded

The Woman's Club of Arlington on S. Buchanan St. has selected Stephanie Colon of Wakefield High School as this year's recipient of a scholarship to a Virginia college. Stephanie plans to attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall. The Woman's Club will award her \$2,500 for the next 4 years toward her tuition. Presentation of award will be on June 17th at Wakefield High School.

Arlington Forest United Methodist Church

"A Community of Love and Hope Where All Are Welcome"

4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203

8:30 Casual Worship, Godly Play-Sunday School 10:00 a.m.,

Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m., & Children's Church Vespers 3rd Wed. 7pm,

Healing Service 4th Sundays 7pm

"Main Street" Vacation Bible School 6/27-7/1, 9am-12 noon

Come work in the "Plot against Hunger",

A Vegetable Garden for AFAC!

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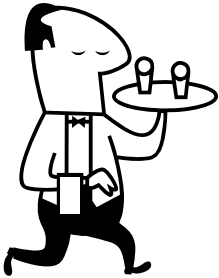
By *Judith Richter*

The word sazón, in the name of this new café, means “seasonings” in Spanish. It also means “to live life to the fullest.”

Adriana Torres, one of the café’s owners, says they aim to bring a variety of spices and flavors to their food. And as for that part about living life, Adriana and her co-owners have thoughtfully transformed a once-nondescript space next to the Goodwill into a beautiful, contemporary coffee shop, bakery, and restaurant.

For a cup of coffee and a pastry, look no further. There’s even a comfortable couch and free wi-fi to make you feel at home.

For those of you looking for a casual lunch or dinner, look to the chalkboards for the regular menu and an array of daily specials. As fellow Barcrofter **Alyssa Morel** said after her first bite of food, “small menu but big flavor.” The predominantly Bolivian menu features items such as silpancho—pounded and breaded steak served over rice with two fried eggs, potatoes, and pico de gallo (\$7.75). I tried the delicious chicken fajitas off the regular menu—plated with two heaping piles of meat and peppers, a mound of herbed rice and a fresh salad of romaine lettuce and



tomatoes (\$7.59). Also tasty were the enchiladas Hondureñas—layers of ground beef, cabbage, and hard boiled egg atop crispy tostadas (2 for \$5.49). The final daily special ordered was the bistec res, a generous pile of tender and flavorful slow-cooked beef, also served with rice and fresh salad.

It’s nice to have such a welcoming place in our neighborhood. Stop by and introduce yourself to the friendly staff. They’ll help you navigate the menu and even provide a taste of their featured hot drinks. Try the api morado, a sweet drink made from crushed red corn. This past weekend they also served atol de semilla de marañón, rather like a smoothie made of cashews. It was homey and warming on a cold wet day.

The owners of this café are long term residents of Columbia Pike. Adriana grew up in Columbia Heights West and now she and another co-owner Tom Shen, have moved into Columbia Forest. She said they hope to create a welcome space for the community. Judging from what we’ve seen and tasted so far, they’re well on their way. I hope you’ll find it so as well.

*Café Sazón. 4704 Columbia Pike.
703-556-1686. www.cafesazon.com.*

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The Lubber Run Amphitheater

once doomed for demolition, will be open for performances by late July. For under \$100,000, contractors will make the 43-year-old amphitheater safer and more accessible. They will replace the wooden stage, replace area and stage lighting, purchase portable hearing devices, and install handicap-accessible parking spaces, portable restrooms and designated seating. Word is that there’s ample money in the budget to fund outdoor programming at the amphitheater for the remainder of the summer!

Yay!!



ALL THE LATEST NEWS !

Are you on the Barcroft chat group and news email lists?

Go to:

**www.bscl.org/
chatlist.htm**

**Or send an email request to
kathy@bscl.org**



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

Northern Virginia Market Trends

The Northern Virginia Association of Realtors® reports on March 2011 home sales activity for Fairfax and Arlington counties, the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church and the towns of Vienna, Herndon and Clifton.

A total of 1,437 homes sold in March 2011, a 7.71% decrease below March 2010 home sales of 1,557. Active listings decreased by 7% from 2010, with 3,975 active listings in 3/11, compared with 4,267 homes available in 3/10. The average days on market (DOM) for homes in 3/11 increased 39% to 71 days, compared with 51 days in 3/10. Sale prices rose compared with those realized last year. The average sales price in March 2011 increased 3% from March 2010, to \$448,957 from \$434,129 last March.

Arlington County Statistics comparing March 2010 to 2011: **Condos** - Avg. Sold Price was \$373,112 in 3/10 - up 13% in 3/11 to \$421,108. **Single Family Attached** - Avg. Sold Price was \$551,911 in 3/10 – up 18% to \$653,160 in 3/11. **Single Family Detached** - Avg. Sold Price \$712,483 in 3/10, up 3% to \$732,041 in 3/11. On 10/1/11 the current administration is *proposing* lowering the conforming loan amount from \$729,750 to \$625,500 for FHA, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac housing loans.

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