

November 2011

# Barcroft News

Vol 109, Issue 3

## President's Report—Pat Williamson, BSCL President

What a wonderful group we had at our multi-faceted October meeting. Many thanks to all that attended. So many topics were covered including the tree give-away and urban hen keeping.

Please make every effort to attend the November 3 meeting to get updated and help decision making processes on renovations to our beloved Community House. So many of you have donated to the renovation fund and it appears we are at a juncture to finally forge ahead. **Jim Kerr** will lead this portion of the meeting.

In a really well-timed follow-up to Sgt. Rick Rodriguez' ACPD report on the over-serving of alcohol being a big factor in crime, we have been asked to comment on the expansion of the use permit for El Salvador at 4805 Columbia Pike to add dancing with live bands and DJ's. ACPD is getting together crime stats and BSCL neighbors are being asked to weigh in on allowing this change. Currently it looks like the consensus is for BSCL to oppose this request. Updates will be provided at the Nov. 3 regular monthly meeting so we

will be able to respond to the County Board via the Planning Office.

Neighbor **Kate Beyselance** will give a very brief presentation about the renovations planned for our institutional neighbor, Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington. Just as we appreciated the information Tom Tiernan presented last month about the plans for Our Savior Lutheran Church we look forward to this heads up from Kate. Both churches will bring us details about their projects as they become available early next spring.

Mark your calendars for a visit by Santa Claus to the annual Barcroft Holiday Party to be held on Dec. 1. It's always a terrific sing-along opportunity for all and we appreciate all the wonderful snacks that neighbors bring to share.

Send me your ideas for meetings next year. It is great to have a variety of topics.

I look forward to seeing you at the BSCL Meeting Thursday Nov. 3 at 7:30 PM.

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

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*Parks* Elizabeth Kiker  
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 Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

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**www.bscl.org**

**Neighbor to Neighbor Ads**

**Teen Services** to raise funds for People to People trip to Europe summer 2012: will scan/print photos or wrap holiday gifts for a donation. Call Alys 703-801-9877

**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 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** - 12th 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** --7th grader , Red Cross certified. Petsitting too. 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 Katie Costar at 703-228-8846 or email: [kathleen.costar@apsva.us](mailto:kathleen.costar@apsva.us)

**Barcroft Community Playgroup** 9:30-11:30am Friday mornings at the Community House. Contact **Jenny Ditta** [chrisnjenny4@comcast.net](mailto:chrisnjenny4@comcast.net) or **Jason Kiker** [jkiker@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:kathykerr@gmail.com) Do you have an interesting neighbor she should interview? Are you interesting yourself?? Is there a new baby at your house?

## Remembering Mrs. Lila Wilson

*From Betty Fought*

Longtime Barcrofter Lila Wilson died in February 2011 at the age of 96 in Leesburg. Her husband Chester Wilson, a pharmacist, died a number of years ago. They lived on the corner of S. Abingdon and 4th Streets in the brown brick house on the corner by the mailbox.

The Wilsons moved to Barcroft in the 1940s, They were probably among the original residents. They had 4 children and several grandchildren. Their family attended the Arlington Forest United Methodist Church many years ago.

Back in the 50's and 60's when children waited for the school bus at 4th and Abingdon, on rainy days, Lila would invite the girls into her house. The boys would gather on the porch of the stone house across the street. (Frank Wyckoff lived there back then; he was the boys

age). We would watch for the bus and run out to catch it when it came. The driver usually knew where we were.

Lila was a member of the neighborhood K Klub. She and Chester would host the Klub on special occasions with Valentine parties and Halloween parties. A lot of fun!



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## Arlington Forest United Methodist Church

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4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203

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

Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.

**Breakfast with St. Nicholas, Saturday, Dec. 3, 10am**

**Children's Musical: "Hark Harold the Angel Sings" Sun., Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, 4pm**

**Christmas Caroling, Sunday December 18, 2 pm**

**Family & Children Christmas Eve Service, Saturday December 24, 5 pm**

**Candlelight Holy Communion Service, Saturday December 24, 7:30 pm**

"Your neighborhood church only a walk away"



## Progress at Buchanan Gardens

*By Julie Rotherham,  
BSCL Liaison to APAH*

Buchanan Garden Apartment Construction is well under way. The Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH) purchased Buchanan Gardens in 2009. Built in 1949, this 11-building garden apartment community is undergoing major renovations that started in Spring 2011. Thirty apartments are included in Phase One, which will be completed very soon. Phase Two will be completed in winter 2011 and Phase Three will follow in spring 2012. Residents, relocated temporarily to Columbia Grove or other locations, will return to newly renovated apartments including new systems, new finishes and "bump outs" to increase the number of family-size units. When complete, Buchanan Gardens will also have a new playground and community center.

Work is progressing well and they are doing their best to stick to their tight building schedule. A model is currently available for viewing and I took the opportunity to see the transformation with Christopher Donald the Director of Real Estate Development for APAH. Seeing the before and after is quite impressive and residents are thrilled with the transformation. Please contact me if you wish to tour the new unit or learn more about the construction. [julielusher@yahoo.com](mailto:julielusher@yahoo.com)

## Barcroft Crop Walkers

On Sat., Oct. 15, some Barcrofters walked in the annual 10K Arlington CROP WALK to help raise awareness about and money to end hunger. The CROP Walk route is 6+ miles long to reflect that in developing countries, people typically walk as much as 6 miles a day to get food, water, and fuel. Funds raised support food-assistance programs worldwide and the Arlington Food Assistance Center locally.

Barcroft Walkers included **Mike Southall-Vess**, the **Kiker family**, and the **Ditta girls**. The walk began and ended at the Arlington Forest United Methodist Church. Barcrofter **Mary Jane Rasely** was at the church with snacks for tired walkers.

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**20 percent discount to Barcroft residents!**

## You Can Get There From Here—By Bus!

If you have never taken the bus you may find the system daunting. You've probably noticed there are two bus systems here in Arlington: 1) the larger Metrobus system that serves the District, Virginia, and Maryland, and 2) the smaller green and white Arlington Transit (ART) busses that operate only in Arlington.

### Fares

It costs \$1.50 to get on either bus if you're using a SmartTrip® card. If you want to pay cash you pay 20 cents more on the Metrobus but not the ART bus. With a SmartTrip® card, once you board a bus you've got two hours to ride as many busses as you'd like at no additional cost (except to Dulles Airport). If you transfer to Metrorail you get a discount of 50¢ on your rail fare.

**Anyone older than 65 or with disabilities** and anyone with a Medicare card can ride for half price. **Teens** with middle or high school IDs can also ride for half price with the iRide Teen Discount. They must use cash or green iRide tokens from The Commuter Store (branches in Shirlington, Ballston Commons Mall, Rosslyn Metro, or Crystal City Shops).

### How do you know where the bus is going?

1. The destination is on the front of the bus.
2. Review (and order) bus schedules online.
3. Ask the driver.

### What busses service Barcroft?

- 16Y Columbia Pike to McPherson Square
- 16F Columbia Pike to the Pentagon to Archives and Federal Triangle.
- 16A, B, D, E, J, P, K Columbia Pike to the Pentagon:
- 16G Columbia Pike to Pentagon City:

### What Busses Go to the Metro?

- 16H Columbia Pike to Crystal City Metro
- 4A, H Pershing Drive – Arlington Blvd. to Rosslyn Metro:
- 22A Ballston and Pentagon Metro stations via Glebe Road, Columbia Pike, Four Mile Run, and 395.
- ART 41 to Ballston to Court House Metro. Stops include Columbia Pike and Glebe, Ballston Common Mall, and the Clarendon and Court House Metro Stations.
- ART 45 Columbia Pike-DHS/Sequoia-Rosslyn
- ART 45 buses Mon-Fri between Columbia Pike, Arlington Dept of Human Services offices, and Rosslyn Metro Station.
- 5A Metrobus route to Dulles Airport: Take the ART 45 to the Rosslyn Metro to connect. The special one-way fare is \$6.

**To plan your trip**, visit [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com) or call Metro at 202-637-7000

**For ART Bus info** call 703-228-RIDE or visit [www.arlingtontransit.com](http://www.arlingtontransit.com)

Purchase a SmartTrip® card online or at select stores for \$5.00 such as Columbia Pike CVSs (5017 and 2601 Columbia Pike). Register your card so if it gets lost or damaged Metro can transfer the existing balance to a new card. You can add money to the card on the bus, at a metro station, or by using the



## What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary

By *Jenny Ditta*

Fall is in full color at Barcroft Elementary School. We are delighted to report that 35 2nd graders **toured the White House Garden on October 25**. This is a follow-up event to the Farm-2-Table school events at Barcroft in June 2011. Look for pictures soon on the school website.

We hope that everyone enjoyed a safe, happy, and delicious Halloween. The Barcroft PTA will participate once again in the local charitable candy drive, **Treats 4 Our Troops**. So if you end up with more candy than your family needs, we'll make sure it goes to deserving people. **Through Nov. 9**, neighbors can **drop off bagged candy, surplus Halloween candy, cards, letters, and recycled magazines into the orange bin at the Front Office**. Treats 4 Our Troops will send our donations to U.S. military personnel and to our Wounded Warriors. If you prefer to make a cash donation, your money will be used to defray shipping expenses.

Highlights for November 2011 include **the grand re-opening on November 3 of the in-school student-run branch of the Arlington Community Federal Credit Union**. Students who open an account by November 3 with a minimum \$5.00 deposit will receive a \$5.00 cash match from the Barcroft PTA. And existing student account holders who make deposits can receive a cash match of up to \$3.00. So start saving, Barcroft students!

While students enjoy a day off from school, the PTA will host its annual **Election Day Bake Sale on November 8**. The PTA will sell breakfast items, baked good including breads,

pies, and cakes. Please be sure to come to the polls hungry, and you will not be disappointed -- at least with the food! :-)

Also on Nov. 8, all Barcroft neighbors are cordially invited to view a special performance by the **Children's Spanish Chorus**. Spanish Chorus includes elementary-school-age students from several Arlington Public Schools, including Barcroft. The chorus was founded and is directed by Barcroft Music Teacher, Cora Lee Khambatta. They will perform an exciting program entitled "**Latin American Connections: From the Earth to the Stars**," at **7:00 PM Nov. 8 at Theatre One, Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St.** Then on **Sat. Nov. 12**, the **Spanish Chorus will travel by bus to Pittsburgh, PA, as Arlington's Musical Ambassadors** to perform at the **2012 American Orff-Schulwerk Association Professional Conference**.

Please prepare to do your holiday shopping early this year. During the **week of Nov. 14 – 18**, Barcroft will host a **Book Fair and Holiday Shop**. Choose from a selection of books and other goodies for everyone on your list. We hope that you can join us.

We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Students will enjoy a break from school from November 23-25.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary, go to:

[www.apsva.us/Barcroft](http://www.apsva.us/Barcroft)

## Barcroft Elementary

Barcroft Elementary needs volunteers to work with a small group of students assisting them with homework after school between 3:50 pm and 4:45 pm, M, T, W, and/or Th.

If you have the time and interest, please volunteer! To sign-up or if you have questions, please contact the principal—Miriam Hughey Guy at [703- 228-5838](tel:703-228-5838) or email [miriam.hugheyguy@apsva.us](mailto:miriam.hugheyguy@apsva.us)

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## Wakefield High School

### Wakefield Concerts

Everyone is invited to the following music events:



- Fall Choral Concert, Nov. 2, 7:00 PM
- Marching Warriors in Concert, Nov, 3rd, 7:30 PM

\*\*\*\*\*

### Construction at Wakefield

The Wakefield PTA will host a special community meeting on the new high school construction on Monday, Nov 14 from 7-8 PM in room 110. Representatives from APS and the construction management team will provide an overview of the building project to date, followed by an Q&A session. Wakefield parents and all area residents are invited to attend!



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**Book Club Nov. 8 7:30 pm**  
*(Nov—The Elegance of the Hedgehog / Dec—Little Princes)*

**Nov. 20 Thanksgiving Potluck after 10 am service**

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[stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net](http://stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net)

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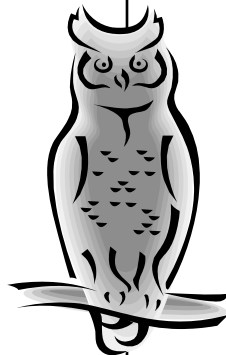
## Neighborhood Owls

### A Nocturnal Neighbor

By Christina Yacobi, Park Naturalist, Long Branch Nature Center

A prominent, year-round resident of Northern Virginia and of our Arlington forests is the Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*). First noted in the Virginia Colonies of the New World, it is believed to have been named in honor of the 'Virgin Queen', Queen Elizabeth I. While common across many varied North American habitats and ecoregions, the Great Horned Owl is the only member of the genus *Bubo* in the Western Hemisphere. It's the largest of the owls native to Virginia and only slightly smaller than the tallest owl in North America, the Great Grey Owl.

While sometimes seen out during the day, they are naturally nocturnal hunters favoring the hours just before midnight and again just before dawn. Behind their piercing gaze is a head that can swivel 180-190° with binocular vision and deadly accurate night vision. Aiding their amazingly keen eyesight is an excellent sense of hearing with slightly asymmetrical ear placement and sound that is funneled directly into their ears by their facial disc feathers. This provides them with multidimensional hearing and enables them to pinpoint sound location with incredible accuracy. The unique tufts or "horns" on their heads are composed of feathers and are not part of their actual ear or hearing structure. This rapacious raptor is a strict carnivore and is not very particular about its diet; it has been known to take small rodents, to small raptors, and birds as large as Great Blue



Heron in some instances.

They have a varied repertoire of calls, but the most recognizable adult call is a distinctive series of hoots that sounds loosely like "Who's awake? Me too?" Here in the Park we have a live Great Horned Owl Exhibit where visitors can learn more about the species in general, observe an actual "ambassador of the species", and if they time their visit towards the end of the work day, possibly even see a feeding session. Additional known owl residents of the park include a pair of Barred Owls, as well as the occasional visiting Screech Owl.

*To learn more about our native owls, register for our "Native Owls of Virginia" program scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-2:30 p.m. here at Long Branch Nature Center.*

*Who will you meet at this entertaining and informative program? Join members of the Raptor Conservancy of Virginia as they share their insights into these fascinating and mysterious nighttime predators. Families with children ages 12 and up. Register children and*

*adults; children must register with an accompanying adult. For more information: 703-228-6535. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center, 625 S Carlin Springs Rd., Arlington, VA 22204.*

***Free. Register at <https://registration.arlingtonva.us/>. Program # 612951-I***



## Yoga for Your Health

Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:30 pm  
Classes through December 21  
Barcroft Community House

Release tensions of day in weekly yoga classes. Open to students with beginners to intermediate yoga experience. Breath techniques and postures to stretch and strengthen muscles and foster proper body alignment and overall wellness.

Linda Dunphy, Barcroft Resident, 20 years yoga experience; 200 hour teacher training in Pranakryia Yoga®. Register to [Lindalee703@comcast.net](mailto:Lindalee703@comcast.net) or call 703-975-3816 to join the class. \$10 a class. Mats and props available for loan or purchase.

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**Gary Lefebvre, BSCL Treasurer  
812 S. George Mason Dr.**



**Not sure if you paid this year?  
Check the list at:**

**[www.bscl.org/members.htm](http://www.bscl.org/members.htm)**

**There is also a link there for the membership form.**



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **The big Election Day Bake Sale** will be **Nov. 8** 7 AM to 5 PM at Barcroft School to raise money for student activities and scholarships. Don't forget to bring some \$\$ for those muffins, scones, breads, rice crispies, cookies, cupcakes, bars, cakes and pies. And **Coffee!**
- **Calling all Stay at Home Moms!** MOMS Club of Arlington South is forming two new clubs! Barcroft neighborhood falls within MOMS Club of Arlington Southwest. Come to an Open House at Barcroft Park, on Tues, 11/1 @ 4pm. Contact samcmember@yahoo.com or go to [www.southarlingtonmomsclub.org](http://www.southarlingtonmomsclub.org) for more info.
- **Hanssen Spy Talk**  
**Saturday, 11/19/2011, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM**  
**Long Branch Nature Center** 625 S Carlin Springs Rd, Arlington, VA 22204  
 The infamous spy and traitor Robert Hanssen worked in secrecy all around the nation's Capitol for years before being discovered. Some of those clandestine affairs were conducted right here in the woods of Long Branch Nature Center. To learn more, call 703-228-6535.  
**\$5 fee per person. <https://registration.arlingtonva.us/>. Program # 612941-F**



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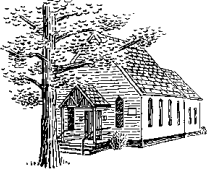
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Barcroft School and Civic League  
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Through these 27 tips, you will learn how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the most profit possible.

Our approach is to advise our seller clients on meaningful improvements that offer the greatest resale return on investment, as well as advice on what not to do to prepare your home for the market! *Contact me for details!*

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