

Barcroft News

December 2011 Vol 109, Issue 4



Everyone is invited to the Barcroft Holiday Party Thursday Dec. 1 7 PM At the BSCL Community House

Featuring:

- · Music by our Barcroft neighbors
- · Sing-a-longs
- Refreshments
- · If we have all been good,

a special visitor dressed in red!



Cookies or treats to share are welcome!

Children must be accompanied by an adult.



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News Deadline: 15th day of the month preceding

the issue month.

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Mike Behringer, Bryant Monroe

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Community House Barbara Swart Rental Mgr. barcrofthouserental@yahoo.com

Restoration David Michaelson, Jim Kerr

Fundraising Chris Ditta

Landscaping Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308

Traffic Committee Heidi Wicker

4th of July Parade Andrew Hunter, 979-8247
Columbia Pike Bryant Monroe, 271-0944

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Demeter House Darlene Mickey

Crime vacant

Parks Elizabeth Kiker elizabeth.kiker@gmail.com

Shirley Gay

Signs David Peacefull

Parking Committee vacant

Volunteers vacant

Volunteers@bscl.org
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Arlington County Civic Federation

Alternates

Delegates Eric Harold, Randy Swart,

Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr

Karen Darner, David Michelson, Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.bscl.org

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

For Sale: Sears ProForm stationary bike, battery operated, digital readout, ex condition, \$50. 1920-30 era Chippendale sofa, very good shape, \$100 / offer. Call Paul 703-527-8262.

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 dylanryega@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 Claure 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

Barcroft Community Playgroup 9:30-11:30am Friday mornings at the Community House. Contact **Jenny Ditta** chrisnjenny4@comcast.net or **Jason Kiker** ikiker@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

President's Report—Pat Williamson, BSCL President

A unanimous vote at the Nov. 3 BSCL. meeting set in motion the Community House Renovation Project that so many wonderful neighbors have pitched in to support. Many thanks to Chris Ditta for his fundraising efforts which have allowed us to pay for the work ahead. It is our hope to begin the work in late December and to be back in the House by the end of January. Unfortunately, we will have to disrupt our many rental customers during the process—including the cancellation of our regular monthly meeting on January 5, 2012. Kudos to Jim Kerr for bringing in a structural engineer to give us the go-ahead for raising the ceiling and for guiding the process of contractor selection and direction.

We will give our old digs a great send-off on Thursday, Dec. 1, with our annual Holiday Celebration. All are invited to join together in singing holiday songs at 7:00pm. Please bring a treat to share and enjoy setting the season in motion with a possible visit from a much loved guest!!

Reported at the meeting were the results of the firm stand that our 3rd District Police Team and BSCL took against an application for use permit revision for El Salvador restaurant on Columbia Pike. The restaurant requested adding live music and dancing from 11pm to 2am. Officer Rick Rodriguez cited the many instances of overserving of alcohol by this establishment as one of the factors contributing to criminal activities. When informed of our strong concerns, the restaurant withdrew their application and committed to working on the issues raised.

Next year we will follow-up on the proposed projects at two of our institutional neighbors -- Our Savior Lutheran Church and the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington. Representatives will return to BSCL regular monthly meetings when they have details and plans to share.

BSCL membership Coordinator **Peg LeFebvre** reported that many neighbors have already sent in their annual dues—with many also including donations to the Community House Renovation Fund. This year is going great so far. If you haven't had an opportunity to send in your dues yet, please do. Any questions about Membership can be sent to Peg@bscl.org.

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November Election Report

By Randy Swart

The November 8 election at Barcroft School was uneventful compared to last time--no earthquake. We knew it would be that way because principal **Miriam Hughey-Guy** had told us that she had put in the word up high, and at Barcroft Elementary you can count on that. We had only five election officials this time, all from the neighborhood: **Mike Collier** (Chief), **Dave Peaceful** (Assistant Chief), **Susan Cohen, Barbara Swart** and **Randy Swart**. It's a good crew and we work well together.

This year about a thousand mostly unhappy Alcova and Arlington Heights voters were moved to our precinct from TJ because of redistricting. About a third of our voters turned out, supporting Barbara Favola (72%), Mary Hines and Walter Tejada. More parents brought their kids along this time than ever before for a civic duty lesson. Some brought grandkids. They all love pressing the big VOTE button and receiving their Future Voter stickers. The PTA bake sale had delicious treats and sold everything. Some of the voters moved from TJ were less disgruntled when they discovered it. Betty Call, a former election official and one of our most senior voters, made the trip to vote from her car in the parking lot (we can take a machine out there if needed).

There are four elections coming up next year: a Presidential primary in February, a Special Election to replace Barbara Favola on the County Board, a State offices primary in June and the big one in November. Almost everyone qualifies to vote early or vote absentee, but it's fun to see your neighbors, bring your kids and soak up local color. We are actively looking for new Barcrofters to be election officials. The day is long (15+ hours) but you do get paid, so please consider serving.



Fabulous Flying Squirrels

By Christina Yacobi Park Naturalist, Long Branch Nature Center

Some of our more unusual and fun-loving nocturnal Park residents are the Southern Flying Squirrels (*Glaucomys volans*). The derivation of their scientific name comes from both Greek and Latin for "flying gray mouse". The Greek word "*alaukos*" meaning "gray", and "*mys*" meaning "mouse", taken in combination with the Latin word "*volans*" which means "flying".

They reside across many forested areas in Virginia, except for the western most tip of the state. They usually dwell in tree cavities high up in the canopy in well-timbered deciduous forests, close to a natural water source. Their home-range is generally very small covering from about 5-6 acres. They eat a diet mainly of assorted nuts (hickory, acorn, walnut, etc) in the winter and fall. We have found that our local flying squirrels also seem to have a special preference for the seed pod of the tulip poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) as a supplemental part of their fall diet. Throughout the rest of the year their diet consists of various fruits, berries, flowers, insects, fungi, and even some lichens.

They are furry and small in size, ranging in length when full-grown from about 7.5 inches to 10 inches, including their tail. Their fur is generally

grayish-brown on the back with an off-white to light brown underbelly. They have large black eyes with a slight black ring around them which standout in comparison to the size of their head. Most notable is the fold of fur-covered skin called a "patagium" that stretches from the wrists of their forelimbs to their ankles. They use this patagium to glide, not actually fly, from tree to tree through the forest. Contrary to popular belief, the Flying Squirrel is in the rodent family and not at all related to the Australian Sugar Glider which is a marsupial.

Come to Long Branch Nature Center to learn more about the ever present, but secretive flying squirrel and some of the lore that has surrounded them! Flying squirrels are found throughout the wooded neighborhoods of Arlington, but are seldom seen.

For ages 5 and up, join us to learn about these engaging nocturnal acrobats. After an indoor presentation, we'll tiptoe outside to see these little pixies glide in for an evening meal. These creatures are truly one of the natural wonders of Arlington! Every Saturday evening, Dec.-Feb (no programs on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve). Registration required 703-228-4747. Meet at LBNC. \$5 per person, \$20 max per family.

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.

Breakfast with St. Nicholas, Saturday, Dec. 3, 10am
Children's Musical: "Hark Harold the Angel Sings" Sun., Dec. 11th, 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"

What's Happening at Barcroft

What is "Scoupon?"

By Jenny Ditta

We hope that everyone enjoyed a lovely, safe Thanksgiving Holiday. In November, all students received personal laptop computers to use at home and at school during the school year. Students, teachers, and parents are excited to be a part of this new loaner laptop program!

On Mon., Dec. 5, the PTA will host a restaurant fundraiser at the Silver Diner in Clarendon, from 5-8 pm. Everyone is welcome for a delicious, fun-filled evening. Money raised will be used to sponsor teams of students and staff to participate in the 1st Annual Gus Macker 3 on 3 Charity Basketball Tournament to be held June 16-17. The YMCA is sponsoring this tournament to help strengthen local youth development programs.

On Wed., Dec. 14, Barcroft will host its 2nd Quarter Leonardo Da Vinci Learning Day Open House. That evening, the 4th Grade will host its Leonardo da Vinci Fair. All are welcome.

Students will break from school for the holidays on Fri., Dec. 16, and school resumes on Tues., Jan. 3. Students can attend a Winter Fitness and Nutrition (FAN) camp from Dec. 19-22. During FAN Camp, students take fun, special fitness and nutrition classes including cooking, yoga, martial arts, Wii fitness and dance.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary, go to: www.apsva.us/Barcroft

Barcroft and Wakefield PTAs invite everyone to join a free online coupon club called "Scoupon." It's like Groupon except that 30% of the profits will come to the PTA of your choice. This is an Arlington-based coupon club, so all business are in or near Arlington.

Members receive a daily email with 50-90% off local restaurants and businesses. Visit www.scouponclub.com, enter your email and choose Barcroft or Wakefield (or a choice of other PTAs) from the drop down menu. That is all you have to do! It takes 20 seconds. There is no cost to join. Once you've signed up it doesn't need to be done again every year. You can unsubscribe at any time and your e-mail will not be sold or shared with anyone.

The Arts at Wakefield

- Wakefield High School presents *The Marriage of Miss Hollywood and King Neptune* by Robert Schenkkan, a comedy set against the backdrop of early Hollywood and LA political corruption. Performances are Dec. 2, 3, 9 & 10 at 7pm Wakefield auditorium. Tickets \$8 adults / \$5 students.
- On Opening Night, **Friday, Dec. 2**, the Class of 2014 will host an Italian Dinner from 5 6:30pm. For info, email: geraldine.vota@apsva.us
- Winter Band Concert Dec. 13 at 7:30pm in the auditorium
- Winter Orchestra and Choir Concert Dec.
 20 at 7pm in the auditorium

Field Hockey Stars!

PTA Fundraiser

Wakefield Warriors' Field Hockey wrapped up an exciting season with well deserved recognition from the National District. Warrior's Coach Stephanie A. Marsnick Dickel was awarded District Coach of the Year and senior forward Jessica Valarezo was awarded the District Player of the Year. Three Wakefield players were awarded Honorable Mention All-District including Barcrofter **Sarah Hunter** (defender).

The Warriors won two games this season, the first wins since 2006, and held first place Yorktown to a 1-0 final score in their last regular season game. The Warriors are the only Northern Virginia High School Hockey Program that does not have a junior varsity or freshman team to feed their varsity team. Kudos for great coaching and to the upper classman who worked with the new players on their skills and building their confidence level. Not to be ignored, the Warrior's Field Hockey Cheering Squad's antics greatly contributed to the game festivities.

Barcroft, Campbell, Claremont & Randolph Elementary School PTAs have joined forces for an "Eat the World" Fundraiser! Dine at Sâuçá: lunch or dinner, eat-in or take-out 15% of profits will go to support the PTAs on Tuesdays: Nov 29, Dec 13, Jan 24 and Feb 21 (each night supports all 4 PTAs)

Sâuçá Restaurant 4707 Columbia Pike Arlington, VA 22204

To see the menu, visit: www.eatsauca.com

Congratulations

Fourteen choral students from Wakefield were selected for the 2011-2012 All District Chorus Event including Barcrofter **Sarah Hunter**. Students from many high schools audition.



We are an inclusive Jewish community— welcoming people of different backgrounds and traditions.

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Yoga for Your Health Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:20 pm December - March Barcroft Community House



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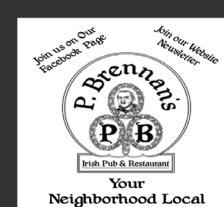
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Columbia Pike Transportation Projects Move Forward!

Excerpts from an article by Allen Muchnick

Several transportation projects affecting our segment of Columbia Pike are in various stages of development.

Columbia Pike Multimodal Street Improvements

Arlington County has been conducting an environmental and engineering study to extensively rebuild the Columbia Pike roadway and sidewalks to be compatible with the separate streetcar project. Final reports are being written this fall, and will be followed by a public meeting in December or January.

Columbia Pike Transit Initiative (Streetcar Project)

Planning and analysis for the proposed 5-mile streetcar system is still underway. The current project timeline calls for: preliminary engineering and project development from 2012 to 2014; design and construction to begin in 2015; and system testing and service to begin in 2017. Public hearings are anticipated in January or February 2012.

Columbia Pike "Super Stops"

The first of about 20 "Super Stops" for Columbia Pike bus riders is now under construction in Pike Park in front of the Rite Aid at Walter Reed Dr. Super Stops are larger, more accessible, and technologically advanced bus shelters for 10-15

passengers, with seating, lighting, wind screens and enhanced weather protection; real-time electronic and printed schedule information; maps for bus routes and surrounding areas; improved landscape, sidewalks, curb and gutter; and future ticket vending. Demolition has already been completed for the Walter Reed East Super Stop at Pike Park, and construction is targeted for completion by the end of February.

Columbia Pike Bicycle Boulevards

This County project aims to improve 12th Street South and 9th Street South bicycling and walking. By early Fall, staff will reach out to residents along these routes to share and discuss the refinements to the more challenging sections of the plan.

Columbia Pike/Washington Blvd Interchange

VDOT's \$60 million design-build project is currently under construction. Meetings to preced the various stages of construction will be held in early 2012. The design should be completed by Spring 2012, and construction is scheduled to occur from Spring 2012 through Summer 2015.

For more information, visit: arlingtonva.us/departments/EnvironmentalServices/ dot/planning/page66674.aspx



Are you missing a connection with God?

St. John's Episcopal Church is a small congregation with a big heart. We believe that questioning and doubts are part of mature faith development. Always inclusive, we invite you to bring those questions inside the faith community where we help people establish a deeper relationship with God. -Reverend Ann Barker, Rector

Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

Sunday Christian Education

Adults 9 am - Youth 9:20 am

December 6 - Book Club - Little Princes by Conner Grennan - 7:30 pm

December 18 - Christmas Caroling in the neighborhood - bring the whole family - 4 pm

December 24 – Christmas Eve Services - 5 pm family service and 11 pm

December 25 - Christmas Day Service - 10 am

St. John's Episcopal Church

415 S. Lexington Street

Arlington, VA 22204 703-671-6834 stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net





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It's never too late to renew your BSCL membership or to join if you are not yet a member.

> Dues are just \$5 per adult. **Drop off at the Community House** or mail to: 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

There is also a link there for the membership form.



Community House Renovation

Community House renovations are now ready to proceed thanks to the fundraising campaign which has reached \$21,300. We have received 324 separate contributions during the past 15 months, comprised of donations from over 150 families and from 9 separate events or local institutions. A plaque will be dedicated representing contributions of \$100 or more. There are currently 102 names in this category of giving. Thank you to all donors. And thank you to **Chris Ditta** for his successful fundraising efforts. Contributions can be dropped off at the BSCL Community House or mailed to:

Gary Lefebvre, BSCL Treasurer 812 S. George Mason Dr. Arlington, VA 22204

What's Going On In Barcroft??

Join the Barcroft chat group and news email lists!

Go to: www.bscl.org/chatlist.htm



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

Another Successful Outcome!

Here is a note from a client we recently helped. It makes my job rewarding to enhance someone's life situation! Dear Casey, We can't thank you enough for all you did to help our parents, Jackie and Alan Hawes, sell their house at 117 N. Columbus Street. After living in the house for 49 years and raising four kids there, the thought of getting the house ready for sale was daunting. You were there for our parents with your advice and guidance through the whole process and we will always appreciate that. You found someone with a passion for bluegrass music, like our Dad, so we could feel good about donating 1000's of cassette tapes, albums, CDs, and record players, to a good home. In addition, you found a reliable and trustworthy contractor to get the much needed work done on the house to get it

ready for sale, and you managed the whole process for us. After the buyer's home inspection you orchestrated the necessary repairs. Lastly, you were so kind and thoughtful to our parents throughout this time that could have been so much more stressful without you. We were so pleased to get the house sold quickly and at a very fair price. Our parents are now happy living in a lovely apartment in Fairfax and thrilled to have this process behind them thanks to you! Carole & Cherie

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