



Barcroft News

June/July 2013

Vol 110, Issue 10

25 Years of Tradition: 4th of July Parade Celebrates Milestone

By Andrew Hunter

Mark your calendar for Barcroft's greatest neighborhood event. Come Celebrate Our Nation's 237th Birthday and the 25th Annual 4th of July Barcroft Parade. This year held on...drum roll...Thursday the 4th of July! Rain or shine.

As it does every year, the parade begins at 10 a.m. sharp. Anyone can join in and we congregate in the Women's Club parking lot at 9:45 across from the Barcroft community House.

This year's event features: A Boy Scout color guard, ACFD fire engine, our very own Barcroft marching band and Uncle Sam. There is also an act for the kids after the parade in the community house. This year features "Get your groove on with Groovy Nate!" a unique blend of music, puppet skits, interactive dance and comedy blended into one groovy experience for the whole family. This will be followed with an award's cere-

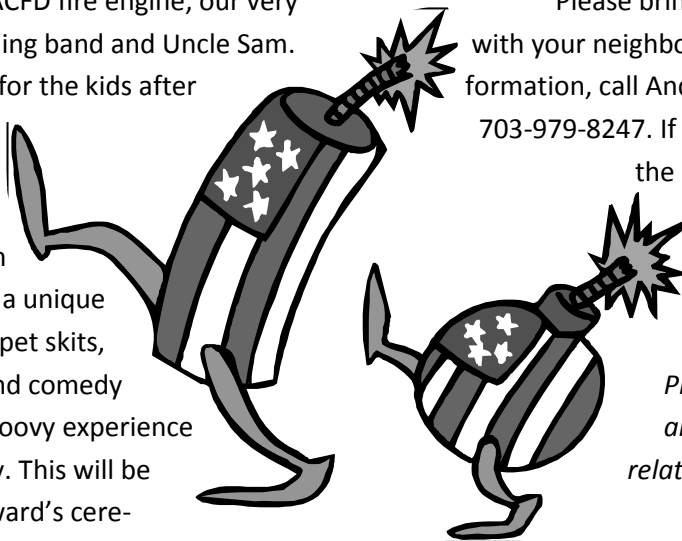
mony for parade medals, food, BBQ, drinks, family and friends and the singing of our national anthem.

Let's 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 and 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!

Please bring a dish to share with your neighbors. For more information, call Andrew Hunter at 703-979-8247. If you want to be in the marching band, contact Melissa Bishop at 703-379-7537. •

Editor's Note:

Please see pages 9 and 10 for more related to the Parade.



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Monthly Happenings

President's Report by Eric Harold

Well, it's time for the summer hiatus. Spring is almost over (did it ever arrive this year?), and we head into the long, hot summer. Many, many thanks to Pat Williamson for her fine leadership over the past two years. She has served well in this term (and in her numerous previous terms as president).

The May meeting discussed the new connection to the W&OD Trail from Seventh Street. The minutes of the discussion are posted on the web site. In brief, there was a clear consensus that we would not approve a ten foot asphalt trail, wanted a permeable surface and were still concerned about the screening provided by the landscape plan and the stormwater management provisions. Keith Fred is serving as the Block Captain for this project, and will keep us posted on the progress over the summer.

I'm looking forward to summer and our usual traditions: swimming pool, walks by the creek, and marching in the Best 4th of July Parade EVER. It's always a highlight of our summer, so get your themes together and enter the parade. This year let's make sure there are more people marching IN the parade than there are watching it! Andrew Hunter, Parade Director For Life, and his crack team do a tremendous job organizing this.

Happy Summer, Barcroft. ●

Second Annual Garden Blitz a Success

By Inge Nealis

On Sunday May 19, the residents of Barcroft neighborhood participated in the Second Annual Garden Blitz. Each year, Scott Brinitzer, a Barcroft resident, organizes this community event. This event gives Barcroft residents the opportunity to meet new neighbors, while at the same time, work together to achieve a common goal of beautifying the garden of the Barcroft Community House.

The purpose of the Annual Garden Blitz is to ready the community house garden for summer activities and events. This garden is a desirable venue to hold weddings and many other social get-togethers. To get the community house to look amazing, volunteers helped with many tasks.

The volunteer residents achieved their goal after four hours of hard work which included weeding, trimming, raking, and re-mulching all the beds. When this project was completed, the volunteers felt amazing be-

cause the garden now looked stunning.

All this volunteer work makes you feel great. Once you see how much you accomplished, you feel accomplished. I think it is great that we had so many volunteers who took their time to come and help fix up the community garden.

Thanks to everyone who came out and helped fix up the community garden. I hope that we will see you come and join us to clean up the garden next year. Remember everyone is welcome! ●



Barcrofters including Jill Herndon, in the foreground, weeded, mulched and spruced up the grounds Barcroft House on May 19.

Become a Publisher!

The current **Barcroft News** Publisher/Mailer/Proofer, Linda Webb, is stepping down from this prestigious post, opening the door for an intrepid community volunteer to fill her shoes. Linda says she'll be happy to discuss the job with anyone who would like to understand it better and invites them to call her at 703-969-6373.

Flavors of the Season: Strawberries

By Kari Hickman,
virtualgoodyplate.blogspot.com

Hip, hip, hooray for strawberry season! I know we can pretty much get strawberries year round at the store, but there's nothing like fresh local berries, and we celebrate by picking our own at least once every summer. We eat some, freeze some, and have plenty of strawberry shortcake. But this is my very favorite summery treat to make with this super-fresh start-of-summer fruit.

Strawberry-Buttermilk Sherbet

2 cups fresh strawberries*

2 cups buttermilk

1 cup sugar

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Garnish: fresh mint sprigs

1. Process strawberries in a food processor or blender 30 seconds or until smooth, stopping to scrape down sides. Pour strawberry puree through a fine wire-mesh strainer into a large bowl, pressing with back of a spoon (if desired.) Discard solids. Add buttermilk, sugar, and vanilla to puree; stir until well blended. Cover and chill 1 hour.

2. Pour strawberry mixture into freezer container of a 1 1/2-qt. electric ice cream maker, and churn/freeze according to manufacturer's instructions. (Instructions and times may vary.) Garnish, if desired.

*If you don't have an ice cream maker, you can make this granita-style. Freeze mixture in an airtight container, stirring every hour, until semi-frozen OR once frozen solid, scrape up ice with a fork and serve. •

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Newest Notable Tree in Barcroft

by Markarius Nealis

The next time you drive down 6th street, you might want to take a look at the house numbered 4705. This is the property that houses one of Arlington's most recently named notable trees. The species is known as the black gum and it is over two hundred years old. This is rare for this kind of tree because normally black gums are hollow. This condition normally prevents them from getting too tall because they topple over when they can no longer support their own weight.

The owner of the tree, John Stewart, didn't know how special his tree was. He found out one day when a man from Arlington Department of Parks and Recreation stopped and asked if he could look at his tree. The next day, the man returned and measured the tree. Then he designated the tree as a notable tree. This is one of seven certified notable trees that were announced this year in Arlington. To be eligible for a notable tree designation,



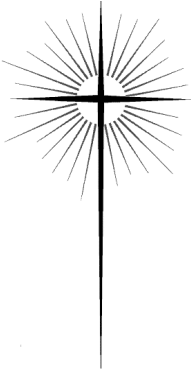
This black gum tree on 6th Street has been designated as a "Notable Tree" by Arlington County.

your tree must fall into one of four categories:

- Size and/or Age: Scored by height, circumference and canopy cover, the condition of the tree is also taken into consideration.
- Species: Unusual species for this area.
- Historical Interest: For example, associated with an event, famous person or building.
- Special Significance to the Neighborhood.

There is a list of notable trees in Arlington. You can find this list online at

www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ParksRecreation/scripts/parks/ParksRecreationScripts/ParksNotableTree.aspx I think that this is a wonderful way to learn about and appreciate what nature has given us. Please consider nominating a tree by November 15, 2013 for next year's winners. So if you think that your tree is special, fill out and send in the Notable Tree Nomination Form and we'll see what story your tree has to tell. ●



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St. John's Episcopal Church is a vibrant 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

Vacation Bible School This Summer

July 15-19 *Bible Superheroes and Superheroines*

Every evening from 5:30 - 8:00 pm - DINNER INCLUDED!

Kids ages 3-10 are welcome to join us for crafts, lessons and outdoor fun!

Price is \$20 for the week (\$10 for additional siblings)

Email familyministry@stjohnsarlingtonva.org to reserve a spot or for more information.

St. John's Episcopal Church

415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204 703-671-6834 stjohnsarlingtonva.org



Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington



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UUCA's Peace Camp

(5yrs to 14yrs)

June 24 - 28

July 1, 2, 5

July 8 - 12

Summer Single Service

Sunday Worship & Religious Education

10:15 a.m. (May 26 - Sept. 1)

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(Corner George Mason & Rt. 50)

Arlington, VA 22204

703-892-2565 | www.uucava.org

What Good is a Park in the City?

*By Cliff Fairweather,
Naturalist, Long Branch Nature Center*

Small urban parks and the natural areas they harbor might seem to be of small consequence compared to great national parks such as Yosemite or Yellowstone. Yet these small parks can have great significance now that about 80% of Americans live in urban areas. For most of us, local parks provide our main opportunity for contact with nature.

Natural areas in Arlington represent only a small amount of the county's total land area, about 4.7% (including federal lands) but they and other open spaces play a big role in making this a livable urban community. Consider some of the free ecosystem services natural areas in our parks provide:

Mitigating Air Pollution: A forested park is a natural air filter. Tree leaves absorb pollutants and cause suspended air pollution particles to drop out of the air. Trees in natural areas are especially valuable in mitigating air pollution because they generally don't need the energy-consuming maintenance that street and backyard trees require.

Reducing Urban Heat: Temperatures in urban areas can run 3 - 10° F higher than nearby rural areas. Shade from trees can reduce temperatures by 20° F or more and evapotranspiration – the release of water vapor through tree leaves – provides natural air conditioning. Through the process of advection,

cooler urban forest air moves into adjacent developed areas.

Protecting Streams And Water Quality: Stormwater runoff from roads, rooftops, and other hard surfaces pollutes local streams and causes flooding and erosion problems. Lawns absorb only about 50% of the rain falling on them, while forested areas absorb nearly all of it. Trees act as natural pumps, releasing much of that rainfall back into the air.

Improving Our Well-being: Natural areas in city parks provide educational and recreational opportunities for urban residents. Numerous studies have demonstrated a link between access to natural areas and stress reduction, faster healing, improved emotional outlook, and better mental health.

Promoting Conservation: By providing regular contact with nature, local parks help build support for conservation efforts both locally and further afield. They can also harbor rare species or ecosystems, such as the magnolia bogs in Barcroft Park.



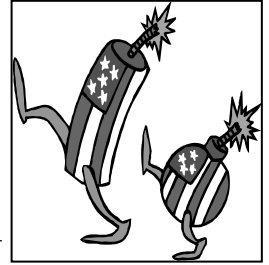
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Come Celebrate



Our Nation's 237th Birthday
& the 25th Annual Barcroft Parade

Thursday, July 4th, 2013



The Parade begins at 10:00 am sharp.
Parade participants should check in at 9:45
am at the Barcroft Community House,
800 S. Buchanan Street



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

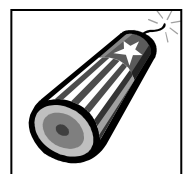
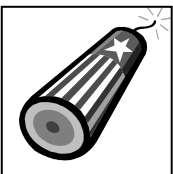
This Year's Event features:

Color Guard, ACFD Fire Engine, the Barcroft Marching Band and Uncle Sam, Groovy Nate - A unique blend of music, puppet skits, interactive dance and comedy into one groovy experience for the whole family!. Followed with an Award's Ceremony, Food, BBQ, Drinks, Family and Friends & the singing of our National Anthem.

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE

Sponsored by the Barcroft School and Civic League for more information,
call Andrew Hunter at (703) 979-8247.

To play in the band contact Melissa Bishop at (703) 379-7537



Good Humor Man to Bring Cool Tradition to Parade

By Katherine Mcgwier

Who doesn't love the ice cream man? The familiar sights and sounds of an old ice cream truck perusing the neighborhood with the laughter and screams of delighted kids chasing them down, always brings back fond memories of summer.

What better way to help ring in the Fourth of July in Barcroft than with the time honored tradition of the Good Humor Man?

Rick Hancock started selling ice cream for Good Humor while attending Virginia Tech over 30 years ago. Rick's 1969 Good Humor Truck is a classic with the original baked porcelain signage and worn upholstery. The truck has over 526,000 hard earned and well loved miles. Mr. Hancock with his white trousers and shirt, black bow tie and shoes, silver



coin changer and Good Humor Wings pinned to his white vinyl cap is a welcome sight for adults and children alike.

Mr. Hancock plans to join us for our 25th Annual Fourth of July Parade this year with old time favorites including; Strawberry Shortcake, Toasted Almond, Jimmy Cones, Ice Cream Sundaes, Creamsicles, Chocolate Eclairs and more. And while a few flavors may have changed, the joy of a cold frozen afternoon treat still brings a smile to almost every face. We look forward to seeing Mr. Hancock and all of our Barcroft neighbors on the Fourth of July! And if you're lucky, you may just catch him in our neighborhood one hot summer day.

If so, be sure to flag him down and say "Thanks," for keeping this time honored past time alive. ●

Community Garage Sale? Input Sought...

By Kathleen Harrison

The Woman's Club of Arlington (WCA) is considering whether or not to host a community garage sale so we are canvassing the neighborhood for interest. The proposal is to host the sale in September or October. The WCA has 35 spaces in their parking lot available to rent for \$20 a parking space. A person can sell large furniture, use multiple tables or sell

out of their car as long as they remain within their space. Please send an email to womansclubarlington@gmail.com if you think this is a project that the WCA should host. The email does not commit you for anything; it is merely to canvas the Barcroft community. Proceeds from the rentals will benefit a Wakefield scholarship and ● support AFAC and ASPAN.

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

These ads are free to BSCL members.

The listings will be run for three months.

Affordable Lawn Mowing: Barcroft Teen available to mow lawns during Spring and Summer. Great service at an affordable price. Call Bryan at 703-271-5987.

Yardwork and Gardening- Reliable gardening, mowing or house labor. Thomas Fontaine at 703-979-5838 or thomas.fontaine.12@gmail.com.

Barcroft Lawns: Resident starting new lawn care company. Mowing and mulching to planting and pruning. Contact BarcroftLawns@gmail.com.

Pet Sitter + Mothers Helper: Emma Monroe, a 12 ½ year old. For more info, call 703-271-0944 or 703-919-3069.

Babysitter + Pet-sitter: Mia Field, 15.5 year old Wakefield sophomore, eager to sit. References. 703-946-7188 or mia.e.field@gmail.com

Alexandra's Babysitting: Teen available nights and weekends. 703-892-6712

Rebekah's Pet Care: (Walking, feeding) 703-521-8756.

College-aged Babysitter: Holidays and summers: Sarah. 703-521-8756

Baby-sitter + Pet-sitter + Vacation Help: 8th grader, Tyler LaPointe, 571-244-7555 or tylerchanlapointe@gmail.com

Babysitter: Rebecca Bean is Red Cross Certified. Call 571-344-4134 or beccab50@gmail.com

Tutor: Senior at Wakefield, I can tutor math (middle school to calculus), physics, and French. Bou at 703-909-5057 or aboutdia9@gmail.com

Violin Teacher/Math Tutor: High school senior/musician, teaching beginner and intermediate violin. Also tutoring elementary/middle school math. Contact Austin at (571) 244-8102.

Baby items, books, toys, household items: needed for Even Start Program at Barcroft. Kathleen Costar, kathleen_costar@apsva.us

Barcroft Community Playgroup: 10 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Friday mornings at the Community House. Contact Katherine Kandies at katherine-novello@hotmail.com for information.

Need music for youth-focused party? Concerned about cost? Call Dylan “DJ VIP” Vega: Local, teenage and reasonably priced. Dylanrvega@gmail.com or 703-907-9162.

Babysitter, House/pet sitter: Carmen Dunlap, responsible 15 year old. Available weekends and weeknights, more hours in the summer. 571-243-1039 or Dunlap.carmen@ymail.com.

Neighborhood college student: Available for babysitting, odd jobs, cleaning, housework, etc. anytime. Abby Fram, 703-892-1090 email: abbyfram94@aol.com.

Babysitter available this summer: Experienced VCU Elementary Education student. Call Sarah Hunter at 703-927-4128. ●



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

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Well, they got what they deserved, a buyer for their beautiful home! The home was on the market only 5 days and they got the price they wanted. The Kikers are excited about their new home in New York which they moved into halfway through the sales process prior to settlement. To quote Elizabeth *"Casey advised us on what to fix (and what to ignore) and counseled us when we panicked after the inspection requests. Casey even arranged the contractors that came to our house to fix things. He went over, above, beyond and around for us, and we greatly appreciated it."*

Casey has prepared a special report called The 10 Dumbest Mistakes Smart People Make when Buying or Selling a Home. In this report he addresses some of the most costly mistakes he has seen people make over the years, and some insightful tips on how to make sure you avoid them.

If you're going to be selling your house in the next six to 12 months, this report could save you thousands of dollars and help you sell your house much faster.

To receive a free copy call 703-824-4196 a request a free copy!

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