



September 2013

Barcroft News

Vol 111, Issue 1

Update on 7th Street Connection to Trail

By Keith Fred

A proposal was made several years ago to Arlington County for a Neighborhood Conservation project to improve the area between 7th Street South and the W&OD Trail. The proposal listed several priorities including having a natural, park-like setting for the connector path, providing year-round sight buffers from the W&OD Trail, providing for storm runoff, and having the path be of a natural-looking permeable surface.

At the May, 2013, Barcroft School and Civic League meeting, the County's coordinator for the project presented their plans for the connector, which consisted of a ten-foot wide swath of asphalt. There was clear consensus this would not be approved and it was not brought up for a vote. The design staff subsequently made revisions and added more details to show the extent of the project on the immediate area.

We had a field review on July 30 at which County staff presented this latest design plan. It now primarily consists of an eight-foot-wide asphalt connection. The plan is posted on the BSCL web site: <http://www.bscl.org/wodto7thplan.pdf>. Due to changes to County requirements over the

years for any funded project, the design presented has to conform to current standards, policies, guidelines and regulations and therefore could not follow the original proposals submitted by the neighborhood.

At a regular BSCL meeting in October, the County project design team will present the plan to the membership and answer questions. Following the discussion, the membership will vote on whether or not to approve the design for consideration at the December 2013 Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC), Fall Funding Session. •

MONTHLY BSCL MEETINGS RESUME SEPTEMBER 5

Following the summer hiatus, we will resume our monthly meetings on Thursday, September 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Community House. This month, following officer reports, we will hear a presentation from Tap In Arlington, a grassroots organization that seeks to raise awareness about the impacts and to reduce the consumption of bottled water. The organization began last spring following a forum on bottled water facilitated by County Board Member Jay Fisette.

Barcroft News

Editor: Alyssa Ford Morel
703-907-9318
editor@bscl.org

Advertising: Brian Hefner
advertising@bscl.org

Publisher/Mailing: Linda Webb,
linda@bscl.org
703-969-6373

Next Deadline: September 15

BSCL Officers

President: Eric Harold, eric@bscl.org

Vice President: Chris Kupczyk
ckupczyk@verizon.net

Treasurer: Jennifer Lis
jennifer@bscl.org

Recording Secy.: Randy Swart
randy@bscl.org

Membership Secy.: Fay Cheung, fay@bscl.org

Board Members: Michael Behringer, Keith
Fred, Bryant Monroe,
Michael Nazareth

Contacts and Committees

Community House Rental Manager:
Barbara Swart
barcrofthouserental
@yahoo.com

Fundraising: Chris Ditta

Landscaping: Scott Brinitzer, 703-892-0308

Traffic Committee: Heidi Wicker

4th of July Parade: Andrew Hunter
703-979-8247

Columbia Pike: Randy Swart
randy@bscl.org

Demeter House: Darlene Mickey

Parks: Shirley Gay

Signs: Ken Edwards

Web/NCAC Rep.: Randy Swart. 703-521-2080

Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates: Eric Harold, Randy Swart, Pat Williamson
Alternates: Karen Darner, David Michelson, Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

Barcroft News is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by Stanley Adams Printing.

Visit Us Online: www.bscl.org

Monthly Happenings

President's Report by Eric Harold

Can it be? September already? We survived this summer without a Derecho (thankfully) but started the summer with a Derecho-like micro blast that left Barcroft with a few less trees than we started (if you don't believe it, stop by S 9th Street sometime). But that was soon forgotten when another stellar 4th of July Parade (our 25th!!) organized by Parade Director for Life Andrew Hunter was completed and the hamburgers and hot dogs all were eaten (by 11 a.m.) A month spent at pools, beaches and summer camps soon led to the return of school for Barcroft with a new principal, Colette Bounet. We welcome her with open arms and bid a fond farewell and thank you to Miriam Hughey-Guy, a legend in the hearts and minds of many Barcrofters. We rounded out the summer with our annual National Night Out Ice Cream Social, organized and run by recent BSCL president Pat Williamson, and the always fun and entertaining Arlington County Fair. Whew, makes me tired thinking about it.

Welcome back to another fun year of school, monthly meetings, and other activities. Please join us on Thursday, September 5, as we kick off our meeting series with a presentation on the County's Tap In program. Thanks to VP Chris Kupczyk for setting this up and for feverishly working on a great meeting schedule for this year. Looking forward to this year, and hope to see you all soon. •

Storm Hits Barcroft Hard on June 28

By Markarius Nealis

As the storm clouds rolled away following a series of storms, especially one on the afternoon of Friday, June 28, they left destruction in their wake. In this grouping of storms I think that this storm has the biggest effect on our neighborhood.

Sara Leach's house on 8th Road seemed felt the brunt of the storm. Two trees fell over in the backyard, but fortunately did not fall on the house.

"It was really wet outside and it was hard to see because of the rain," says Leach, "but all of a sudden the whole backyard was filled with green. The first thing I noticed was that our Sea Rock City birdhouse had fallen." Leach remembers finding it smashed into pieces along with one of her Victorian gazing balls. "Thankfully no one was hurt."

Many other properties on 8th Road were also heavily damaged. As you walked by some of the houses you could see all the wood stacked up on the street. Some of the piles of wood were taller than five feet and longer than ten feet.

Large amounts of debris had to be removed. If you didn't know why they were doing all the trash on Wednesday it was so the parade could still go on without anything blocking the path.

This storm was an event that created much devastation in our neighborhood. Even though some people's houses were even hit, nobody got hurt. In the end even after we went through so much destruction our community still came together to celebrate the day that our country was born on the Fourth of July.

National Night Out Ice Cream Social Supported by Local Police



National Night Out, which promotes police-community partnership, was celebrated in Barcroft on August 6 with an Ice Cream Social. Local police officers attended and allowed community children to climb into a police car, testing sirens and lights.

A Repeat Hit: Fourth of July Parade and Cook-Out

By Inge Nealis

The Fourth of July is a time to celebrate our great country and all the freedoms we enjoy. On this day we can roll out the American flags and feel proud of our country and our history.

Andrew Hunter has been the Barcroft parade director now for 15 of the 25 year parade history. There are many other helpers who participate in running the parade including Katerina McGwier, Meilissa Bishop who organizes the band, and Scott Peterson who cooks the hot dogs and burgers.

The Barcroft neighborhood celebrated Independence Day 2013 together. Uncle Sam was there saying "Hello" and helping with the picnic, which featured a large variety of delicious foods. There were a lot of kids that decorated their bikes and then joined in with the parade.

"What I enjoy most is watching the joy and wonder on chil-

dren's and adults' faces when the parade actually starts marching down the street," says Andrew Hunter. "The band starts playing and the fire truck arrives and the miracle of miracles occurs - we have a real parade! You never know what is going to be in it other than the Band, the fire truck and uncle Sam. It is exhausting but the pleasure it gives so many people is what gets me to do it one more year. We are making lots of memories and as kids grow up they will realize how unique our little parade really was."



The Barcroft marching band relaxes after the parade (top), and a two-dog team pulls a tiny float.

The reviewing stand was near the end of the parade. All of the participants got judged when they went by the reviewing stand by Barcroft Elementary. Although all the vehicles were nicely decorated there could only be three vehicles that received an award. There was also an old fashioned ice cream truck in the Woman's Club of Arlington parking lot selling ice cream. It was really a neat to have an experience like that. I believe that everyone had a

Flavors of the Season: Make Your Own Applesauce

*By Kari Hickman,
virtualgoodyplate.blogspot.com*

Oh, we are finally getting into fall! When it comes to fall flavors, apple comes to mind first, followed by pumpkin, then warm spices, root vegetables, hearty stews, and so on. Applesauce is one of those fall foods that can go with anything, at any time of day. With oatmeal, yogurt, or pancakes for breakfast; aside grilled cheese sandwiches for lunch, roasted meats for dinner, or warm with ice cream for dessert. You may think of it as a bland food, only for children. But when you make your own, it's just to your liking - chunky or smooth, sweet or tart, and with just the right amount of spice. Gourmet stuff. And most importantly, it is E-A-S-Y. So this month,



wow your friends and neighbors with your very own homemade applesauce.

Homemade Applesauce

Adjust the sugar and spices to your taste. Try adding ginger, mace, or anise, for more complex flavors.

Makes 4 servings

6 cups apples, peeled, cored and chopped

3/4 cup water

1/4 tsp ground cinnamon

1/8 tsp ground cloves

1/2 cup granulated sugar

In a 2 quart saucepan over medium heat, combine apples, water, cinnamon, and cloves. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer 10 minutes. Stir in sugar, and simmer 5 more minutes.

Arlington CROP Walk for Hunger : October 19

The Arlington CROP Walk for Hunger will be October 19. The walk starts at 8:30 a.m., rain or shine. The starting point is 4701 Arlington, Blvd., on the corner of Henderson Road (Arlington Forest United Methodist Church). The walk is open to all individuals and groups. It addresses local and international hunger. The walk is 10k with a 5k option, going

through the Arlington Forest and Barcroft neighborhoods. This year the planners are hopeful more individuals and groups will participate.

For more information on the Walk go to http://hunger.cwsglobal.org/site/TR/2013FallCROPHungerWalk/TR-Fall2013?pg=entry&fr_id=17896 or call Mike Vess at 703-525-0961.

What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary: September

By Jenny Ditta, Barcroft Elementary Liaison

Barcroft Elementary is excited about the wonderful new additions to our Barcroft family! Welcome to our new Principal, Ms. Colette Bounet, who hosted a fun, well-attended "Popsicles with the Principal" event at the July 31 family open house. Ms. Bounet is working hard to help everyone get to know her better. Every morning students can peruse a daily bulletin board message from her and Mr. Reich, our beloved Assistant Principal. Families are keeping up to date with a weekly phone message from the Principal.

A warm welcome as well to our new PTA President, Julie Rotherham. Julie would love to hear from you: e-mail her at jlrotherham@gmail.com.

The 2013-2014 school year began August 1, as Barcroft uses a Modified School Year (MSY) calendar. With MSY, the summer break is shorter so that students may take a multi-week break each quarter. Between October 7 and 18, 2013, students may enjoy vacation or take interesting Fall Intersession classes that extend their learning experiences. New this year, Barcroft Elementary has adopted the Responsive Classroom approach – a way of teaching that creates safe, joyful, and challenging classrooms and a school-wide climate for learning. This approach emphasizes the teaching of both academic skills (reading, writing, science, and math), and socio-emotional

skills such as taking turns, listening respectfully, and working effectively in group settings. All of our teachers were trained in this method prior to the start of the school year, and will receive additional training in coming months. Everyone is excited!

We need your help to support our students in their learning! Funding is needed for the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) book give-away, and to help defray field trip expenses. A "free and easy" way to help is by linking your grocery store cards to Barcroft Elementary. Last year Barcroft earned over \$25,000 from participation in grocery store loyalty card programs. In-store linking rules have changed this year. So we need your help now more than ever! Learn how to help below. Please contact Barcroft neighbor Candice Kaup at: candicekaup@yahoo.com for assistance.

- **Safeway:** Link to Barcroft Elementary online at www.escrip.com for year-round rewards. Barcroft's Group ID # is 6472509. From August 14 - September 10, 2013, schools can earn 10% on selected items each week. No computer access? Save your Safeway receipts through September 10 and turn them into the school's Office or directly to Candice Kaup.
- **Harris Teeter:** Link your VIC card to Barcroft Elementary as part of the Together in Education (TIE) program. Then purchase Harris

Continued on page 7



I SUPPORT
Barcroft Elementary School!
4238

Harris Teeter Together In Education VIC Program
 Show this coupon to the cashier next time you shop at Harris Teeter!

Continued from page 6

Teeter brand products between August 2013 and May 2014. Barcroft's code is: 4238. Link online at www.harristeeter.com or provide the last name of the VIC card holder along with

the VIC card number or phone number to Candice Kaup, and she can link you. Or take the attached "coupon" with you next time you shop at Harris Teeter. You can support up to five schools!

- **Giant:** On September 1, you can link your Bonus card to Barcroft using Barcroft code # 02199. The Giant A+ Rewards program runs from October 4, 2013 – to March 20, 2014. To link your card, provide your name and bonus card # to Candice Kaup or link on-line at www.giantfood.com/A plus and click on "register your card."

In September, we invite our neighbors to attend our annual Chalk4Peace event, to be held Saturday, September 21, 2013 at 9 a.m. Create works of original art on the school's sidewalks and blacktop. Chalk is provided – just bring your imagination and inspiration. Later that weekend, be sure to stop by the school to see the wonderful art creations before the weather erases them! To learn more about Barcroft Elementary, go to <http://www.apsva.us/Page/13363>. Like us at: <https://www.facebook.com/BarcroftElementary>. •

Local TV Personality to Speak at Women's Club September 9

Liz Crenshaw, Consumer Advisor for NBC4 News will appear the Woman's Club of Arlington on Monday, September 9 at 1 p.m. The Women's Club is located at 700 South Buchanan Street, the phone number is 703-553-5800. Admission and parking are free. Refreshments will be served.

AutumnFest at Library Garden

The annual AutumnFest celebration at the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden will be held Sunday, September 29, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free presentations will be given on "Good Dirt" at 11 a.m., "Shrub (and Tree) Love" at noon, and "Fall Garden Prep" at 1 p.m. Plants from Country Gardens nursery will be available for sale throughout.

How to Break Your Park

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

In my last article, I outlined how we benefit from parks in the urban area. The vast majority of park visitors and neighbors appreciate their local parks and treat them with great respect. Unfortunately, a few people do not treat them as the valuable resources they are and engage in behaviors that potential harm parks. So, with the understanding that this is a list of what not to do, here are some ways to break your local park:

Litter: Litter is not only unsightly, it causes direct environmental harm: animals can become trapped in it, it attracts rats and other undesirable species, and, especially if it contains traces of food, cause animals to ingest materials that can block their digestive tracts.

Let dogs off leash: At some level, even the gentlest dogs are still predators and those predatory instincts can kick in when they see wildlife in a park. Even if they don't catch their quarry, dogs can flush an animal into traffic, separate young from parents, or simply cause it to expend energy that it needs for survival. Moreover, not everyone is comfortable around free-roaming dogs and those park visitors have a right to an anxiety-free park visit.

Don't scoop up after your dog: Nothing can put a damper on a walk in the park like stepping in dog poop. That poop can potentially spread disease to wildlife populations, and also run off into a nearby stream, adding to water pollution.

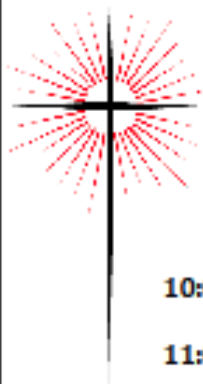
Create your own trails: Blazing your own path through a park can damage ecologically sensitive areas, kill plants, encourage erosion, and disrupt wildlife. Unofficial trails help break up forests and provide pathways for invasive exotic plants.

Dump yard wastes into a nearby park : Yard wastes often carry the seeds of invasive exotic plants and dumping those wastes into a park can smother native plants.

Extend your yard/garden/patio into a park: Encroachment on park property, in addition to stealing property that belongs to all of us, can introduce invasive exotic species, increase storm water runoff, and set a bad example for others.

Direct downspouts into a park: Parks do a great job of absorbing rain water, but there are limits. Directing downspouts into parks can cause erosion, damage plant life, degrade wildlife habitat, and affect water quality. We all need to take responsibility for the runoff we generate by dealing with it on our property with rain barrels, rain gardens, and other measures.

Dump unwanted pets in a park: Every year, the goldfish population in Poplar Pond at Long Branch Nature Center gets bigger. Goldfish are not native and eat the eggs and young of amphibians that might otherwise be able to reproduce there. Dumping unwanted pets into parks also risks introducing disease into local wildlife populations. ●



St. John's Episcopal Church

Join Our Friends and Family Celebration

St John's invites you, your family, and friends to join in a celebration of worship, community, and fun for everyone.

Sunday, September 22, 2013

- 10:00 am **Worship** within a warm and welcoming community.
(Child care is available, but all children are welcome at the service.)
- 11:00 am **Food:** Hot dogs, snow cones, and other light fare.
Activities: Moonbounce & "Bible Character Bingo" with fun prizes.
Socializing: Chat with neighbors and others in the community.
Information on St John's activities, education programs, and service to the community will be available.



Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

Sunday Christian Education (resumes Sept. 8)

Adults 9 am - Youth 9:30 am

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

Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington

A diverse community of open minds and hearts

Sunday Services
and

Religious Education:

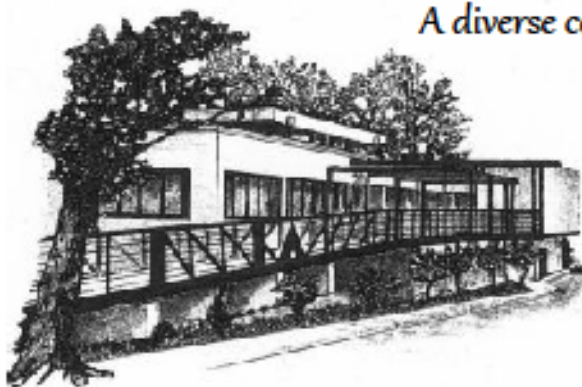
9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

(Two Services Begin Sept. 8)

(One Service at 10:15 am thru Sept. 1)

**Register your children today
for Sunday RE Classes at:**

reasst@uucava.org



4444 Arlington Blvd. (Corner George Mason & Rt. 50)

Arlington, VA 22204

703-892-2565 | www.uucava.org

The People in Barcroft: The Sheire Family

Compiled by Lisa Piantanida

1. *Names of your family members:* James Sheire is my husband. I am Heather Sheire. My two girls go to Barcroft Elementary and they are Katherine (age 11) and Elizabeth (age 7).

2. *Where do you live?* We live near the corner of 4th and Wakefield

3. *How long have you lived in Barcroft?* We have lived in the neighborhood since 1996.

4. *A fun fact about the Sheire family:* Our family loves to cook. In addition to the pie business, I have a foodblog, www.makinglifedelicious.com and my husband is a master smoker who smokes all manner of fish, fowl and meat on a 500 pound smoker he imported from Texas.



5. *What do you love about Barcroft?* Our family loves the friendly small-town feel of Barcroft. The residents are kind and welcoming, the streets are beautiful and the school is top notch. What's not to love? ●

Arlington Forest United Methodist Church

"Where Love Changes People's Lives through Engaging Worship, Learning Together, and Serving Others"

4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203, 703-525-0951

www.arlingtonforestumc.com and on Facebook

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

Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.

Open House Sunday, September 22nd, Sample a Sunday School Class and worship

Montessori Primary and Toddler Programs
Now Enrolling



"Your neighborhood church only a walk away"

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

These ads are free to BSCL members.

The listings run for three months unless requested to be removed or updated.

College-aged Babysitter: Holidays and summers: Sarah. 571-329-5607

Rebecca Bean Babysitter: 9th grader available nights and weekends. Email: rebeccaahbean@gmail.com or call 571-344-4134.

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.

Vacation Help: Responsible teen to water plants, bring in mail, care for pets, water gardens, etc: Dylan Vega, 703-271-5987, dylanrvega@gmail.com.

Pet Care: High school senior, Rebekah. 571-245-0159.

For Sale: Bikes including: Autobike Classic, model B2300 automatic transmission, \$100; Murray Mountain Shadow 18 speed - \$50; Murray All Terrain Street Cycle 10 speed - \$40; Royce Union Fontana 18 speed S15—\$50. Brand new Ceiling Fans with lights including: 2 Hampton Bay, Glendale models, 52", \$50 each obo; Harbor Breeze, Cheshire model, \$40 obo, Berni, \$40 obo. Brand new Frigidaire Professional refrigerator, stainless steel with ice maker. Freezer on top. 66" high 30" deep 30" width. 14 cu ft w/4 cu ft freezer. Model FPH11887KF2. \$750 or best offer. Call Bill at 540- ● 842-0844.

BOW-HOUSE Pet Care

Pet Care in your Home.

Cat Sitting, Small Dog (to 40lb)
Walks, Mid-day visits,
Holidays, Vacations,
Overnights

**Bonded
Insured
Licensed
References**



WWW.BOW-HOUSEPETCARE.com

We'll 'Sit' for your Pet 703.998.3307

ROOFING • SIDING • GUTTERS

Repairs or Replacement
Gutter Cleaning, Roof Certifications
for Buyers and Sellers
Reasonable Rates • Quick Response

Call Birk Meadows

703-876-4808

Meadows Roof Inspection Services



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

Market Update - Several key market indicators continue to trend upward in the Washington DC Metro Area. Sales and new contracts had double digit growth in June and are now at multi-year highs. The inventory shortage also continues to shift for the region. While the number of active listings remains historically low, new listings are rising relative to last year for the third consecutive month. Many of these new listings are being purchased the same month they are listed, as the median days on market is nine days. This strong demand is pushing median sale prices. Demand for smaller units in the market continue to drive much of the overall sales growth as evidenced by consistently strong gains in condo and townhome sales. The demand for townhomes has been particularly strong. Townhomes led all property segments in sales and median price growth.

Before you place your home on the market - I can help you be as ready as possible. **Contact me for a Room By Room Review** and I can share quick and easy tips to make your house show like a model home. I'll can advise you what to do (and more importantly what NOT to do) to obtain maximum price and a quicker sale. ***Getting the best return on your investment is something I can help you with!***

FREE Notary for Barcroft Residents!
Casey O'Neal, Associate Broker

RE/MAX Allegiance

703-217-9090

www.CaseyOneal.com

Curious about what is your home worth? Visit www.NovaHomeValue for an Automated, Free online market analysis, or **contact me for an in-person analysis and home review!**