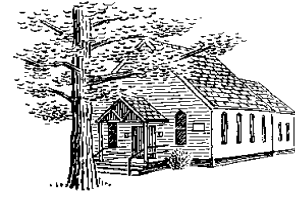


Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, VA 22204



September 2014

Barcroft News

Vol 112, Issue 1

New Farmer's Market Opens on the Pike

By *Judith Richter*

Question: What are beautiful local produce, fresh baked pies, seasonal jams, cupcakes, and sausage rolls?

Answer: Delicious items that can be purchased at the new Arlington Mill Community Center (AMCC) Farmer's Market.

Yep, there's now a farmer's market walking distance to many of us (and for those who aren't there's free parking in the underground

lot). The AMCC's plaza, visible from Columbia Pike, will be home to fresh, nutritious, locally and responsibly sourced food every Wednesday from 3 to 7 p.m. It will run until late in the

fall (November 26).

Don't see a food item you'd like to purchase? While shopping at the market, be sure to stop by the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization's (CPRO's) table and let them know. They're definitely interested in feedback and ideas for sourcing additional vendors. •



BSCL President Eric Harold chooses vegetables at the opening day of the new Wednesday farmer's market at the Arlington Mill Community Center.

Next BSCL Meeting: Thursday, September 4

By *Chris Kupczyk*

Our monthly meetings at the community house will resume on Thursday, September 4, at 7:30 p.m. Our guest will be Captain

Stu Ellis of the Arlington County Police Department. Captain Ellis is the new commander of the department's third district, which includes Barcroft. Please join us! •

Buyer Tips for an active market

With multiple offers being commonplace in our local market, buyers need to act wisely. Here are a few tips for coming out on top.

Get Pre-Approval with a local, recognized lender. Having a lender with a good reputation will enable you to get to settlement quickly, more so than working with a large, impersonal lender or an internet lender not familiar with local customs. A local lender is more accessible and will work with knowledgeable appraisers who know the dynamics of the specific geographic area and can usually get a loan approved within two weeks if that is important to the seller. Sellers will always prefer a solid offer with secured backing than a higher offer which can't be proved.

Start out with your best offer and include an escalation addendum. The escalation amount should escalate by at least \$2,000 or more and use a cap of 3% to 5% above asking price (your buyer agent can educate you on sales price trends and market area values).

If you are really serious about the home, offer a little more than the asking price initially. Offering the strongest earnest money deposit you are comfortable with. Minimize home inspection and financing/appraisal contingencies and time frames.

Tell the Seller Why You Want the Home Many sellers are emotionally attached to their homes, and would like to know they have gone to good owners. Sometimes a personalized letter describing what it is about the home that you love may nudge a seller to your side.

Who do you know who wants to buy a home this year? Please let them know that our team has the expertise to advise and represent them before and during the process.

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Visit Us Online: www.bscl.org


Monthly Happenings

President's Report by Eric Harold

Welcome back, Barcroft! What a ridiculously pleasant summer. I hope all are well rested and ready for what is shaping up to be a very busy Fall. Along with critical County elections this fall (County Board seat, two school board seats, House of Representatives and Senate seats...), there is a lot of action in the County. One of the most visible is the Thomas Jefferson Working Group, that will go through the process of deciding whether the County will allow APS to go forward with plans to build a new elementary school somewhere on the Thomas Jefferson Middle School/Community Center site. Over the summer, we asked Daniel Weir to represent Barcroft on the working group. Look for updates from him in the future. Happy Fall, everyone! •

It's Membership time again!

Look for the insert in this issue of Barcroft News.



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Barcroft Community House
ZUMBA® Thursdays at 7:15 pm
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Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

These ads are free to BSCL members.

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

Kevin's Media: Will convert VHS tapes, TC30 tapes, Laserdiscs and 35mm photograph slides to DVD. Professional packaging/artwork included upon prior request. Please inquire for rates. Email kev-insmedia118@gmail.com or text/call 703-919-7605 .

Babysitter, Pet Sitter, Vacation Help: Responsible 9th grader. Will water plants, bring in mail, etc. Email Tyler at tylerchanlapointe@gmail.com or call 571-244-7555.

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

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

Babysitter, house/pet sitter: Carmen Dunlap, responsible 16 year old. Available weekends and weeknights. Dunlap.carmen@ymail.com.

Babysitter: Experienced, Red Cross certified 8th grader. Call Liza Harold at 703/868-3518.

August's Pet Sitting: Responsible high school freshmen available to care for pets. 703-892-6712.

Jenny's Babysitting, Pet Sitting and Vacation Care: Sixteen-year-old available weekends and some weeknights. Can water plants, bring in mail, etc., while you travel. Contact jennylclaire@gmail.com or call 703-998-5338.

4Sunsets Beach House: White sand, gulf front home, 14 hour drive from Arlington or fly into Panama City, Florida. Visit 4Sunsets.com or email Alissa at alissa @4Sunsets.com

Free to a good home! Custom made large wooden doll house approx. 24' H x 18 D x 24 W. One coat of paint and it is ready for endless hours of play. Contact: perfit_vegas@verizon.net •



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Local Tree Steward Offers Services

By Debora Southwell

I'm a Barcroft resident, and one of the 2014 Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria — from the latest crop, so to speak. We are trained volunteers who serve neighbors and broader communities by championing our urban trees and forests and cultivating the local tree canopy.

Along with 20 other tree enthusiasts, I attended a weekly training class from February through April. We learned about tree biology; benefits; planting and pruning; varieties and their signature characteristics; local laws and regulations; and advocacy. Our teachers included, among others, local municipal urban foresters, an arborist, and a National Park Service ranger. A minimum of 30 volunteer hours completes our initial training. Some of the stewardship we provide includes:

- planting, pruning, mulching and watering of street, park and school trees;

- staffing informational booths at farmers' markets and local festivals, in conjunction with the Virginia Cooperative Extension;
- leading neighborhood Tree Walks and speaking at community gatherings; and
- advocating for trees wherever and whenever needed.

As fall approaches and we move from fine greenery to colorful displays, take time to reflect on the many gifts we receive from our "long lost cousins" (as described by Neil deGrasse Tyson in "Cosmos"). During the coming months, if you find yourself wondering when or where to plant a tree, what to do with your falling leaves, or how to balance aesthetics and practicality when pruning, please be in touch with a Tree Steward of Arlington.

If I can be of assistance, please feel free to contact me either by phone (703-892-5469) or e-mail (hyperblue@verizon.net), or stop by 4401 1st Road South. •

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, 703-525-0961
www.arlingtonforestumc.com and on Facebook

8:30 Casual Worship, Godly Play & Sunday School 9:45 a.m.,
 Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.

Pumpkin Patch, Buy your pumpkins here!
Animal Blessing Service 10/4, 3pm, Culpepper Garden

Montessori Primary and Toddler Programs
 Now Enrolling
 "Your neighborhood church only a walk away"



Report on Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile Run Plan

By Christine Hopkins

The Arlington County Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development held a meeting on June 16 to discuss the Proposed Study: Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile Run Area Plan.

Moderating the evening was Nauck President Dr. Alfred O. Taylor, Jr., joined by Robert J. Duffy, AICP, Arlington County's Planning Director, who has been employed by Arlington since 2012, after having held similar positions in Sanibel Florida and Brookline Massachusetts. Carolyn Haines and Jane Goodoff represented the Parks and Recreation Department. There also were about 30 other citizens representing various neighborhoods of South Arlington.

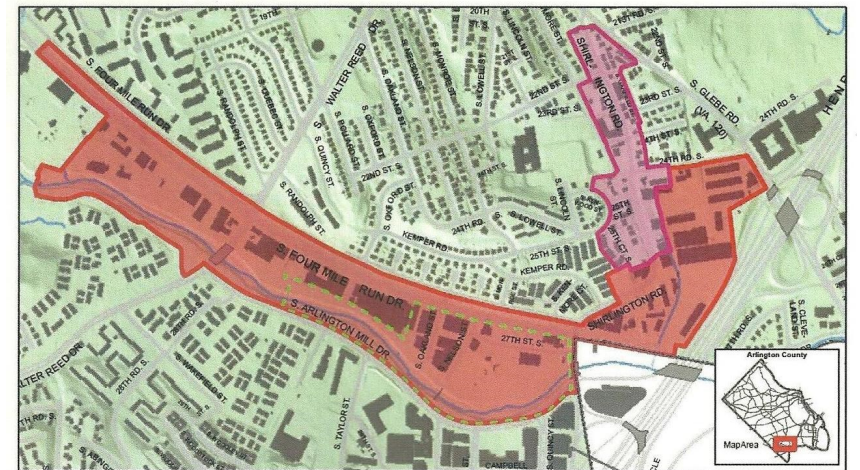
The meeting agenda included an overview of the history of the area that is proposed for study which encompasses approximately 95 acres along Four Mile Run Drive and Shirlington Road. Centered along Four Mile Run, it includes industrial and heavy service commercial buildings unlike any other part of Arlington. The Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile

Run Study is to be initiated in 2015.

An Industrial Land Use and Zoning Study was completed in 2000 and the amended Shirlington Village PDSP was approved in 2001. The Nauck Village Center Action Plan was adopted in 2004. The Shirlington Crescent-Four Mile Run Study will be coordinated with the planning efforts for Jennie Dean Park.

Time was given for all present to in-

roduce possible use ideas on a big board using Post-Its, which were then distilled and shared with the room. Some of those ideas included some kind of artist studio/live/work space, cultural and theatrical space, affordable housing, keeping/creating green space. It was reiterated that this is an ongoing process and all ideas would be discussed further. I intend to keep following this for our Barcroft Neighborhood. •



National Night Out Ice Cream Social

By Inge Nealis

On August 5 the annual National Night Out Ice Cream Social took place at the Barcroft Community House. This event takes place every year on the first Tuesday of August. The objective is to raise awareness about crime activity in Arlington. Three Arling-

ton police officers joined in on the "night out" to answer questions. Some Arlington communities including Barcroft served ice cream. This get-together also allows for our neighbors to have the opportunity to meet and greet other Barcroft residents. With ice cream to enjoy, what could be better? •

Arlington Neighborhood College

By Chris Kupczyk

This past spring, I participated in Arlington Neighborhood College, a free, eight-week civic leadership program sponsored by the county. The program is for people who want to learn more about and get more involved in Arlington. Sessions focus on county operations and governance (featuring guest speakers from the County Board and various county agencies), as well as skill-building in the areas of communication, networking, and influencing action. Participants also agree to volunteer at least 10 hours with a civic activity of their choice following graduation.

About 300 Arlingtonians have graduated from the program since its launch in 2000, with around 25 applicants accepted per session. Up to now, the program has run from February through April. However, due to increased interest and demand, the county is launching a second session beginning this fall, which will run from October 27 through December 15. Applications for the fall session

are due on September 29. By the time you read this, the application materials should be available on the program's web site (<http://projects.arlingtonva.us/neighborhood-conservation/college/>). •

AutumnFest Glencarlyn Library

The annual AutumnFest celebration will be held Sunday, September 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden, 300 South Kensington Street. The event features educational talks on Monarch butterflies, good soil and native plants at 11 a.m., noon and 1 a.m. respectively, as well as herbal treats and drinks to taste, herbal sachet making, face painting and a plant sale. AutumnFest will be held rain or shine, and is sponsored by Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia and Virginia Cooperative Extension. Master Gardeners will be available to help choose the right plants from hundreds of locally grown plants. For more information, call Judy Funderburk at 703-671-5310. •

New School Year Greetings from Our Savior Lutheran

By OSLS National Junior Honor Society

This year on August 26, we opened our doors for the 62nd time in Barcroft. Our school theme this year is "Rock Solid" based off of the Bible passage from Psalm 62:2 — "Truly (God) is my rock and my salvation; He is my fortress, I will never be shaken."

We are continuing to accept applications for the 2014-2015 school year for grades PreK through Eight. The Pre-kindergarten class will continue to be in session Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We offer both before and after care. Stop by or call our school office if you have questions or would like a tour. Check out

our school website at osva.org.

Box Tops for Education is a unique way to raise money for schools and make a difference. Box Tops are those little pink coupons you see on box goods at the store. Once you start looking, you'll see them everywhere. At Our Savior, we challenge each grade every month to bring in the most box tops. If you are looking for a way to support our school, and have some box tops for education lying around, you can stop by our school office and drop them off.

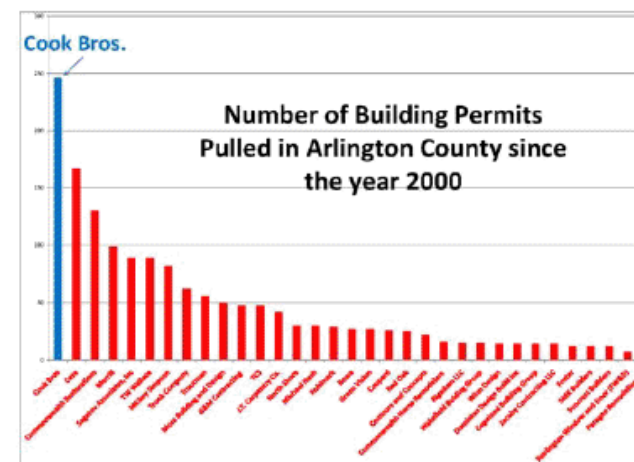
We look forward to many activities throughout this new school year. Stay posted for upcoming events. •

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For a larger Graph image and more information about the Graph, visit our website at

www.CookBros.org/BarcroftGraph



Make Your Garden Safe for Wildlife

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

Cutting a terrified, injured snake from garden netting is a delicate business. First, you don't want to cause further harm to the snake and, also first, you want to avoid getting bitten! But a nip from an entangled snake is nothing compared to the cuts, torn scales, sliced flesh, and other injuries the snake is suffering.

The lucky few are rescued and brought to us; far more die slow, painful deaths ensnared in a web of plastic. Snakes aren't the only victims: many birds become entangled as well. Plastic garden mesh is just one of the many hazards our lawns and gardens pose for wildlife. Here are a few more:

Lawn mowers, hedge- and string-trimmers – snakes, turtles, young rabbits, baby birds, frogs, and toads are among the potential victims of these and other power lawn equipment. Inspect the area immediately before using this equipment for any animals or nests that might be in the path of blades and move them or wait until they move on their own.

Steep-sided water containers – anything from a bucket to a steep-sided pond can be a death trap for wildlife. If you have a pond, use rocks or some other means to allow animals to escape; this will also help any emerging frogs or salamanders that might be in your pond. Al-

so, keep in mind that open water containers as small as a cup can provide a breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Window wells – uncovered window wells can also become death traps for a turtles, toads, and other small animals. Clear window well covers are available that let in light but keep out wildlife or you can provide a ramp to help animals escape.

Lawn and garden chemicals – pesticides and other chemicals can sicken or kill wildlife, so use them sparingly, if at all, and only when you have a problem. Store them so that animals (and children) can't get to them and they can't leak into the environment.

Bird feeders and baths – providing birds with food and water concentrates them and has the potential to spread disease. You can minimize the risk by keeping feeders and bird baths clean. Don't let bird seed become moldy and change bathing water frequently. Hummingbird feeders also need to be changed and cleaned frequently as fermented sugar water is deadly to hummers. Finally, keep bird feeders in good repair and discard damaged feeders that might cause birds to become caught or injured.

Many of us want to make our yards into sanctuaries for wildlife. By avoiding these and other hazards, we can help keep these sanctuaries from becoming death traps for wildlife. •

Flavors of the Season: Apples

*By Kari Hickman,
virtualgoodyplate.blogspot.com*

Everyone needs a great apple crisp recipe, so if you didn't have one yet, you do now. What I love about this recipe, besides the totally perfect balance of sweet and spicy flavors (and if you don't think so, change them to your taste), is how a little extra topping is made, and mixed with the apple filling to act as thickener and add a little crunch to every bite. Absolutely the bestest!

Bestest Apple Crisp

Makes one 9" x 13" pan

Filling:

10 to 12 medium-sized apples (a mix of Fuji and Granny Smith)
6 T granulated sugar
3 tsp ground cinnamon

Topping:

2 2/3 cups all-purpose flour
2 2/3 cups packed brown sugar
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1 1/3 cups chopped pecans
2/3 cup quick-cooking oats
1 cup unsalted butter, softened

1. Place a rack in the center of the oven and preheat to

350 degrees F. Grease a 9 x 13-inch pan with nonstick cooking spray or butter.

2. To make the filling: peel and core the apples and cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices. In a small bowl, mix together granulated sugar and cinnamon. Place all of the apple slices in a large bowl, and sprinkle with the cinnamon sugar mixture. Using your hands, toss the apples with the cinnamon sugar until evenly coated. Set aside while you prepare the topping.

3. To make the topping: in a medium bowl, whisk together flour, brown sugar, cinnamon, nuts, and oats. Work the softened butter into the dry ingredients with your fingertips until the mixture resembles coarse meal. Remove 1 heaping cup of the topping and sprinkle it over the apple mixture. Toss with your hands to incorporate. Place apple mixture in the prepared pan and spread the rest of the topping evenly over the apples.

4. Bake the crisp until topping is toasted and apples are bubbling, 55 to 60 minutes. Remove from the oven and let cool slightly. Scoop warm crisp into bowls and top with vanilla ice cream. (And/or eat cold the next morning for breakfast.) •



What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary: September

By Jenny Ditta, Barcroft Elementary Liaison

Barcroft Elementary is excited about the 2014-2015 school year, which began for students in Grades Kindergarten through 5 on Monday, August 4. 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 September 30 and October 10, 2014, students may enjoy vacation or take interesting Fall Intersession classes that extend their learning experiences.

At the August PTA meeting, our Principal, Ms. Colette Bounet, announced that our current enrollment is over 530 students, with an extremely large Kindergarten class. Ms. Bounet noted that this year's theme for students, staff and families is: Teamwork. She also demonstrated the Responsive Classroom morning greeting with parents. Barcroft Elementary adopted the Responsive Classroom approach last year to help create safe, joyful, and challenging classrooms and a school-wide climate for learning. This approach emphasizes the teaching of both academic skills and socio-emotional skills such as taking turns, listening respectfully, and working effectively in group settings.

We need your help to support our students in their learning. Funding is needed for the Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) book giveaway program, and to help defray field trip expenses. A "free and easy" way to help is by

linking your grocery store cards EACH YEAR to Barcroft Elementary. We need your help now more than ever!

Safeway: Link to Barcroft Elementary on-line at www.escrip.com for year-round rewards. Barcroft's Group ID # is 6472509.

Harris Teeter: Link your VIC card to Barcroft Elementary as part of the Together in Education (TIE) program. Then purchase Harris Teeter brand products between August 2014 and May 2015. Barcroft's code is 4238. Link online at: www.harristeeter.com/community/together_in_education/link_to_your_school.aspx or mention code #4238 to the cashier the next time you shop at Harris Teeter. You can support up to 5 schools!

Giant: Barcroft's code #02199. The Giant A+ Rewards program runs from October 3, 2014 – March 19, 2015. Link your card on-line at www.giantfood.com/Aplus and click on "register your card." New this year: if you already linked to Barcroft last year, you will automatically be linked again this year!

Target: As part of Target's Take Charge of Education program, shoppers can support Barcroft year-round by linking their Target RED credit or debit card to the school. Barcroft's ID is 103242. To link your card on-line, go to: <https://www-secure.target.com/redcard/tcoe/home> and click on "Enroll."

Our September PTA meeting and Ice Cream Social will be held on Tuesday, September 23, 2014.

Continued on page 7

Barcroft Elementary, continued

Continued from page 6

ber 2 at 6:30 p.m. Neighbors are always welcome! PTA After School Enrichment classes will begin on September 15 and last through early December. Class offerings include soccer, art, Spanish Chorus, building with LEGOs, and digital photography. Students will have their individual portraits taken during Picture Day on Thursday, September 18.

We invite our neighbors to attend our annual Chalk4Peace event, to be held Saturday, September 20, 2014.

Create works of original art on the school's sidewalks and blacktop. Chalk is provided – you bring your imagination and inspiration. At the event, the PTA will collect boxes of cereal to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center, so feel free to make a cereal donation. Later that weekend, be sure to stop by the school to see the wonderful art creations before the weather erases them! •

Arlington County Fair Goes Well As Usual

By Markarius Nealis

This year the Arlington County Fair came back with even more great opportunities. There were new foods to try, new games to play, and more entertaining fun. The Virginia Lottery was there this year with a unique slinky game. There was also a new food stand selling delicious Jamaican jerk chicken. The racing piglets were back and were cute as ever.

The ride called the Zipper was back and just as popular as last year. There were plenty of exhibits inside to see and learn about. AFAC was raising awareness of hunger and showing how you can help out in your community, like the Woman's Club of Arlington's garden plot. Also the Animal Welfare

League of Arlington was there offering great opportunities in which you could volunteer and even foster a dog for a little while if you wanted to. The Arlington Historical Society was promoting the rich heritage and culture of Arlington. I knew about the Hume school because my sister, Inge, is a docent there. I also knew about the Ball-Sellers house because I have gone through it before. But I didn't know about the Arlington History Passport Program (visit ten historic county sites) or the Annual High School Essay contest.

Of course, the 2014 Competitive Exhibits under the Urban Adventure theme, were a great success. I always enjoy seeing how creative these displays are. Overall the fair was lots of fun. •

