



Barcroft News

September 2016

Vol 114, Issue 1

Barcroft's Annual Highlight: Fourth of July Parade



Photos by Randy Swart



Kudos to Heather Meade and Jim Moran who stepped up to be Parade Coordinators this year, following in the footsteps of longtime volunteer Andrew Hunter. The Parade was fabulous!

Next Community Meeting:

Thursday, September 1, 7:30 p.m.

Community House

Guest Speaker: Tim McIntosh



Barcroft News

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

Advertising: Jennifer Tomlinson
jaitomlinson@yahoo.com

Publisher/Mailing: Christine Hopkins,
chopkins4149@gmail.com
703-350-2101

Next Deadline: September 15

BSCL Officers

President: Chris Kupczyk, chris@bscl.org

Vice President: Joe Knarich, joe@bscl.org

Treasurer: Jennifer Lis
jenlis@comcast.net

Recording Secy.: Christine Hopkins,
chopkins4149@gmail.com

Web: Alex Chamandy, alex@bscl.org

Membership Secy.: Christine Hopkins,
chopkins4149@gmail.com

Board Members: Michael Behringer, Keith
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Contacts and Committees

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

Fundraising: Chris Ditta

Landscaping: Scott Brinitzer, 703-892-0308

Traffic Committee: Vacant

4th of July Parade: Heather Meade and Jim Moran

Columbia Pike: Chris Kupczyk
ckupczyk@verizon.net

Demeter House: Darlene Mickey

Parks: Shirley Gay

Signs: Glen Li

NCAC Rep.: Deborah Wood
wood_deborah@yahoo.com

NCAC Alternate: Neal Martin

Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates: Eric Harold, Christopher Hoh, Chris Kupczyk, Randy Swart
Alternates: Joseph Knarich, David Michelson, Mark Wigfield

Visit Us Online: www.bscl.org

Monthly Happenings

President's Report by Chris Kupczyk

I hope everyone has been staying cool during this very hot and humid August. Despite the weather, our two summer events went off without a hitch. Huge kudos to Heather Meade and Jim Moran on their inaugural July 4 Barcroft parade and picnic. I was away and could not attend, but from all accounts it was a rousing success. And, on August 2, we had a good showing for the National Night Out ice cream social. Several Barcroft residents turned out to meet with our local police representatives, which included Captain Quigley, Sergeant Washington, and Chief Farr. Also on hand were county board member Katie Cristol, Delegate Patrick Hope, and Barcroft Elementary principal Colette Bounet. It was good to see everyone and chat over some refreshments.

On Thursday evening at 7:30 on September 1, will resume our monthly meetings at the community house. We will review and approve a budget for the 2016-2017 year and announce and confirm some appointments to county committees. As reported in May's Barcroft News, we will then discuss a proposal to apply for county Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC) funding to complete a missing portion of sidewalk on 8th Street, near Wakefield. Our guest speaker will be Tim

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Woman's Club Program Highlights Smartphones

The Woman's Club of Arlington's first fall meeting is on September 12. The program is Making your Smartphone Work for You. It will be held at 1 p.m. at 700 South Buchanan Street, Arlington. There is plenty of parking. All are welcome to attend.

Cherie Lejeune, a noted NOVA technology trainer especially for mature users, will

give an overview of voice commands, photo/video use, texting and general operating features. Even if you don't have a smartphone, you can learn about all the new communications technology. Bring your phone! For any questions contact Cherie at latripp24@gmail.com. •

County Seeks Retail Space Use Ideas for at AMCC

Great news for the west end of Columbia Pike. Arlington County is seeking ideas from organizations who would be interested in using the 1,875 square feet of unfinished retail space (with an option for including three unfinished rooms on the 4th floor) at the Arlington Mill Community Center (909 South Dinwiddie Street). Specifically, the County is interested in organizations that can provide clear public benefit that adds value to the

community center experience and can pay for the entire buildout, operation, maintenance and rent of the space.

Interested organizations can learn more by contacting Peter Lusk at plusk@arlingtonva.us. •

President's Message, *continued*

McIntosh, the county's NCAC coordinator, which is responsible for the "missing links" sidewalk program. We encourage everyone to attend and participate in a vote on this matter.

Finally, don't forget that September also kicks off our annual membership dues drive. Please see our membership secretary's notice elsewhere in this issue. •

Stream Clean-Up

Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment will sponsor a stream and park cleanup in Barcroft Park on Saturday, September 17 from 10 a.m. to noon. Volunteers are asked to wear sturdy shoes that you don't mind getting wet and long pants and sleeves to avoid poison ivy. Bring a water bottle and a pair of work gloves. Barcroft Park is on Four Mile Run below George Mason at 4200 South Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington, VA 22206.

Signup info at arlingtonenvironment.org. •

Summer Updates From Barcroft Elementary

By Jennifer Weber , PTA Secretary

We were so excited to welcome our new and returning students, families and staff at our first day of school on August 1. The hot August temperatures did not slow us down and we had lots of learning and fun during these first weeks of school. Fun Fridays are always a highlight in August and included Popsicles with the Principal, water games, field games, and the always popular Arlington County Fair.

The school-wide

morning meeting, open to all Barcroft families, was held August 23. We are especially excited about our new mascot – the eagle!



We encourage our neighbors to take advantage of our lending library in front of the school and the school track which is excellent for walking, running, biking and scootering.

Looking forward to cooler temperatures? Then please make your calendars for the 2nd Snowball Stride on December 3! •

AutumnFest Celebration Is Full of Activities

The annual celebration of gardening and the harvest known as AutumnFest will be held on Sunday, September 18 at the Glencarlyn Library Community Garden from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. The Garden is located at 300 South Kensington Street in the Glencarlyn neighborhood.

Participants will have opportunities to taste free cookies and teas made from herbs grown in the garden, to make herbal sachets

to take home, to visit with a naturalist from the Long Branch Nature Center, and to purchase locally-grown plants to enhance their own gardens. Proceeds benefit the garden, which is a demonstration garden of the Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia.

Three educational talks will be offered: Watering 101 at 11 p.m., Gardening for Wildlife at 12 noon, and Kids and Gardens at 1 p.m. •



Sunday School

At 10 am - Starting September 11

- Looking for engaging Bible based education about the Christian faith for your child?
- Our experienced teacher fosters learning while incorporating active fun for children in 1st to 8th grade.
- We provide a child care facility for younger children. The professional staff is trained for infants to school aged children and has been background checked.
- FREE — See our website for more information.

Sunday Worship Services 8 am and 10 am



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Dues News

By Joanne Rodewald, Membership Secretary

September is here, and that means it's time to renew your BSCL membership --or join if you are not yet a member.

Last year 190 households supported our community with their dues (still only \$5 per individual or \$10 for a family membership). The application form is provided with this newsletter or online at our BSCL website (<http://www.bscl.org/membership>). The Com-

munity House and many of the festive activities that happen in the neighborhood are funded in part by our annual contributions. If you enjoy being one of the approximately 1,250 families living in Barcroft and appreciate the events sponsored by the Civic League, please become a dues paying member so we continue to be a vibrant and active community for everyone. •

The Arlington Players Present: Man of LaMancha

Imagination and story telling take center stage as a beautiful score and fantastical adventure abound. Dream the impossible dream with Cervantes, as he pulls us into the world of Don Quixote.

Dates: Friday, Saturdays and Sundays, September 23 to October 8. Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Location: Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre, 125 S. Old Glebe Road, Arlington, VA 22204.

Tickets: Adult: \$25, Senior/Military: \$22, Child/Student: \$15.

For more information and tickets: <<http://www.thearlingtonplayers.org>. •

SEEC Fundraiser

Shirlington Employment and Education Center (SEEC) will hold its fall fundraiser at the home of Sharon Davis and Al Eisenberg at 817 North Irving Street in Arlington on Thursday, September 29 from 6 to 8 p.m.

SEEC was established in 2000 to match day laborers with employers who are in need of temporary labor. This program is funded by an Arlington County grant with churches and other community groups providing additional resources needed for the program. •



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BSCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL Sept 2016 - Aug 2017

Please complete the entire form and return with dues

To: Barcroft School & Civic League
c/o Treasurer
811 South Taylor Street
Arlington, VA 22204

Check One:
 New Member Application
 Membership Renewal

Individual Membership (\$ 5.00) \$ _____

Couple/Family Membership (\$10.00) \$ _____

Additional Tax Deductible Contribution to
the Community House Conservation Fund \$ _____

Total (Please make check payable to BSCL)

\$ _____

Check Number _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone(s): (____) _____

E-Mail Address(es): _____

I/we would like to volunteer to help with:

Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled

Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled

Barcroft Players

Food Events (Dinners, Cook-outs, etc.)

Distribution (Newsletters, Flyers, etc.)

4th of July Parade & Picnic

Grant Writing

One-Time Efforts (as they arise)

Serve on a Committee -- Specify which: _____
(*Crime Resistance, Parking, Traffic*)

Other (please specify): _____

Street Sweeping in Arlington


By Deborah Wood

Arlington County sends its street sweeping trucks through approximately 814 lane miles of commercial and residential areas each month. They sweep up “debris and pollutants such as sand, salt, metals, petroleum products and bacteria before they wash into streams, the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay.” (Information taken from [https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/residential/street-sweeping/.](https://recycling.arlingtonva.us/residential/street-sweeping/))

Barcroft is part of Zone 8 for street sweeping purposes. At this time, we are

scheduled to have the trucks through our neighborhood on September 21 and October 19. Street sweeping occurs between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Please mark the dates on your calendars and remember to move vehicles off the street, to driveways or streets in adjacent neighborhoods between these hours.

By allowing the street cleaning to be more effective, you will be doing your part to help lower the amount of pollutants and debris washing into our watershed. ●



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Two Stories of Times Past by Henry “Hank” Biddle

Terry Dog

Terry was a big white and brown bird dog who did not know he was a bird dog. His owner had taken him hunting and at the first shot Terry had run back to his car, leaped through the window and lay cringing on the floor. That was how my friend Buddy had gotten Terry.

Buddy’s uncle built Terry a big dog house with a door and straw on the floor. When it rained we all crawled inside. Terry didn’t mind, he kept us warm. We took him on all of our explorations of Barcroft.

One day while in the Barcroft woods, we hadn’t noticed a storm coming. A bolt of lightning struck close by and Terry took off running. We chased after him but he was fast and charged through a closed screen door on a nearby house. We apologized and told the home owner Buddy’s uncle would repair the door. You can imagine how sorry Terry looked.

The summer was soon over and Buddy and I had to go back to school. Terry followed us to the bus stop and watched as we got on the bus. As we drove off I looked back and saw Terry. He was sitting on the grass with his nose pointed straight up howling the saddest howl I had ever heard. He wasn’t a bird dog, just a boy’s wonderful dog.



The Firecracker Hut

One year Buddy and I found out that we could no longer buy firecrackers for the Fourth of July. We felt that this was completely unpatriotic. Then the boys at Barcroft heard a rumor that firecrackers were available at Bailey’s Crossroads in Fairfax County. Firecrackers were outlawed in Arlington but not in Fairfax. We jumped on our bicycles and peddled out Columbia Pike.

At Bailey’s Crossroads there was an old surplus army Quonset hut selling hardware. We went in and walked to the back where an old man was waiting. He was humming the National Anthem. He had what we wanted, three boxes of cherry bombs, ten packages of fire crackers, ten fountains, a large pinwheel for the finale, five sparklers for my sister, and a lighter stick.

We went home, got out our American flag and started firing off a few crackers. Neighbors from all around Barcroft came to watch and celebrate. But as the noise began, Terry dog went howling into his dog house not to come out for three days. By the time the smoke had cleared we knew the Fourth of July was still the Fourth.

Editor’s Note: Mr. Biddle, who passed away last year, was a long-term Barcroft resident who wrote of his childhood memories of growing up in Arlington. We thank his family for sharing his stories. •

Neighbor to Neighbor Listings, *continued*

These listings are free to BSCL members, and run on a space-available basis. The listings run for three issues unless removal, renewal or update is requested. Email listings and renewals to editor@bscl.org.

Wanted: Halloween Help. I need a couple responsible teenagers to help set up a haunted breezeway, scare folks, and then help put everything away. Must be available several afternoons plus Halloween evening. Some lifting, toting and climbing a step ladder required. Loud is good. Jim Lande 4470 First Place, South , 703-258-5613 or MetalClarinet@gmail.com.

Miles and Peirce: two Neighborhood (rising) 8th grade Students want to mow your lawn this summer. We will cut, edge and blow away lawn debris weekly leaving you with a great looking lawn for the summer. We charge \$20 per cut for normal size lawns (lots less than 9,000 square feet) and \$25 for larger lots. Call Miles at 703-486-8181 or email dickeyjordan@outlook.com for an appointment.

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 kevinmedia118@gmail.com or text/call 703-919-7605.

Recent 21-year-old College Graduate: Available for babysitting, pet care, other odd jobs weekdays and weekends, starting May 12. Abby Fram, phone: 703-477-7550, email abbyfram94@aol.com.

Babysitter: Experienced, Red Cross certified 9th grader. Call Liza Harold at 703-868-3518.

Rebecca Bean Babysitter: 11th grader available nights and weekends. Call 571-344-4134 or email: Rebeccahbean@gmail.com.

Antique Oak Roll Top Desk, apartment size, with one large center drawer, 3 small drawers and 7 letter slots, in good condition (\$110) and one oak antique desk chair (\$50). Call 703-920-7554.

Antique Victorian Oak Press Back Rocking Chair with cane seat in excellent condition. \$140. Call 703-920-7554.

Vintage Red 1950's Red Tricycle, Junior Toy Company. Good working condition, \$30. Call 703-920-7554.

Vintage Push-M-Up Big 5 Pinball Machine, wooden tabletop machine, circa 1930's, produced by Northwestern Products, St Louis and in good condition. \$40, Call 703-920-7554 703-920-7554. ●



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

DC Metro Market Update

**Below are stats comparing July 2016
with July 2015 in the DC Metro area**

- July's regional overall median sales price rose to \$435,000 (all housing styles), a 0.6% or \$2,500 increase over last year's \$432,500, but a 2.5% or \$11,000 decrease compared to last month.
- Last month, only condos saw a year-over-year price increase, gaining 4.1% to \$302,000. Single family detached prices decreased 0.9% to \$545,000, while townhome prices fell 0.7% to \$407,250.
- The July overall regional price is 22.5% above the July 2009 low of \$355,000 and \$3,000 off the all-time July high in 2005.
- Falls Church City remains the most expensive location in the region with a July median sales price of \$708,000, although prices there are down 3% from last year. Prince George's County continues to be the most affordable area in the region, with a July median sales price of \$270,000, up 13.5% from last July, the highest percentage growth in the region.

- The year-to-date median was nearly the same as last year at \$416,990. Falls Church (+11.8%) and Prince George's County (+7.0%) lead the region in price growth. Fairfax County (-2.5%) was the only jurisdiction to see declines in year-to-date prices versus 2015.
- Arlington County's median price in July was up .03% from \$625,000 to \$627,000. The median price for detached homes was \$845,000 compared to \$809,000 in 7/2015.
- Barcroft's average sold price YTD at July's end in 2016 was \$720,388, \$707,253 in 2015 .

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