



November 2016

# Barcroft News

Vol 114, Issue 3

## Snow Angels: Finding Friends While Shoveling

*By Lisa Piantanida*

The Barcroft Snow Brigade is one of the best kept secrets in the neighborhood. Longtime neighbor, Sharon Tope, connects neighbors requesting assistance with shoveling their walks with neighbors who are willing to lend a helping hand and shovel.

Several years ago, we contacted Sharon and offered to shovel; we never imagined the friendships we would gain through just a few hours of service. We have met neighbors we would have otherwise not, finding some of

Barcroft's greatest gems. Our kids have also benefitted from both the service experience and the love they are shown by the people we have served.

The Snow Brigade represents Barcroft at its best — neighbors helping neighbors. I encourage you to reach out to Sharon (phone: 703-920-2567, email: stope3@verizon.net) if you could use some help shoveling your walk this winter or if you're willing to shovel. I promise the experience will add a snow angel or two to your life. •

## Annual Barcroft Holiday Party Will Be December 1

*By Chris Kupczyk*

This is an early reminder to mark your calendars for Barcroft's annual holiday party, which will take place on Thursday, December 1 at the community house. Please join us for food, refreshments, children's activities, sing-

ing, and -- if you're really good -- a visit from a special guest all the way from the North Pole.

**Please note that we will start at 7 p.m., a half-hour EARLIER than in years past, to accommodate more families with younger children.** •

## Next Community Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 7:30 p.m., Community House

Guest Speaker: Executive Director of Columbia Pike Redevelopment Organization



## Barcroft News

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**Next Deadline: November 15**

## BSCL Officers

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## Contacts and Committees

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*Fundraising:* Chris Ditta

*Landscaping:* Scott Brinitzer, 703-892-0308

*Traffic Committee:* Vacant

*4th of July Parade:* Heather Meade and Jim Moran

*Columbia Pike:* Keith Fred, Charlie Smiroldo

*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](http://www.bscl.org)

# Monthly Happenings

## ***President's Report by Chris Kupczyk***

We had a good turnout for our October meeting. We approved this year's proposal for the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee. We will submit a request to clean up the long-abandoned Virginia Power substation on Pershing, between 5th and 6th Streets, as an open green space or park. The project would most likely involve some retesting of the soil to determine what contaminants are still present -- and therefore still leaking into Grandma's Creek and Four Mile Run, as well as posing a safety hazard to humans and animals. This would be followed by whatever cleanup and soil replacement would be necessary. The site currently is zoned for commercial/industrial use, which is held to less stringent standards in terms of the level of contaminants allowed in the soil.

Be sure to join us for our next meeting at 7:30 p.m. on November 3, at the community house. Our guest will be Cecilia Cassidy, the new executive director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO). She is looking forward to updating us on CPRO's recent activities and what her plans are for CPRO's future. In lieu of a December meeting, our annual holiday party will take place on December 1. We'll resume our regular monthly meetings in January. ●

# Does Your Sidewalk Need Repairing?

**by Chris Kupczyk**

At the October BSCL meeting, an attendee informed us that she recently tripped and fell over a displaced section of sidewalk along Buchanan Street. If you are aware of similar tripping hazards in the neighborhood involving sidewalks, you can report the problem to the county at <https://transportation.arlingtonva.us/streets/curbs-sidewalks/>. Click "report a sidewalk problem," then, on the next screen, enter "concrete and

sidewalk repair" in the search box. If you can take a photograph of the sidewalk, you have the option of uploading it with your request.

You also can report the problem by calling 703-228-6570. As stated on the county's web page, the county "will replace sections of sidewalk that are displaced by greater than a half-inch, have cracks in excess of a half-inch wide, have severely spalled (deteriorated surface) concrete or otherwise present a tripping hazard." •

## November Barcroft Elementary Update

**By Jennifer Weber, PTA Secretary**

October 6 marked the end of our first quarter at Barcroft Elementary School, with a successful completion of our first two months of learning and growing. Students, families and staff will now enjoy a two-week break, with many students participating in the optional Intersession Program. Intersession offers classes to strengthen and extend learning for Barcroft students. The content of all courses is designed to address the Virginia Standards of Learning and the Arlington Public Schools curriculum. The classes offered during Intersession provide students with additional instruction in the areas of language arts, math, technology, science, social studies, the arts and physical education. Many students

enjoy the thematic, project-based approach and hands-on learning the Enrichment Program provides.

As we look towards the fall, we invite all our neighbors who vote at Barcroft to allocate some extra time to visit the Barcroft PTA Election Day Bake Sale on November 8. This is not your standard bake sale! In addition to the traditional baked goods and coffee, there will be a hot dog and chili bar for the afternoon and evening voters.

Looking for something a bit more active? Then plan to join us for the Snowball Stride 5K on December 3. This is a great opportunity to get some physical activity, see your neighbors and support Barcroft. •

# Barcroft Resident Subject of New Children's Book

Former Barcroft classmates in the late '70's, Angela Fairwell and Loki Mulholland have co-authored a beautifully illustrated children's picture book, "She Stood for Freedom: The Untold Story of a Civil Rights Hero Joan Trumpauer Mulholland." Joan is a lifelong Arlingtonian who volunteers at Barcroft School. There is a second book by the same title, with more text and many primary

sources, for upper elementary and middle school students. Both books recount the student-led Civil Rights Movement of the early '60's, and encourage today's students to take a stand against the problems they see in the world -- a "Do the Right Thing" message. Copies are available at local bookstores or on Amazon.com. •

## Choose a Green and Clean Landscaping Company

Do you hire a company to take care of your lawn and property? Landscaping companies registered with the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation as "Green & Clean" agree to follow landscaping practices to reduce the amount of fertilizer runoff into our streams and rivers. Such practices include testing the soil for nutrient content before applying fertilizer, adhering to caps on the amount of nitrogen applied, sweeping up fertilizer that lands on hard surfaces, and recycling grass clippings. To learn more and see the full list of companies on the Green & Clean registry, visit <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/soil-and-water/wqagree>.

If you contract with a landscaping company that uses your County-provided collection services to dispose of yard waste, you are responsible for coordinating with your contractor to ensure that any yard waste is placed in your County-provided yard waste

cart, paper bags, bundles or household containers and set out for collection after 5 p.m. on the day prior to your service day. Your contractor may not set out yard waste in plastic bags for collection. Plastic isn't compostable and won't be collected. •

## Adult Learn to Bike Class

Been a while since you biked? Never learned how? Join BikeArlington and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association and get started on Sunday, November 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Drew Model School Parking Lot at 3500 23rd Street South, Arlington. The friendly, certified instructors use an intuitive technique, and riders progress at their own pace.

Registration for Arlington residents is \$10 (normally \$85) and includes a bike and helmet rental. Head to <http://www.bikearlington.com/classes> or call 703-247-6980 to register. •

# One Great Native Plant for Your Garden: Coral Honeysuckle

## By Plant NOVA Natives Campaign

Plant Coral Honeysuckle (*Lonicera sempervirens*) and hummingbirds will come. This stunning vine has red and yellow trumpet shaped flowers that bloom from April to June and intermittently until frost. It produces a red berry that attracts Purple Finch, Goldfinch, Her-



mit Thrush, and American Robin. Native Americans used the leaves to treat asthma, sore throats, and coughs. Coral Honeysuckle can be grown on a fence, trellis, or arbor or used as a ground cover.

The Virginia Native Plant Society selected Coral Honeysuckle as its 2014 Wildflower of the Year. •



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# Dues News: November Update

**By Joanne Rodewald, Membership Secretary**

The Thanksgiving holiday is a time of reflection for our family. One of the things we count among our many blessings is living in Barcroft. If you, too, enjoy this newsletter, participating in the many festive activities that happen in the neighborhood, the Community House, or sharing information on the Barcroft chat site, please show your appreciation by

renewing your BSCL membership -- or joining if you are not yet a member.

Dues are still only \$5 per individual or \$10 for a family membership. The application form is provided with this newsletter or online at our website (<http://www.bscl.org/membership>). On behalf of the BSCL Officers and Board Members, we thank you for your support. •

## First Thanksgiving Campfire At Long Branch Amphitheater

The whole family is invited to attend a First Thanksgiving Campfire at the Long Branch amphitheater for lots of old-fashioned fun on Saturday, November 12 from 6 to 7 p.m. This engaging program will be filled with entertaining activities that may include stories, special animal guests, games, songs and of course, S'mores!

For information: 703-228-6535. Meet at Long Branch Nature Center \$5 fee per person; \$20 max. per family due at registration. Program #612956-E. •





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## Fall A Cappella Program

The Arlingtones, an award-winning a cappella close harmony chorus will present "Snowday: High Energy A Cappella Entertainment for All Ages" on Sunday, November 6 at 4:30 p.m. at Lyon Park Community Center located at 414 North. Fillmore Street in Arlington. Though there is no charge, donations will be accepted at the door.

The Arlingtones were chartered in 1957 as the Arlington chapter of the Barber-shop Harmony Society. •

# 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): \_\_\_\_\_

# Greetings this Fall Season from OSLS

## ***By OSLS National Junior Honor Society***

On October 19, radio station WGTS was welcomed to Our Savior Lutheran School to tape our morning Pledge of Allegiance and our singing of "My Country Tis of Thee." This radio station plays the Pledge of Allegiance each morning at 7:10. Tune in and enjoy hearing students from across the listening area!

Our October chapel offerings were designated for the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN). A-SPAN provides life-sustaining services for Arlington's homeless. Our Savior partners with A-SPAN by preparing and packing 40 to 60 lunches on the fourth Monday of each month. On October 27, Our Savior School participated in its 7th Annual mini walk-a-thon to bring awareness to the

problem of homelessness in Arlington and raise funds that will be used by A-SPAN.

Thank you to everyone who supports Our Savior Lutheran School through Giant, Safeway, and Harris Teeter grocery cards. We receive a check from each of these stores at the end of the school year thanks to your naming our school through their programs. We truly appreciate your kindness in thinking of us. If you haven't, consider linking your grocery cards to any school by visiting the grocery store websites.

Please join us at Our Savior Lutheran Church for a Thanksgiving Eve worship service on Wednesday, November 23 at 7 p.m. We would love to have you come and worship with us as we give thanks. •

## Classes Offered on Local Plants and Containers

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners of Arlington and Alexandria are offering a Landscape Walk at Fairlington Community Center on two dates: Sunday, November 6 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Monday November 7 also from 1 to 2:30 p.m. The community center is located at 3308 South Stafford Street in Arlington. This program will provide a tour of the native plantings at the Fairlington Community Center and will highlight plants with winter interest. It will be conducted primarily outdoors, so be sure to dress

for the weather. The tour is free.

A container gardening class is offered Thursday, November 10, at 1 p.m. at Culpepper Garden Senior Center, 4435 North Pershing Drive in Arlington. Learn about the basics of container gardening, and the variety of plants that you can grow in pots and other containers from a Master Gardener. This is primarily a class for those 55+. The class is free. Advance registration for both the tours and the class is requested at [mgmv.org](http://mgmv.org), 703-228-6414 or email [mgarlalex@gmail.com](mailto:mgarlalex@gmail.com). •



# Potomac Harmony Chorus Announces Annual Show

On Saturday, November 19, 2016, at 3 p.m., the award-winning women's barber-shop Potomac Harmony Chorus celebrates its 40th Anniversary by launching its annual show "Star Chords: A Quest for Intergalactic Harmony" at the Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre located at 125 South Old Glebe Road in Arlington.

This lighthearted original production features familiar characters from classic space movies and television shows joining forces to bring the music back to the galaxy. The audience will be transported with a capella, barbershop-style renditions of "Fly Me

to the Moon," "Shout," "When You Wish Upon a Star," and many more great songs sure to make them "Happy." It's a must-see adventure that's fun for the whole family.

Tickets can be purchased online at <http://bit.ly/2016PHCshow>, by calling (703) 764-3896 or via email at tickets@potomacharmony.org. Ticket prices: Adults \$20, Youth and Seniors \$15. Group discounts are available.

More information about Potomac Harmony Chorus, including how women ages 13 and up can join in the song, can be found at [www.potomacharmony.org](http://www.potomacharmony.org). •

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# Trail Tips from WalkArlington and BikeArlington

## For Cyclists:

Bikes roll faster than people walk. Pedestrians may not even hear you coming.

Some things you can do to share the way:

- Warn pedestrians at least 2 to 3 seconds before passing them. Bells are best. Use verbal warnings only when necessary.
- Slow down and give pedestrians at least an arm's length of clear space when passing. This will help avoid collisions and near misses.
- Use bike lanes when available. Remember, on sidewalks, pedestrians always have the right-of-way. Ride cautiously and respectfully.

## For Pedestrians:

Cyclists move faster than you. Most

cyclists will want to pass you on the trails. Listen for their warnings and know what to do:

- Stay to the right. If walking side by side, be prepared to walk single file.
- Don't stop suddenly or step to the left without first checking behind you. If you want to stop, step off the trail.
- Riding on the sidewalk is permitted almost everywhere in Arlington. If a cyclist needs to get by, try to make room.

## For Everyone:

- Obey traffic rules and signs.
- Be considerate of other users.
- Stay alert, especially when wearing ear-phones.

Whether on two wheels or two feet, courtesy will help get you there. •

## CLARENDON UMC IS SELLING CHRISTMAS TREES

*November 26 — until they're gone!*

Members of Clarendon United Methodist Church at 606 North Irving Street are preparing for a unique activity, benefiting all and involving so many. Our big fundraising event for 2016 is selling Christmas Trees, beginning Saturday afternoon, November 26, and continues every day for two weeks, ending December 10.

The Clarendon church supports activities that reduce hunger and homelessness, and the needs are great at this time. ALL of our proceeds will go to these programs – and we need your help. You purchase one tree and a family can eat with help from us & the Arlington Food Assistance Center or Stop Hunger Now. Or your purchase helps a family who is homeless receive much needed services, and shelter, through the Arlington Street Peoples Assistance Network, A-SPAN.

We will have fresh, gorgeous trees, and they're just waiting for you and your family. We need your help to sell – pick your time. You need a tree – give us a call. Outreach Committee Chair, Karen Darner, is waiting for your call now at 703-271-5284.



# 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.*

**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.

**Becca Bean Babysitter:** High school senior available nights and weekends. Call 571-344-4134 or email: Rebeccahbean@gmail.com.

**Vintage Shaving Mugs:** Name, Edward G. Wein with gold trim and no marking, \$15; Name, F.C. Ganney with gold trim and marked L&V France, \$15; Floral design with silver rim and no mark, \$10; Floral design with pink rim and no mark, \$10; large with soap and opening for brush, marked R.P. M Germany, \$25. All in excellent condition. Call 703-920-7554.

**Vintage Advertising Razor Blade Display Cards:** Gillette, Ohio Red Label, Norwalk, Personna, Barber Blades, Shelby Ultra Thin, Treet, Twenty Grand, Berkeley. Excellent Condition, Each \$20. Star 2 pack blades, set of 8 in advertising holder, \$50. Call 703-920-7554.

**Large Royal Dalton Character Jugs:** Count Dracula, Santa Claus with Stocking Handle, Groucho Marx, Jimmy Durante, WC Fields, Mae West, Louis Armstrong, Fallstaff, Queen Victoria, Old Salt, Don Quixoti and Sancho Panza. Each \$25. John Dalton Toby Mug, \$20. Call 703-920-7554.

**LGB G Scale Circus and Freight Train Sets,** with track, master station controls in oak box, hand car. To make an offer, call 703-920-7554.

**Vintage Metal Die Cast Banks:** 1900 Car - Columbia Federal Savings and Loan Association; 1915 Car – National Savings and Trust; 1930 Cadillac, Banthrico Inc., Chicago; General Train Engine and Coal Car, W.& A.R.R., Banthrico Inc., Chicago. Each \$12 Excellent Condition. Call 703-920-7554.

**Three Vintage Porcelain Hatpin Holders,** with floral designs and markings. Excellent condition with no chips, cracks etc. \$16 each. Also, have hatpins for sale. Call 703-920-7554.

**Lot of Vintage Cigarette Tins:** Old Gold, Phillip Morris, Cavalier, Sweet Corporal, Lucky Strike and Players. Good to excellent condition, \$30. Bugler Cigarette Making Kit in box with tin cigarette case, 2 tobacco packages and cigarette papers, and cigarette roller. \$10. Call 703-920-7554. •



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

Arlington remains highly desirable and demand is strong. October sales have outpaced new listings so far this month. The trend is not just local – it's national. Because of lower housing inventory and few choices for buyers, the sales pace is slower especially in the moderate to lower price points. Affordability in Arlington is a challenge. At an open house last week, I noticed that out of 80 open houses (single family homes), there were only 19 homes under one million dollars. Low supply puts upward pressure on prices. The DC area is mirroring the rate of property appreciation nationally, which is roughly 5%. While the current market favors sellers, some homes are still overpriced. Roughly 35% of housing in the local market place experiences a price reduction in any given week. Interest rates are at 3.5% now with speculation that they may rise soon.

**Paint Tips** - quality is critical and Sherwin Williams is popular. It's more expensive, but it covers well and ultimately looks better. For a finish, a

room's function and lighting are a factor. While glossy sheens are more durable, and absorb less moisture, imperfections in drywall will stand out the most. Use gloss on trim for that reason and its durability. Satin and eggshell are mediums that hide imperfections better and can handle some moisture, common in bathrooms & kitchens. Flat and matte hide imperfections well, used on ceilings and walls. Pick a color that is trending (SW Cool Platinum is a favorite). Grays and beiges on walls provide an amazing neutral look - more popular than plain white. Use white on ceilings and trim.

***FREE Notary for Barcroft Residents!***  
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