



Barcroft News

May 2017

Vol 114, Issue 9

Safety Ideas for You and Your Home

Editor's Note: *The Barcroft list serve recently had a running discussion about recent local burglaries. Jill Herndon posted a list of safety tips, then forwarded them to **Barcroft News** for readers to consider.*

By Jill Herndon

Since writing this list I have come across a few other safety tips from our Yahoo Group. Barbara Swart reminded us that Arlington County Police will do home safety checks, and that following their advice foiled a burglary attempt. Sounds like the place to start — but while waiting, this list still works for preventive measures, but first a note about your physical safety if there is a robbery in progress or a stranger in the house: do not engage and get away immediately. The

statistics are not good on engagement. Take a self-defense class and that is the first lesson.

I imagine a longer list is possible but here is my personal short list thanks to a former boyfriend who gave me the motion sensor lights.

- Motion sensor activated lights near driveway and doors.
- Cut trees and shrubbery so no one can hide at the window getting in or out.
- Consider leaving more outside lights on than usual — front, back and side porches.
- Take the car keys to bed with you after locking up. Use the car panic button if you see an incident in progress.
- Take the phone with you to bed to report a possible incident in progress.

Continued on page 10

Next Community Meeting

Thursday, May 4, 7:30 p.m., Barcroft Community House

Topic: Association Elections and Safety Discussion with
Police Captain Quigley



Barcroft News

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Next Deadline: May 15

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Columbia Pike: Keith Fred, Charlie Smiroldo

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Parks: Shirley Gay

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wood_deborah@yahoo.com

NCAC Alternate: Neal Martin

Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates: Eric Harold, Chris-
topher Hoh, Chris Kupczyk, Randy Swart *Alter-*
nates: Joseph Knarich, David Michelson, Mark
Wigfield

President's Message

By Chris Kupczyk

After four years as a BSCL officer -- two as vice president, two as president -- it's time for me to step aside as we transition to new leadership. On May 4, we'll conduct our annual election of officers. The full candidates' slate appears below. Please join me in thanking them for agreeing to stand for election.

President: Chris Siple

Vice President: Gary Mason

Recording Secretary: vacant (Please consider volunteering!)

Membership Secretary: Joanne
Rodewald

Treasurer: Jennifer Lis

Board Member: Barbara Clemens

Following the election, our guest will be Captain Adrienne Quigley, commander of the Arlington County Police Department's Third District (to which Barcroft belongs). She'll be on hand to discuss the rash of vehicle and residential break-ins we've experienced in the last few weeks.

I'd like to thank our officers and board, as well as Randy Swart and my predecessor, Eric Harold, for their advice and support these last few years. Finally, my sincere thanks to the BSCL membership for allowing me to serve you. •

Barcroft Listserv Keeps Neighbors in Touch

By Randy Swart

Are you on the Barcroft listserv? It runs on Yahoo, and is easy to join although you have to open a Yahoo account. We have about 350 Barcroft members now, and you will get emails on about five new topics per week. You can see your neighbors' recommendations for plumbers, landscapers, contractors, tree companies, waterproofers, elec-

tricians, pest control and many more. We swap news on street repairs, water main work, leaf pickups, street cleaning, Fios performance, electrical outages, BSCL meetings, helicopter noise, suspicious characters, restaurants and Columbia Pike projects.

The list is actively moderated by Mark Wigfield, who prevents any spam from getting

Continued on page 8

Barcroft Elementary May Update

By Jennifer Weber, PTA Secretary

Students and staff all enjoyed Intersession, held from March 27 to April 7. The Intersession Program offers classes to strengthen and extend learning for Barcroft students. The program provides alternative instruction using a thematic, project-based approach filled with hands-on learning to enrich the experience for students. The content of all courses is designed to address the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) and the Arlington Public Schools curriculum. A few of the options included Lego Robotics, Coding, Under the Sea and Fairy Tales.



Students in the Intersession Lego Robotics class.

Spring Break, we are looking forward to re-joining our classmates and staff on Tuesday, April 18. There are several important and exciting events coming up in the next few weeks. These include the next PTA meeting April 20 at 6:30 p.m. which provides an opportunity to learn more about our school food service and an update on the principal search process. Our annual International

Night will be held on April 25 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. There will be fun activities and presentations from families around the world. Please join us for this celebration of the many nations our staff and community represent at Barcroft. •

Annual May Benefit at Woman's Club of Arlington

The Woman's Club of Arlington's annual May benefit event will be held Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at their clubhouse located at 700 South Buchanan Street.

Shredding will take place from 10 a.m. to noon and is offered for free, though donations are welcome. A bake sale and tag sale will take place from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Tables for the tag sale are offered for \$20 each. Inquiries should be directed to 571-257-8520.

The Lions Club sight and hearing testing van will be present, and the public is welcome to bring unwanted glasses for donation, too.

Proceeds benefit the Woman's Club of Arlington's Scholarship Program. For questions, please email: womansclubarlington@gmail.com. •



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George Washington's Forest History Walk

By Carol Harvey

Did you know that the land on the other side of Four Mile Run from Barcroft once belonged to George Washington? He bought 1,200 acres in 1775 and wanted to survey it to verify his claim. Today it's hard to imagine the total lack of landmarks to identify property boundaries.

The Revolutionary War kept Washington from tending to his personal business for several years. One belated survey was halted when the servant assisting him broke his leg in the deep underbrush. When Washington final-

ly completed the survey, his property ended next to the stream at today's Carlin Springs dog park. A weather-worn illegible monument marks the spot.

See where Washington walked, visit the survey markers he used, the site of the gristmill built by his step-grandson, George Washington Parke Custis (who built Arlington House, the symbol of our county) and more. The event is free on Sunday, May 7, 2017. Meet at the Ball-Sellers House, 5620 3rd Street, South at 1:30 p.m. •

Food Drive Celebrates 25th Anniversary May 13

The Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) will participate in the 25th Anniversary "Stamp Out Hunger" food drive, a nationwide food drive organized by the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) with the goal to collect more than 80 million pounds of food door-to-door and to bring awareness to the issue of hunger.

Arlington residents are asked to leave non-perishable food donations in a bag next to their mailboxes by 9 a.m. on Saturday, May 13. Local letter carriers will collect the food on their normal routes and donations will be delivered to AFAC. This year, AFAC hopes to collect 30,000 pounds of healthy non-perishable foods from Arlington residents.

If you miss your letter carrier or live in

an apartment building, donations can be taken to the several Arlington Post Offices no later than Friday, May 19 including South Station (1210 South Glebe Road), or Shirlington Post Office (2850 South Quincy Street).

The Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) is an independent, community-based non-profit food pantry that provides dignified access to nutritious supplemental groceries to those in need. At AFAC, hunger and the demand for free groceries has reached an all-time high. In the past three years, AFAC's number of clients has grown by 56 percent. Over 2,400 families come to AFAC each week to access fresh and healthy supplemental groceries. For more information, contact communications@afac.org. •

Dues News: May Edition

By Joanne Rodewald, Membership Secretary

What's special about 221? If you guessed it's the number of households who have already become members of the Barcroft School and Civic League this year, you

are correct. Check our roster at <http://www.bscl.org/membership>) and if you are not listed



please consider sending in your dues today.

For only \$5 per individual or \$10 for a family membership you can show your support for our community and feel good about helping to sponsor the many special events that make Barcroft a unique place to live. The application form is available in this newsletter and online at our website at <http://www.bscl.org/membership>. •



Wednesday evenings at Barcroft Community House
Yoga for All Levels, Gentle, and Privates Sessions
Visit EDYoga.com, email at Info@EDYoga.com,
or call 703-975-3816

Adam (RT) Tnaib

202-725-0055

adamt@kw.com

2101 Wilson Blvd, #100, Arlington, VA

Your local realtor & neighbor in Arlington

If you are thinking about selling this spring, now is the perfect time to start getting your home ready. Please contact me for a free/no obligation consultation to learn about simple things you can do to improve the value of your home. I look forward to working with you.



kw
KELLER WILLIAMS



BSCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

September 2016 - December 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:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled
<input type="checkbox"/> Barcroft Players
<input type="checkbox"/> Distribution (Newsletters, Flyers, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing
<input type="checkbox"/> Serve on a Committee -- Specify which: _____
<i>(Crime Resistance, Parking, Traffic)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify): _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled
<input type="checkbox"/> Food Events (Dinners, Cook-outs, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July Parade & Picnic
<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Efforts (as they arise) |
|--|---|

Early Spring at Our Savior Lutheran School

By OSLS National Junior Honor Society

Our middle school looks forward to class trips early in May. Our eighth grade travels to New York City, seventh grade heads into downtown Washington D.C. on a mission trip, and sixth grade journeys to Science Camp.

This coming May 24, our school choir along with our younger students will be celebrating the end of the school year with a spring program. The program, Johnny Appleseed, will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church, located right across the parking lot from our school. We will have two performances, one at 11 a.m. and a second at 7 p.m. We would love for you to join us. This is a great program for little ones too.

Each month at our school, we celebrate artists. This month's Art Talks centered around Carl Larsson. Larsson was born in Stockholm, Sweden in 1953. He overcame a troubled childhood to become a renowned artist and a faithful husband and father. His work is associated with both the arts and crafts movement and art nouveau. He married a fellow artist, Karin, whom he met while living in Paris. Larsson authored and illustrated several books highlighting their home and family life. The books were best sellers and are still in print today.

We hope everyone has a great Memorial Day weekend. We would like to thank all those who are in the armed forces for their

service in our country and keeping us safe. Each one of you is a blessing to us and we thank you for all you do. •

List Serve, continued

Continued from page 3

through. It is a treat to participate in rational discussion of neighborhood affairs with your reasonable Barcroft neighbors. There are no anonymous messages. You can expect about 120 messages in an average month.

If that sounds like something you might want to try, you can send an e-mail to bsclchatsubscribe@yahoogroups.com. Please include your name and address in the e-mail so Mark can verify that you're a Barcroft resident.

Or go to the neighborhood web site at www.bscl.org.

- Click on "chat list", which will take you to the Yahoo Groups signup page for BSCLchat, then
- Click on +Join Group. If you go this route, you will need to create a Yahoo e-mail address or profile if you don't have one, or sign in through Google or Facebook. That route enables you to manage your chat group e-mail preferences. Once again, include your name and address in the "comment to owner" field so Mark won't have to email you separately for the information.

Questions? Email mark@bscl.org. •

St. John's Spring Tea

Saturday, May 13 - 1 - 3 pm



Celebrate Mother's Day weekend with a friend, child or grandchild. There is a wide selection of fine teas and an impressive buffet of scones, sandwiches, and scrumptious desserts along with piano music. Adults will also be offered a glass of champagne.

Adults \$20 - Children 12 and under \$10

All are welcome to all services and activities!

Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

Sunday Education

Adult Seminar 9 am — Youth 10 am

St. John's Episcopal Church



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Spring Community Walking Tours For Visionaries

We've all done it. You're sitting in traffic in front of a vacant building or empty lot and thought: "That place used to be hopping! Doesn't anyone see the potential!?"

All visionaries are invited to join us for three County Wandering Walking Tours with artist Graham Coreil-Allen to explore and reimagine Arlington's public spaces. All

ages and abilities are welcome!

RSVP for a County Wandering Art

Walk:

- Lee Highway - April 30
- Courthouse - May 7
- Columbia Pike - May 21

RSVP at walkarlington.com/engage/ •

Treat Your Spring Fever at May 7 Plant Sale

The annual spring Plant Sale at Glencarlyn Library Community Garden will be held, rain or shine, on Sunday, May 7 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Locally grown plants including natives, tropicals, shrubs, trees, vegetable starts, herbs, annuals and perennials will be offered. Also, Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia will be on hand to answer gar-



dening questions and help customers find the right plant for the right location.

This sale supports the year-round operations of the demonstration garden. Glencarlyn Library Community Garden, 300 South Kensington Street, Arlington. Contact Alyssa Ford Morel at 703-907-9318 for questions. •

Safety Ideas, continued

Continued from page 1

- ...and these days take the phone while walking and be ready to take photos of strangers exhibiting strange behaviors (but play safe!) and car license plates.
- No opening doors to strangers.
- Leave garden work in progress in the driveway if you are leaving on vacation — rake and wheel barrow for example. Or invite neighbors to park in your driveway while you are gone.
- On a lighter note — but I am being serious — a door bell that triggers the sound of a BIIIG barking dog! •

Neighbor to Neighbor Listings

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.

Private Drum Lessons in Barcroft: All ages/levels. Local musician offers instruction in Barcroft home studio on 3rd Street South. Unique, fully equipped studio with two full drum sets. Multiple styles--rock, jazz, classical, musical theatre. Complimentary 30-minute lesson/consultation. References provided. Email Mitchell at mitchbassmusic@gmail.com.

Looking for a different decoration for your party? I will carve your design into a watermelon for an edible decoration. \$20 plus cost of watermelon (Offer dependent on supply) Contact Zach at robbets4@gmail.com or 703-380-6227.

Bikes and 3D Printers: What do they have in common? You want your bike ready for spring and I want to earn money for a 3D printer! Offering a Quick Tune-up for \$30, Bike fitting for \$20 or Cleaning for \$20. Call or email me for more details or other services. Zach 703-380-6227 or robbets4@gmail.com.

Visit Hilton Head Island! Our family's condo has two bedrooms with 1 king bed each, plus another room with two twin beds. The beach is a five-minute walk away over a lagoon replete with wildlife and a short path. The website is: <http://seapines.com/vacation-rentals/property.aspx?rental=26>. I'd be happy to share insider tips we've gathered over the years visiting. Contact Julie Smith, jds342000@gmail.com.

The Capital Hospice Thrift Shop in the Willston Shopping Center, 6172 Arlington Blvd. at Seven Corners is in desperate need of volunteers. Our volunteer force is dwindling badly due to age, ill health and families moving elsewhere. We are sending a plea to anyone who can help us staff the shop. It is not only a very worthwhile cause but can be interesting and fun!. Shifts are only 3 hours: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or 1 to 4 p.m. Phone the Manager, Michael Murphy at (703)532-5355 or stop by and fill out a volunteer form.

Kyle and Ted Lawn Mowing: Hardworking and reliable freshman in college who will mow and edge your lawn as well as various other yard work you need done for an affordable price. Contact us at kpboll333@gmail.com. ●



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

Making a winning offer in a competitive real estate market

Buyers in Arlington need to be strategic about what they're willing to pay relative to market value. By doing the right prep work and gaining market knowledge, one can recognize value quickly and make strong, confident offers. Since most sellers want to close as soon as possible, offer a 2 or 3-week closing. Many lenders can't close a loan that soon, some local lenders can (*I have a few that can do it in 2 weeks*). Get the right lender on your team!

Contingencies in offers protect the buyer for financing, appraisal and a home inspection. The shorter the contingency is, the more appealing the offer looks to a seller. Find a lender who can take the loan from contract to settlement within 2-3 weeks, resulting in an expedited closing. In hyper competitive markets buyers waive appraisal clauses and sometimes financing.

Home inspections are essential in my opinion, and a winning bid in a competitive market usually

does the inspection for "informational purposes only". In some situations, a buyer might ask for a pre-offer home inspection to make an offer with no home inspection contingency.

DOM (Days on Market) Most of the "Hot Listings" sell in the first 7-10 days. Buyers need to make their highest & best offer. Some sellers use a contract deadline while others may take offers as they come along.

Looking to assemble the right home buying team? We have helped many buyers craft winning offers in hot markets.

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