



# Barcroft News

May 2022

Vol 119, Issue 9

## Do You Have Room for a Shade Tree?

**By the Plant NOVA Natives Campaign**

If your yard sits in the blazing sun in the summer, it may have already occurred to you that a native shade tree would benefit

you tremendously. But even if your yard is already graced by one or more mature tree, you should give some serious thought as to whether it is time to start the next generation. Trees in natural areas can live many hundreds of years, but urban and suburban conditions present stresses that may cause premature decline, a problem that can be seen in many of our old-



er neighborhoods. If you wait until a tree dies, it will be a long time before a seedling can grow to full size. Very likely, the time to plant a replacement is now.

There is an unfortunate tendency to replace tall canopy trees with short ornamentals. This does a disservice to the people who will come after us and who will have to contend with even hotter summers and more torrential downpours than we have now. The larger a tree's canopy, the more benefits it provides in terms of cooling the environment and controlling storm-

***Continued on page 5***

### **Next Meeting:**

**Thursday, May 5, 7:30 p.m., On Zoom**

**Topic: To be announced on the Barcroft Chatlist**



*Send an email to [zoom@bscl.org](mailto:zoom@bscl.org) to request an invitation to the meeting.*



## Barcroft News

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

*Advertising:* Vacant

*Publishers/* Theresa Schweser and  
*Mailing:* Kirt Miller  
publisher@bscl.org

**Next Deadline: May 15, 2022**

## BSCL Officers

*President:* Deborah Wood, 703-892-1243  
president@bscl.org

*Vice President:* Daniel Weir

*Treasurer:* Jennifer Lis  
jenlis@comcast.net

*Recording Secy.:* Chris Siple

*Membership Secy.:* Linda Gaines, linda@bscl.org

*Board Members:* Paula Levin-Alcorn, Susan  
Cohen, Keith Fred, Eric Parker

## Contacts and Committees

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

*Web:* Daniel Weir,  
webmaster@bscl.org

*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:* Doug Mueller

*NCAC Rep.:* Vacant

*NCAC Alternate:* Deborah Wood

*Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates:* Eric Harold,  
Christopher Hoh, Randy Swart, Deborah Wood

*Alternates:* Gary Mason, Daniel Weir

Visit Us Online: [www.bscl.org](http://www.bscl.org)

## President's Message

**By Deborah Wood**

Our May BSCL meeting will feature elections for a new president and treasurer, and a new board of directors member. Daniel Weir, vice president, Chris Siple, recording secretary, and Linda Gaines, membership secretary, have agreed to continue in their current roles for another year. Their continued service to the community is much appreciated!

My term of office started in June 2020, so I've served as the pandemic president. While the switch to meeting by Zoom went smoothly, I do miss having had the opportunity to interact face to face at our meetings. Slowly, we are finding our way towards a new normal, including indoor gatherings, travel and on-site work increasing, and optional mask wearing. But there are the occasional hiccups, such as the current BA.2 omicron variant, which has put Arlington back in the moderate level of infections. Nevertheless, I like to think that within the coming year the BSCL will be able to meet in person.

According to Barbara Swart, who manages rentals at the Community House, business is back to normal. The BSCL has been financially cautious while we've had to keep the Community House closed, so our recovery from a year plus loss of rental income will be easy.

Enjoy what I hope will be a beautiful May!

# Bike to Work Day Rolling In on May 20...

**By Randy Swart**

Get out your bike and ride with your neighbors on Bike to Work Day on May 20. Working from home or commuting to the office, you can join people all over Arlington to celebrate this fun, healthy, and sustainable activity.

The event is free and open to everyone. Arlington will have ten pit stops including for the first time one in Barcroft at the National Guard HQ on George Mason Drive.

If you pre-register you can pick up your free Bike to Work Day t-shirt on the

big day. Registration is open now at <https://www.biketoworkmetrodc.org/arlington-hq-national-guard-tarc> •



### Juliet's Housecleaning Service

Honest, more than 10 years experience with Excellent Barcroft-area References

**LOW RATES!**

Weekly, biweekly, monthly, or onetime cleaning.



**Call anytime: 703-628-3434, 703-354-3225, or 571-236-3700**

## Happy New Year !

In 2021, not only was our team, Trent & Co at COMPASS Real Estate, named #1 in the DMV for Medium-Sized Teams in both Volume and Transactions by the Wall Street Journal's annual REAL Trends + Tom Ferry's The Thousand - but it was also our strongest year yet! We're ready to put our experience and expertise to work for you in 2022!



**Trent Heminger**  
Executive Vice President  
Trent & Co | Compass



**Rick Woler**  
Barcroft Resident  
Agent  
267.261.9932  
rick@trentandco.com  
@rickwoler



**Ryan Isaacson**  
Barcroft Resident  
Agent  
904.309.2558  
ryan@trentandco.com  
@rforryan

\$258<sup>+</sup>MM

In Sales Volume

332

Total Transactions

We cannot thank our clients enough for their continued support. We could not do this without you! If you are interested in selling or buying, please reach out to your Barcroft neighbor, Rick. We're invested in our community which means we're invested in you!

Source: Team Records & Bright MLS

Trent & Co at COMPASS Real Estate. Compass is a licensed real estate brokerage that abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is not guaranteed. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Compass is licensed as Compass Real Estate in DC and as Compass in Virginia and Maryland. compass.com | trentandco.com | Licensed: DC|MD|VA | 501.298.1001 | 5471 Wisconsin Ave #300, Chevy Chase, MD 20814

**COMPASS**  
**TRENT & CO**  
THE POWER OF A TEAM



# Still the #1 Remodeling Contractor in Arlington

Pulling more permits in Arlington than any other contractor



## Specializing in Arlington Homes

GET A FREE QUOTE TODAY  
703-536-0900 | [CookBros.org](http://CookBros.org)



## How may I be of help? *Proudly Serving Barcroft*

---

*Buying, Selling or just Friendly Advice*  
**Susan Tull O'Reilly, Realtor®**

NVAR Lifetime Top Producer, Over 25 Years Experience  
703.509.7222 | [soreilly@mceneaney.com](mailto:soreilly@mceneaney.com) | [SusanTullOReilly.com](http://SusanTullOReilly.com)  
1320 Old Chain Bridge Road, McLean, VA 22101 | 703.790.9090

Equal Housing Opportunity

## Shade Trees, continued

### Continued from page 1

water, not to mention sequestering carbon, sheltering birds and other critters, and providing food for the caterpillars that are needed to feed baby birds (which only native trees support in noticeable quantities.)

Shorter native trees and shrubs are appropriate for many situations, such as under a power line or in a small yard. There are specific recommendations on the Plant NOVA Trees website about how far from obstacles to plant your trees and how large a soil area to allow. The roots of trees can overlap, though, so you can plant them as close as fifteen feet apart and within five feet of shrubs.



Photo by Elaine Mills

A mature Red Cedar tree.

Trees produce shade, but most canopy trees cannot grow in the shade. (The understory is the space where shorter native trees such as Flowering Dogwood and Redbuds thrive.) It is easy to overestimate the available sun. The number

## BSCL Slate of Proposed Officers

By Randy Swart and Chris Siple

The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of officers for the BSCL for 2022-23.

*President:* Matthew Field

*Vice President:* Daniel Weir

*Treasurer:* Jennifer Lis

*Recording Secretary:* Chris Siple

*Membership Secretary:* Linda Gaines

*Board Member:* Cathy Hogan (term expires 2026)

of hours of direct sun per day should be measured when the nearby trees have already leafed out. Good choices for planting under existing shade trees include oaks, American Holly and Black Gum, which will grow slowly but steadily in those conditions then rapidly take off if the overstory lightens up in the future. Native oaks hold the place of honor as the most valuable of trees - the reasons for this are outlined in Doug Tallamy's most recent book *The Nature of Oaks* - but any native tree provides major ecological benefits.

There is deep gratification to be had from planting and nurturing a little native tree, even if we ourselves may not be around later to sit under it. It is a simple act, easily accomplished. To find out how easily, see the Plant NOVA Trees website. •

**Editor's Note:** A short video of beautiful native tall trees is available at: <https://youtu.be/7sSJKFkdqcQ>

# May Greetings from Our Savior Lutheran School

Recently, Our Savior Lutheran School's third-grade class has been studying weather. They made cloud viewers and went outside to record observations. They also measured their shadows at various points throughout the day to see how they changed. What great young scientists!

Sixth grade has been learning about earthquakes as part of their earth science unit. They created structures in Jell-O and simulated 4.0 and 9.0 magnitude earthquakes to test their engineering.

Our middle school looks forward to class trips early in May. All grades are heading to a Science Camp for a time of fun and learning.

This coming May 25, our students will be celebrating the end of the school year with a spring program, "Simon Says." The students are practicing hard and getting excited. For more information on the program's time, please contact our school office.

Pre-K is currently enrolling! Our play-focused program offers learning opportunities for children to grow socially, physically, and academically in a nurturing Christian environment. Pre-K meets Monday through Thursday, 8:15 a.m. to noon. If you or someone you know is interested, please contact us at 703-892-4846 or at [www.osvaschool.org](http://www.osvaschool.org) for more information or to schedule a tour.

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 to our country and keeping us safe. We thank you for all you do. •

---

## Diversity in Worship Concert

A concert featuring Mosaic Harmony community choir and Trinity musicians will be held on May 1 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at Calvin Hall, Trinity Presbyterian Church, located at 5533 North 16th Street, Arlington.

The concert is loosely based on the liturgy of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church. It will be an interactive celebration of African American gospel music. Members of all faiths and worship styles are invited and attendees should be to be ready to sing. A reception will follow. •

---

## Cancer Pain Forums

Capital Caring Health is offering two free cancer pain management forums each month for patients, family members and other interested parties. The forums are held on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month from 12 noon to 1 p.m. The second Wednesday forums are in-person at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Building A, Conference Room 1. The fourth Wednesday meetings are virtual on Zoom. Visit [www.capitalcaring.org/cancerpainforum](http://www.capitalcaring.org/cancerpainforum) to access the session or for more information. •

# 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](mailto:editor@bscl.org).*

**Pet Sitting:** Colin and Emmett (4th-5th grades) are happy to pet sit for your cats or other small animals. Sorry, no dog sitting at this time. We have experience with fostering and pet sitting animals. Email [Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com](mailto:Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com) or call 703-474-2691 and ask for Colin and Emmett.

**Barcrofter Loki Mulholland Books and Movies:** His complete works available (save shipping costs!) and timely, especially the movies dealing with voting and institutional racism. Several kids books too. Great for gifts. Call and come by: Joan Mulholland, 501 South Taylor Street, 703-979-4719. Pay by cash, check, or Venmo.

**Pet Care at Your Door!** Barcroft resident, GWU graduate student with years of experience caring for all types of pets is available for pet sitting. Can do both daily visits or overnight stays, as needed. Mature, responsible and reliable; references available upon request. Call/text Martina at 541-602-7336 or email [martina.vega@soapcreekent.com](mailto:martina.vega@soapcreekent.com).

**Pet Sitting:** I live in Barcroft and I am a student at Radford University. I'll be home for the summer (May to August) and I would like to earn money for college. I love animals and I've taken care of dogs, cats and other pets for many years. I am available to do daily dog walks and/or housesitting for your pets. I am reliable and can provide references upon request. Please text/call me, Kian Chada, 703-785-3305 or email [kchada10@gmail.com](mailto:kchada10@gmail.com).

**Oculus Quest 2** All-in-One Virtual Reality (VR) Headset, 128GB. Brand new, never used and in original sealed packaging. Perfect Graduation gift! \$200. Please text Carolyn @ 703-627-2162, if you want to buy the Oculus Quest 2 All-in-One VR Headset. •



## **Barcroft News Needs You** *To Serve as Advertising Manager*

Feeling like you want to step up and help your civic association? Contact Alyssa Ford Morel at [editor@bscl.org](mailto:editor@bscl.org) or call 703-907-9318.



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

**Will Increasing Mortgage Rates Cause Home Prices to Fall?** While some people may believe a 1% to 2% increase in mortgage rates will impact demand so dramatically that home prices will have to fall, experts say otherwise. Doug Duncan, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist at *Fannie Mae*, says: *"What I will caution against is making the inference that interest rates have a direct impact on house prices. That is not true."* Freddie Mac studied the impact that mortgage rates increasing by at least 1% has had on home prices in the past. Below are the results of that study.

### The Impact of Rising Rates on Home Prices

Changes When Mortgage Rates Increase by More Than 1%

Start Date	End Date	Months	Increase	Home Prices
Oct 1993	Dec 1994	14	2.38%	+3%
Jan 1996	Sept 1996	8	1.2%	+2%
Oct 1998	May 2000	19	1.81%	+13%
June 2003	June 2004	12	1.06%	+13%
June 2005	July 2006	13	1.18%	+7%
Nov 2012	Dec 2013	13	1.11%	+11%
<b>Average</b>		<b>13</b>	<b>1.46%</b>	<b>+8%</b>

Source: Freddie Mac

**Are you considering a new lifestyle?** Put my 37 years of local Arlington market expertise to work for you and your largest financial investment! **Casey O'Neal, Compass Real Estate, 703-217-9090, [www.caseyoneal.com](http://www.caseyoneal.com).**  
Free Notary!