

THANKS TO THE BLOCK CAPTAINS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS!

It is past time to recognize the contribution made to Barcroft's Neighborhood Conservation Plan by the Block Captains and Committee Chairs who have already given generously of their time to get us off to a great start.

The following people served as Block Captains to distribute and collect the questionnaires:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Dick Carter | Kay Lavenson |
| Ellen Chalmers | Jane McQuade |
| Susan Cohen | Pauline Meehan |
| Lee Culbert | Dick Mohler |
| Clifford Gay | Kerrie Muir |
| Shirley Gay | Michael O'Rourke |
| Ron Gemmell | Ann Reed |
| Cathy Goldschmidt | Dick Sherman |
| Dorothy Haney | Ann Wester |
| Kathy Kerr | Louise Wyndham |
| Janet Kyle | Bob Yahh |
| Beth Lodsum | Betty Young |

Solid response on the questionnaire was necessary to establish the validity of the completed plan. Distribution meant ringing doorbells, explaining the questionnaire and going back to pick up the completed forms. Often this required several visits. Our Block Captains played an important role, and they deserve a hand!

Committees have been forming to take up the substantive issues which the plan will address. The Committees and chairpeople are:

- Parks & Recreation
Pope Woodard (979-6529)
- Traffic & Transportation
Eleanor Schwartz (920-5389)
- Neighborhood Inventory
Dick Carter (521-5976)
- Neighborhood History & Demographics
Phyllis Kinsey (892-5962)

In addition, the Zoning and Land Use Committee is being organized by Laurie Kelsch (920-9429).

Anyone interested in serving on a committee or just learning more about what is going on in those areas can call the people listed. Most of these committees are already working. The chairpeople and organizers deserve our thanks for their time and efforts.

HISTORY AND DEMOGRAPHIC COMMITTEE FORMS

The Neighborhood Conservation Plan History and Demographic Committee is forming! A warm welcome is extended to Barcroft residents to join us in learning about our community, past and present. We hope it will be fun and exciting to research and document its development from a handful of scattered houses and two farms to the present. Meetings are planned:

Monday, November 30 at 7:30 PM
4612 Seventh St. S. Agenda: Procedures and distribute standard forms.

Tuesday, December 8 at 7:30 PM
Central Library, 1015 S. Quincy St, 2nd floor. Agenda: Sara Collins, librarian for the Virginiana Collection, will present written materials and tape recordings concerning Barcroft.

For more information, please call Sue Sarcone at 920-8131 or Phyllis Kinsey at 892-5962.

Phyllis Kinsey

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CONGRATULATIONS TO ELAINE PELTON

Barcroft resident Elaine Pelton, a student at H-B Woodlawn School, has been selected as a winner in the "Promising Young Writers Program" of the National Council of Teachers of English. A book of the winners' writings will be published this school year. Perhaps Elaine will write something for the Barcroft News!

FARMER'S MARKET EXTENDS SEASON AND WILL HAVE CHRISTMAS TREES

The ever-popular Arlington Farmer's market, held in the Courthouse parking lot from 7 AM to noon every Saturday from April to November, has extended its season this year until December 12. The veggies are piddling out, but there should be a good selection of herbs, punkins, cider, apples, Christmas trees and Christmas crafts. The first market date in the spring will be April 30th.




CURTISS WERNER CREATES HIS FIRST SNOW SCULPTURE OF THE SEASON

Barcroft artist Curtiss Werner had an early chance to create his first snow sculpture of the season when the deep snow surprised us all on November 11. (We ran a photo of one of his sculptures last year.) In honor of Veteran's Day this one was a WW II doughboy in a foxhole, complete with shovel and helmet. As the snows fall you can see more fun snow-people appear in front of the Werner's on First Street S. at Utah.


CIVIC FEDERATION CONSIDERS RECOMMENDATION TO ABOLISH OFFICE OF COUNTY SHERIFF

Reacting to the tone and embarrassment of the recent campaign for County Sheriff, the Arlington County Civic Federation is now studying a recommendation to ask the State for authority to eliminate the office of Sheriff and place its functions under the Police Department. (The Sheriff now runs the jail, delivers writs and provides courtroom security.) The BSCL is a member of the Civic Federation, and our delegates will be voting in January on whether or not to approve the recommendation as a Civic Federation position. Call Pat Roach at 920-8131 if you have views on the subject. We might note that delegate Anne Noll won the Civic Federation's award last year for the best attendance record of any delegate, ensuring that Barcroft has been represented at every meeting.





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**WHY DO PEOPLE SAY "SECOND STREET SOUTH"
INSTEAD OF "SOUTH SECOND STREET"?**

The answer to this month's question is simple: because that's how the County Board adopted the street names when Arlington renamed its streets in 1934. Named streets have the north or south in front of the name (South Wakefield), while numbered streets have it behind "Street". So officially you live on Fourth St. South, even though many people prefer to use South Fourth St. It may not matter--your mail comes either way, and your DC guests still complain they get lost in Arlington.

The County has responded to those complaints with a useful pamphlet explaining how our streets were named. Prior to 1934 the County had developed in neighborhood subdivisions, each of which had an Arlington Street or a Washington Boulevard. With a dozen Lee Avenues in the County it was hard to find the right one, and the Post Office was refusing to give us an Arlington postmark. The patchwork of subdivisions ruled out a completely logical system, but the County staff tried.

First, the County was divided by Arlington Boulevard into North and South. Named streets run north-south and were alphabetized beginning at Rosslyn with one-syllable names like Ball St., then two-syllable names like Wakefield, then three-syllable names like Abingdon. Numbered streets run east-west, parallel to Arlington Boulevard. When a number is repeated, the sequence is Street, Road, then Place. Barcroft has a 1st Street, 1st Road and 1st Place. Named roads and lanes, which typically follow early winding routes, are excluded from this pattern. That would include Glebe Road, Lorcom Lane and Pershing Drive.

Boulevards, Drives and Roads generally are diagonal across the County, and are major thoroughfares with historic names. Boulevards usually run east-west and Drives run north-south. Numbered and named streets are not through streets, and generally only Boulevards, Drives, Roads and Highways cross the County in unbroken lines. The pamphlet encourages drivers to recognize which streets are the thoroughfares, and use them instead of neighborhood streets.

Arlington has only one pike, which is why Columbia Pike is called "The" Pike. It was a toll road, or turnpike, a name which comes from the toll gates which swung aside when you paid your money.

The County's pamphlet helps you find the cross-street for any house number. It's easy on named streets -- 805 South Taylor will be on Taylor, South of Arlington Boulevard, between 8th and 9th Streets South. On numbered streets you need to have the pamphlet to know that 6135 Third Street North will be between Ohio and Powhatan Streets.

The choice of street names is interesting. In Barcroft, Taylor St. was named for the President; Utah and Vermont for States; Abingdon and Wakefield for old Virginia plantations. (The ruins of Abingdon House can still be seen at National Airport, in the trees just above the Metro station.)

The County's pamphlet was edited by Carol Nation for the Public Works Department. Copies are available in the lobby of the Courthouse, or by calling Public Works at 284-8360.

Next Month: Is there a snow removal plan which includes Barcroft?



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May your Thanksgiving Day be filled with lots of Turkey, family and friends. May you all be blessed with health, food and homes. May your faith be as strong as the Pilgrims who gave us this day to celebrate.

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GYPSY MOTHS: ARE YOU READY TO BE SPRAYED?

County staff members were seen counting gypsy moth egg masses on 4th Street S. recently. They told ever-vigilant Kathy Kerr that the County will probably begin spraying Barcroft for gypsy moths this year, before we begin losing trees.

The BSCL will ask the County's gypsy moth coordinator to come and speak to one of our meetings soon. Spraying is done from aircraft, but can be kept away from homes who do not want it, and there is a choice of chemicals the County can use. We need someone to coordinate the neighborhood's response to the County on what we want. If you want to serve on the Gypsy Moth Task Force, please call Pat Roach at 920-8131. The task force should start immediately to investigate the subject, find out whether Barcroftians want to be sprayed or not, and be prepared to give the County some feedback in the spring. Please call Pat now if you want to help.



LATE WORD ON LEAF COLLECTION

Leaf collection should have been last month's topic, but if you still have some, leave them at your curb and the County will come by and vacuum them up. No bags needed. There are three sweeps per season, running from west to east, ending in late December. We are in leaf collection Zone 11, and your leaves will be vacuumed just after they do Arlington Forest to our west. Snow or rain delays the vacuuming.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

<u>Advertising Manager:</u>	Talmadge Williams 920-7006
<u>Contributions Editor:</u>	Susan Sarcone 920-8131
<u>Editor:</u>	Randy Swart 521-2080
<u>Around the Neighborhood:</u>	Kathy Kerr 892-6458
<u>Mailing:</u>	Aileen & Paul Woods

WANT ADS

ENCYCLOPEDIAS. Invest now in your family's future by purchasing your own set of the Encyclopedia Americana. Many other fine educational resources available at family prices. Call your Barcroft neighbor, E. M. Edmonds, at 685-0616 for more details.

WANTED: ADS! Bring your ad to the BSCL meeting on the first Thursday of the month, or call Talmadge Williams at 920-7006. Non-commercial ads are free for members of the BSCL, commercial ones \$5. December 10 is the deadline to get an ad in for your January after-Christmas sale.



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DECEMBER EVENTS



Sundays "Arlington County Line" radio show with topics of interest to Arlington. WMZQ radio (AM 1390). 9 to 9:30 AM Sundays.

Dec 3 THURS. **BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30 PM. Caroling with the Wakefield High Band. Come and sing Christmas carols with this wonderful musical group. Kids invited too! For info please call 920-8131.**

Saturday 5th Opera Theater of Northern Virginia. "Who Am I?" The world premier of a family opera by Samuel Barab. Thomas Jefferson Center, Glebe and 2nd St. S., 5 and 7 PM. Prices 739-2921.

Tuesday 8th **BSCCL History and Demographic Committee.** Central Library, Virginiana Collection, 2nd Floor. 7:30 PM. Info 892-5962.

Fri/Sat 11/12 The Nutcracker performed by the Arlington Ballet. Thomas Jefferson Theater. 7:30PM \$10 adults/\$4 children under 12.
Sun 13 Same program on Sunday at 2 PM. Information 739-2917.

Saturday 12th Arlington County Board Meeting. 9 AM at the Courthouse. Watch it on Arlington cable TV. Info 558-2261.

Monday 28th Book Discussion Group. Arlington Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. 7:30 PM. Call Doré Morse at 524-8662 for info.

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**BARCROFT'S FIRST FAMILY
OF ICE CREAM**

Back in June my husband saw an article in the Washington Post about the Frozen Dairy Bar on Arlington Boulevard, 3/4 mile west of Seven Corners. We were interested to see that it was founded by our backyard, over-the-fence neighbor Mr. **Guy Sponseller**.

Selling ice cream runs in the Sponseller family. In their youth in the 1930's, three of the five Sponseller boys worked summers at Beck's Frozen Custard, later renamed Polar Bear. The shop was at the old Washington Airport, where the Pentagon is now. Mr. Sponseller remembers that the runway extended across Columbia Pike. A light stopped traffic when a plane landed.

Guy and one brother, **Walter**, opened their own shop in 1947 near the DC Armory. A second store followed in Alexandria on King St and then in 1950 the shop on Rt. 50. This shop was so successful that they chose to sell the first two. They were unable to use the name "Frozen Custard" unless the ice cream contained 5 dozen eggs per 10 gallons. This was too expensive so they used the name G & W's (Guy and Walter's) Frozen Dairy Bar.

Ice cream was made and sold the same day with no carry over. Generally they made two flavors-chocolate and vanilla. The menu included sundaes, and for a while milkshakes were available but they were really too busy to make them.

Brother **Carl** opened his own store up in Fredericksburg, fifty miles south. By the early 1950's it was established as a local institution. Later he sold it to the last two Sponseller brothers. Radio personality **Willard Scott** has referred to Carl's Frozen Custard as the "Best Ice Cream in the East." Guy says that he sold the same product from the same mix; Mr. Scott just never discovered the Northern Virginia store.

The Sponsellers' wives often worked at the store as did Guy's daughter **Diane**. Even as a baby she sat in a highchair and helped out at an early age.

Guy and Walter retired in 1974, selling the store to an employee. Guy says he and his wife **Mary** still go there for ice cream once in a while.

Mary Sponseller grew up in DC and has lived in only two houses her entire life. In 1950 the Sponsellers got married, moved into their new Barcroft home on 3rd St. S. and opened the Rt. 50 store. They picked Barcroft because it was between the stores in Falls Church and DC, and it was easy for Mary to get to her State Department job. She says she caught the bus at 3rd and S. Wakefield. The bus ran all day; not just at rush hour as it does now. Mary has been a teacher's aid at Barcroft School and was active with the Barcroft Girl Scout troop. Daughter **Diane** now lives in North Arlington.

The Rt. 50 store was designed by Guy and Walter. The low, white building with red trim reflects the 1950's. A limited edition silk-screen print was made of the Frozen Dairy Bar and 80 copies sold so quickly that a poster was made of it. That poster is now very popular and available nationwide.

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