

BARCROFT NEWS

December, 1988

♪♪♪♪♪
♪
♪ **DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** ♪
♪ **COME AND SING CAROLS WITH THE** ♪
♪ **FAMOUS BARCROFT CHRISTMAS BAND!** ♪
♪♪♪♪♪

The whole family is invited to a Christmas carol sing-a-long with the famous Barcroft Christmas Band on December 1 at 7:30 PM at the Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan Street. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a member. Bring a neighbor, a friend, your kids, or bring some cookies, leave your lawn sheep at home!

This is the Barcroft School and Civic League's traditional Christmas program, and even though it falls early in the month it always provides a fine time to celebrate this joyous season. Our impromptu band is a spirited bunch whose enthusiasm surpasses their abilities. Get out your old bagpipe, guitar or tuba and play with us.

Members of all religious or ethnic groups who live in Barcroft and celebrate a special day at this time of year are welcome to perform a song from their own heritage. Or come to enjoy carols as an old Barcroft tradition, whether or not you observe Christmas.

This is the one meeting of the year where we never ask anyone to volunteer for community projects, and one of the best meetings of the year to just meet the folks at your neighborhood civic association. Come and join your neighbors in expressing the good spirits of the season!

BARCROFT VOTES, AND IT VOTES EXACTLY LIKE ARLINGTON COUNTY AS A WHOLE

A total of 1472 Barcroft voters turned out on November 8 to support Michael Dukakis (53%), Chuck Robb (74%), John Milliken (66%) and Frank Wolf (59%). They supported bonds for waste treatment (85%), schools (80%), streets (78%), parks (76%), community conservation (75%), and the new jail (64%). Fifty-three percent supported pari-mutual betting, in contrast to last year's opposition to a State lottery.

The most interesting thing about the Barcroft voting pattern is that it was almost exactly to the percentage point the same as Arlington County's average of all the precincts, indicating that Barcroft is a good cross-section of Arlington County. The only exception to this pattern was more support for Congressman Wolf (59%) than the County as a whole gave him (55%). We speculate that this was in appreciation of Wolf's strong support of our neighborhood's interests in the Arlington Hall changes, which he has done a good job of publicizing here.

LAST CHANCE TO USE THE EASY COUPON ON THE BACK TO SEND IN YOUR DUES FOR THE 1988-89 MEMBERSHIP YEAR WHICH RUNS UNTIL NEXT SEPTEMBER. THE COUPON WILL DISAPPEAR NEXT MONTH AND WE WILL STOP ASKING YOU TO SEND IN YOUR \$2 !

BARCROFT REQUESTS THAT PARATRANSIT ROUTE NOT ELIMINATE 16W BUS

SNOW REMOVAL PLAN IS AMENDED TO INCLUDE SOME OF BARCROFT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

The November meeting discussed a County proposal to provide van service to Ballston to supplement metrobus, eliminating our 16W bus. The members present adopted the following resolution:

"RESOLVED that the Barcroft School and Civic League commends the Arlington County Public Works planning Staff for the new Paratransit Element of the Master Transportation plan. We welcome the addition of a paratransit route linking our neighborhood with Ballston, and believe it will be well used.

The BSCL shares with the Civic Federation its reservations about the plan, however, and in particular we are opposed to the elimination of the 16W bus through our neighborhood with no test period for the paratransit service to replace it during rush hour. Barcrofters who travel to the Pentagon and Navy Annex will find the new service much less convenient than the current bus, and will have to walk to Columbia Pike or Arlington Boulevard for direct service to these destinations. We request therefore that the recommendation to eliminate the 16W be deleted from the plan. If it cannot be deleted at this time, we request that at very least the paratransit route should be adopted on a test basis for at least a year before the decision on the 16W bus is made."

If you want to see the County's long range Paratransit plan, call Mark Kellogg, Supervisor of Planning for the Department of Public Works, 358-3681.

The County has responded to the BSCL's request that some streets in our neighborhood be added to the priority streets to be cleared first under the snow emergency plan. Several blocks have been added, including 4th Street from George Mason Drive to Wakefield and 9th Street from Taylor to Wakefield. Three recommendations were not accepted: Abingdon remains a low priority; 8th Street will be plowed up to Taylor, but from Taylor to Wakefield it will wait for later stages of snow removal; and N. Henderson Road between 2nd Street N. and Arlington Boulevard is still not on the priority list for plowing. We will request again next year to have Abingdon added, since it is the sole route to many homes in Barcroft. With those exceptions we are very pleased with the County's responsiveness on this issue. Call Pat Roach at 920-8131 if you have questions.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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The deadline for articles or ads is the 10th of the previous month.



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CRIME IN BARCROFT -- WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Our November meeting took a look at crime statistics for our neighborhood, using computer printouts from the Police Department. We had also asked the police what types of crime we had to guard against in our neighborhood.

Barcroft has some crime problems, but generally not severe ones. Most of the criminal acts reported to the County this year have been in the area along Columbia Pike. That area has had 49 burglaries and 29 assaults. There were 35 motor vehicle accidents as well. (We do not know where they included the lady who left George's bar mad at her boyfriend and bashed the other cars in the shopping center parking lot, coming to rest inside the Vietnamese bakery.)

Elsewhere the numbers are encouraging. The rest of Barcroft still had 25 burglaries, but only one assault, one narcotics arrest and no rapes. We hope that the lack of narcotics arrests indicates a low level of drug problems.

The police department notes that most burglaries here happen in the daytime when folks are not home. Most are rear-entries by breaking window panes in back doors or windows and reaching in for the lock. One Barcroft house was unlocked. Once inside, the thieves take their time and search for jewelry.

Removing the key from an inside lock is something you can do right now and can prevent some of the breakins. Other measures include always closing and locking your house when you leave, not letting any stranger into your house, and putting jewelry in a safe deposit box. Apartment-dwellers should lock the deadbolt on their door even when stepping out to the laundry room. Do not store bicycles on your porch or in a shed without a lock.

You can have a free security inspection of your home by the Arlington County Police Department by calling the Crime Resistance Unit at 558-2976. Several Barcrofters present at the meeting said they had been highly satisfied with their surveys. If you want a copy of the crime statistic printouts for your area, call Randy Swart at 521-2080.

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**PARKS DEPARTMENT STUDYING
CONFLICTS ON TRAILS**

The Arlington County Parks Department recognizes that a lot of conflict has developed between bicyclists, joggers, skaters, walkers, dog walkers and others using the County's trails. We have pointed out to them the results of our own neighborhood conservation plan questionnaire, which showed that people are avoiding the trails for that reason.

Parks has decided to undertake a serious effort to reduce the conflicts. Some potential measures include widening the trails, posting trail rules, enforcing rules with trail rangers, and an education campaign to encourage all users to keep right and give an audible warning before overtaking another trail user. The effort is headed up by Fred Lewis, the highly respected Acting Director of the Parks division, so it has high level attention. If you want to provide input for the study, send Fred a note addressed to:

Department of Parks, Recreation
and Community Resources
Arlington County Court House
1 Court House Plaza
2100 N. Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201

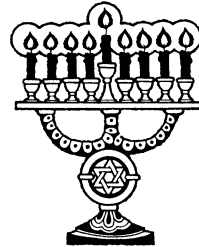
We are encouraged that Parks is undertaking the study, and hope that they can take steps to make the trails more enjoyable for us all.



DID YOU CATCH OUR GOOF?

Last month we ran two pages from the 1903 Barcroft News, identifying them as pages from the 1907 Barcroft News. Did we do it on purpose? No! Did you catch it? Good! Will we do it again? Just watch and see--there will be more of the 1903 News coming next month.

New neighbors, babies, grandchildren weddings, Bar Mitzvahs, anecdotes, anniversaries, talents, memories? Keep Kathy Kerr current in the new year on Barcrofters and their big events. Call her at 892-6458.



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WISHING YOU THE WARMEST OF HOLIDAYS
MAY ALL YOUR JOYS BE FILLED IN
WONDERFUL WAYS,
MAY YOUR HOMES BE FILLED WITH HOLIDAY
CHEER
THAT WILL LAST YOU ALL THROUGH THE YEAR,
BUT IF YOU DECIDE IN THE SPRING
TO MOVE TO FLORIDA
PLEASE GIVE ME A RING.

BETTY JANE MYERS
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REALTOR

HELEN AND OTT HALLMAN CELEBRATE THEIR 56TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

A Hallman Reunion was held in September at the Barcroft home of Helen and Otis Hallman to celebrate their 56th wedding anniversary (July 23rd) and 50 years as residents of 4646 Fifth Street South.

Sixty-two members of the Hallman clan representing four generations came from Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Ohio and the Virginia cities of Roanoke, Richmond, Fairfax and Arlington to gather at their home for a back yard picnic.

Ott and Helen have three children: Patricia Ferris, who graduated from Washington-Lee High School, Nancy Anderson, first graduation class at Wakefield, and Richard Hallman, who attended Kenmore and Wakefield.

The Hallmans have been active in church and community affairs. Ott held office in the Barcroft School and Civic League as President, Vice President and Trustee. Both were members of Barcroft PTA. Ott was a member of Arlington Co. PTA and for 23 years was active in Boy Scouts. Helen has been active at the voting polls, a Cub Scout den mother, a member of K-Club and the Sewing Club of Barcroft. She is also an active member of the Homemakers of Arlington County.

Ott was employed by the C&P Telephone Company and retired in 1969 with 41 years of service. He had been President of the local telephone union and held

office in the National Federation of Telephone Workers. He received the C&P safety award for 40 years of safe driving, and has driven for 63 years without an accident or traffic violation.

For 48 years the Hallmans have been active members of Faith Lutheran Church. Ott bowled in the Arlington County Church Bowling League, where he served as President and captained Faith Lutheran's team. Helen has been an active member of the women's group of Faith Lutheran for 48 years. She is a volunteer at the National Lutheran Home in Rockville. Both are volunteers at the Manor Care Nursing Home, where Ott leads singing and is famous for his jokes. They have also served faithfully for 17 years in the Meals-On-Wheels program.

The Hallmans are charter members of the "XYZ" ('Xtra Years of Zest) Senior Club of Faith Lutheran Church, with Ott serving as President for seven years. Currently, he plans bus tours and acts as tour guide for the club. Ott and Helen are also members of the Live and Learn Club of Clarendon Baptist Church and Ott plans trips for them as well.

With so many neighbors and friends, Helen and Ott think Barcroft is a wonderful place to live. And we think they are wonderful folks to have in our neighborhood!

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DECEMBER EVENTS



Dec 1st **BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30 PM. 800 S. Buchanan St.**
FIRST **Christmas Program. Come and sing Christmas carols with the very**
THURS. **informal Barcroft Christmas Band. Bring an instrument or your**
OF THE **voice and maybe some cookies for refreshments. For info on band**
MONTH **"practice" call Kathy Kerr at 892-6458. We need a band leader!**

Saturday **Arlington County Board Meeting. 9 AM at the Courthouse.**
3rd **Watch it on Arlington cable TV. Info 558-2261.**

Tuesday **Arlington County Civic Federation. 7:45 Hazel Conf. Center at**
6th **Arlington Hospital, 1701 N George Mason Dr. Subject: Schools,**
with the School Board visiting. This is the umbrella organization
of civic associations to which the BSCL belongs. Visitors always
welcome. For info call Anne Noll, one of our delegates who never
misses a meeting, at 892-6710.

Monday **Book Discussion Group - Read this month's book and discuss it at**
19th **Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy 7:30PM. Info 521-2080.**

Saturday **Leaf Collection formally ends. The last pass through Barcroft**
31st **will be considerably earlier, probably by mid-December. Call 358-**
4526 for a recorded announcement, or 358-3636 to ask questions.
We are in leaf collection zone 11.

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AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD
with Kathy Kerr



**WHERE DID THOSE GREAT
PAPER CARRIERS GO?**

When I mentioned Washington Post delivery back in September, I didn't realize what a can of worms it was!

Talmadge Williams, who lives down the street from me on 4th St. S., has written many letters to the Post complaining about papers delivered wet, in the yard, on the sidewalk, in the shrubbery and VERY SELDOM ON THE PORCH. Two of his elderly neighbors found it too hard to search their yards for papers and stopped delivery. After his letters the problems are fixed for a short period and then return.

Mr. Lawrence, the Washington Post Distributor covering Barcroft, (phone 931-5984 mornings) saw my article bemoaning the retirement of my neighborhood teen carrier Mike Lewis and called me up. He said Barcroft has had other excellent teen carriers like Dan O'Brien, the Melia and Mulholland brothers. They retired and no others are interested. He told me that my current lawn tosser is off for eye surgery. Mr. Lawrence admits that adult carriers delivering from cars and going on to other jobs are not expected to take the time to give the high-quality service of a teenager. Meanwhile, down on S. Taylor St., Joan Mulholland's five teenage sons have not delivered papers for over 2 years, but neighbors still call her to complain about the Post delivery and comment on what wonderful carriers her sons were. Mr. Lawrence said that 70 of today's Sunday papers can weigh over 400 lbs., and this is why young people do not want to deliver papers any more. He said that collecting can be hard when people--some right here in Barcroft--refuse to pay or write bad checks. The job pays \$46 a week, for seven days of getting up before dawn to slog through darkness in all kinds of weather, week after week with no vacation or day off.

Lawrence cannot understand why Talmadge Williams is irked that he can't just stick his payment on his door for the carrier to pick up. Talmadge resents having his bill tucked in the paper for

free when he has to pay 25¢ to mail his check. Also, his tucked-in bill has gotten lost. His complaints may be responsible for the recent mailing of bills to customers.

At the wages the Post offers few people want to carry our papers any more. It seems we are lucky to have a paper delivered to--or near--our homes at all. Perhaps the Post should advertise more for carriers. Mr. Lawrence points out that there are retired people who deliver newspapers because they want activity, and it may beat jogging.

Talmadge Williams is not just complaining; he would like to find a solution to the problem. He wonders if Barcroft senior citizens, early risers or exercisers might be willing to take on a paper route. He also is thinking about a neighborhood cooperative effort to deliver papers. If you are interested give him a call at 920-7006.



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NEWS



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