

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 87, No. 5

January, 1990

JANUARY PROGRAM: COURIER COLUMNIST NICK PENNING AND DISCUSSION OF USE PERMIT FOR LIVE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE SALVADORIAN RESTAURANT ON COL. PIKE

Our January meeting has two speakers. The first will be Jorge Escobar, the owner of El Salvador Restaurant on Columbia Pike. He will talk about his new restaurant, his plans for live entertainment and how he plans to deal with any problems that should arise, such as loitering outside and parking problems.

Also speaking at the January meeting will be Nick Penning. He is a freelance writer who is featured weekly in the Arlington Courier. He is witty, funny and has a way of getting to the heart of the matter in the everyday humdrums of Arlington life. His talk will be light and entertaining, a much needed treat before we begin the task of ironing out our draft Neighborhood Conservation Plan in February. The meeting will end by 9 unless you want to stay for milk and cookies before you go off to bed. Please come and join us.

ABINGDON RUINS AT NATIONAL AIRPORT TO BE BULLDOZED BY THE AIRPORT'S AUTHORITY

In early December Arlington's historic preservationists learned that the Airports Authority intends to excavate the Abingdon ruins located in their #2 parking lot and then pave it over. If you have regard for Abingdon as anything but a street name, write to James Wilding, Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, 44 Canal Center Plaza, Alexandria, VA 22314 to protest.

DRAFT NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN: HERE IT IS?

With luck we have been able to tuck your copy of the draft of the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan into this issue of the Barcroft News. With less luck it will follow in a second mailing because it was not duplicated in time.

You obviously needed more than just the Christmas holidays to read the draft, so the first meeting to discuss changes has been set back to February. If the draft seems too long, read the summary and perhaps the recommendations. But read at least that much, because it's your neighborhood, and this plan is your plan.

The draft looks neat, but is meant to be marked up with your comments. We expect to make lots of changes before it is final.

The County agreed to duplicate the whole draft if we compressed it by typesetting it. That saved the BSCL a chunk of money, but the ten point type we used will be a little small for some eyes. If you cannot read the draft call Laurie Kelsch at 920-9429 and she will get you a copy in larger type.

Read your draft now and be ready for a rousing February meeting!

**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK THE MESSAGES ON
THE BARCROFT NEIGHBORLINE: 521-1116.
CALL RANDY SWART AT HIS HOME NUMBER
TO LIST ANYTHING ON THE NEIGHBORLINE.**

ZONING AND LAND USE ISSUES

Two zoning variance requests were decided by the County Board of Zoning Appeals on December 13th. One was a request to create a pipestem lot on 8th Street South in back of an existing lot. The BSCL's Land Use and Zoning Committee unanimously recommended we oppose this variance. We sent a letter to the BZA opposing it and BSCL President Randy Swart attended the meeting to express our opposition. Two separate groups of concerned neighbors circulated petitions opposing the variance as well. The BZA turned down the variance request and another pipestem request on Lorcum Lane. The County is discouraging pipestem lots.

The Board did grant a request at another location on 8th Street South to build a deck all the way out to the owners' property line, which backs up to Four Mile Run. The applicants offered to remove a fence that a former owner had built on County property. The BSCL does not take positions on fence or deck variances. The Board approved the request.

Still pending for January is a use permit requested by Jorge Escobar, owner of El Salvador Restaurant at 4805 Columbia Pike to allow live entertainment from 7 PM until 1AM on Fridays, Saturdays, and special holidays. The County Board will consider the request on January 6. The BSCL will discuss the request at its January 4th meeting and make a recommendation to the County Board.

Zoning and Land Use in Barcroft will be a monthly feature in the Barcroft News to let you know what is happening in your neighborhood. The Zoning and Land Use Committee meets to discuss the impact of rezoning, variance and use permit requests to Barcroft, and to listen to neighborhood concerns and questions you might have on these issues. Meetings are announced on the Barcroft Neighborline, 521-1116. If you have any questions or comments, or if you would like to be on the Zoning and Land Use Committee, contact Laurie Kelsch at 920-9429.

UNITARIANS NEED A SNOW SHOVELER

To the delight of those who walk to the bus when it snows, the Unitarian Church at Arlington Boulevard and George Mason Drive is looking for a snow shoveler! The church is willing to pay pretty well too--see the Want Ads on page 5.

This is a fine idea. In fact, we need to do the same thing for the Barcroft Community House, but of course we are hoping to find a volunteer rather than pay. If you are interested, just show up at the Community House with your shovel after the snow flies.

BUCHANAN GARDENS REHAB CONTINUES

In November, the County Board approved up to \$350,000 in the Housing Fund Contingent for the Rehabilitation of Buchanan Gardens at Columbia Pike and Buchanan Street and up to \$48,000 for block improvement throughout the property for aesthetic improvements. Basically, what this means is the County will provide matching funds up to the approved amount with the owners of Buchanan Gardens. According to County sources, the owners are in the process of putting a rehabilitation plan and cost analysis together to see if the rehabilitation is financially feasible for them, as they will have to find private funding as well. The County hopes to have something more from the owners by the first of the year.

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WANT ADS

These ads are free, folks. Just drop them through the Editor's door at 4649 2nd St. S. or call him at 521-2080.

WANTED: SNOW SHOVELER Shovel the walks at the Unitarian Church (at George Mason Dr. and Arlington Boulevard) when it snows and earn \$60/negotiable. Call Larry Thomas (528-7063) or Dave Voorhees (979-8287). The church is trying hard to find a shoveler.

WANTED: SNOW SHOVELER Shovel the Barcroft Community House walks when it snows and earn the gratitude of your Barcroft Neighbors. No need to call anybody--just trot on over with your shovel when it snows!

WANTED: BABYSITTERS, SNOW SHOVELERS, ETC. We will gladly list any teenager in Barcroft who is looking for chores or babysitting, along with your rates. Just drop a note to the Editor at 4649 2nd St. S.

PLEASE SHOVEL YOUR SIDEWALK WHEN IT SNOWS

It's hard to believe that Arlington receives only 17.3 inches average snowfall each year. We seem to have exceeded that in December alone. The County spends \$500,000 per year clearing snow, but it never seems like enough on a snow day when tax day is months away. A recent County pamphlet on snow had this to say about shoveling sidewalks:

"Pedestrians increasingly need and expect sidewalks to be cleared in residential and business neighborhoods. The County applauds citizens and proprietors for clearing sidewalks to help their neighbors and customers weather the storm. Sidewalks should be cleared to the pavement (so the sun can melt-help) at least one shovel's width within 24 hours after snowfall ceases. This makes it easier for people to walk to school, the bus stop or Metro station, or business areas. **Please lend a hand to elderly or disabled neighbors who cannot clear their own sidewalks, porches and steps--and check to see if they have enough food on hand.**"

Are you a big-league shoveler? You could be the person the Unitarian Church at George Mason and Arlington Boulevard is looking for. They will pay you \$60 (maybe more) to shovel the church's walks when it snows. Give Larry Thomas (528-7063) or Dave Voorhees (979-8287 a call.

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617 South Taylor Street (703) 521-1127
Arlington, Virginia 22204 (202) 275-8992

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS SING ALONG TURNS INTO DANCE PARTY, TOO

The evening of December 7th was the BSCL's best holiday party ever! Barcroft neighbors joined together to sing loudly with the music of the Barcroft Holiday Band featuring Barbara Swart and Steve Wilson on guitar, Betty Boothe on flute, Randy Swart on mountain dulcimer, and Kathy Kerr on fiddle. Roger Cornell played his hammered dulcimer while his wife Linda Titolo played her beautiful, new Celtic harp, hand-made by Roger. Roger and Linda treated us to some especially lovely solos on Silent Night and God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen. The singing was followed by more talent from Roger and Linda who presented a hilarious Bavarian Christmas folk dance and then led all neighbors present in a simple but fun circle dance from the Jewish tradition to celebrate Chanukah.

The two cakes Laurie Kelsch brought were far to lovely to eat--but that didn't long stop anyone from helping to polish them off. A special thanks to Laurie, Maureen Locke, Hospitality Chair Jean Menefee and to everyone else who provided the yummy treats.

All of the children had a great time sampling cookies and being chased around by Danny Kelsch who is probably the only Barcroft neighbor with the same shoe size as his age--and that is 14!!

Watch next year as even more ideas for the annual holiday party come to fruition!! In the meantime--Happy Holidays! Laurie's Photos=====>>

BARCROFT SCHOOL NEEDS YOUR GIANT OR SAFEWAY CASH REGISTER RECEIPTS!

The Barcroft School PTA is still collecting Giant food and Safeway cash register receipts to exchange for free computers and software for the school. To date the PTA has collected \$21,000 in Giant receipts and \$10,000 in Safeway receipts, but has far to go to reach its goal. You can drop your receipts off at the school, 625 S. Wakefield, or at 4601 Third St. South.

IT SURE WAS A FINE CHRISTMAS PARTY!



Photography by Laurie Kelsch

JANUARY EVENTS

Monday County Board holds its traditional first work session of the new
1st year. New chairman will be elected, new themes for 1990 chosen.
Watch it on the Arlington cable TV channel. 9AM. (On New Years'
Day!) Info 558-2261.

Jan 4th BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30-9 PM. 800 S.Buchanan St.
FIRST Light Entertainment and More. Hear Courier Columnist Nick Penning
THURS. "Penning Thoughts" and hear Restaurant El Salvador's owner Jorge
OF THE Escobar on his application to the County to have live entertain-
MONTH ment. For information call Randy Swart at 521-2080.

Saturday Christmas Bird Count at Long Branch Nature Center, just across
6th Four Mile Run from us at (driveway at 625 S. Carlin Springs
Road). Led by a naturalist. 9 AM to 11 AM. Info 358-6535

Tuesday Knitting & Crocheting class at Lubber Run Center. Eight 2-hour
9th sessions for \$20. For info call 358-4727.

Saturday Animal Adaptations--how animals live in cold weather. For kids
13th from 5 to 10. 10 AM to 11 AM. Reservations 358-6535.

Monday Book Discussion Group - Read this month's book and discuss it at
22nd Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy 7:30PM. For info call 521-2080.

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**MORE BABIES!
AND QUILTS !**

Congratulations to Lou Phelps and her husband Stuart Riddick on the arrival of their new baby Anna Elizabeth, born October 2, 1989. After renting a house on 18th Street, Lou and Stuart were happy to find a home to buy here in Barcroft on 2nd St. S. That was 5 years ago and they really like our neighborhood a lot. Lou works as a Fairfax County social worker on the protective services hotline while Stuart is an attorney with the VA.

A belated congratulations is due to Michael and Mary Ann O'Rourke whose third baby, Evan was born on July 31, 1989. Evan's big sister Claire will be in Barcroft School kindergarten next year and his big brother is Conor age 2 1/2. Married for 9 years Michael and Mary Ann have lived in Barcroft for about 4 years. Michael is an attorney with the Federal Reserve Board. Mary Ann is a mother-at-home and greatly enjoys networking with other families. If your 2 year old needs a playmate, Mary Ann is the one to call at 920-5619.

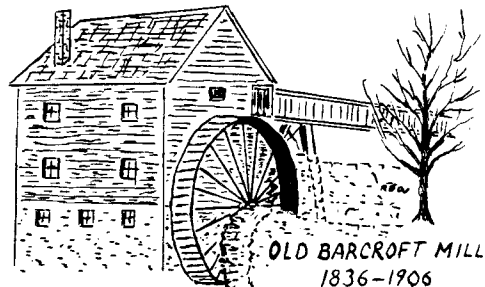
You also might want to call Mary Ann to find out about Quilters Unlimited--an organization for quilters, quilt lovers and would-be quilters too! Mary Ann says that QU has many chapters in Northern Virginia with around 600 members. The Arlington Chapter meets each month on the 2nd Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Goodwin House activities room over on Beauregard St. in Alexandria. Members range in age from the late 20's to the late 70's and not all members are women!! There are no requirements to join. Mary Ann says that most members do have some quilting experience but some come to the meetings just to enjoy the speakers, slide-shows and quilt "show and tells" that are presented.

Once a year, interested members each make a quilt block and then put them all in a hat. The maker of the lucky block that is drawn from the hat gets to keep all of the blocks and is then ready to complete a quilt top!

QU celebrates the holiday season with a Christmas Potluck. In the spring, all of the Northern Virginia chapters have an annual quilting show in Falls Church. Mary Ann stresses that some of the quilters are experts and win many awards while others are beginners. The main idea is to have fun and to grow in an appreciation of quilting.

QU has a weekly quilting bee at members' homes on Monday evenings but Mary Ann usually just goes to the monthly meetings--at least until her kids are older!

A special Thank You to all of Barcroft's snow shovelers. Clearing your walk sure makes a safer, easier trip for children walking to school not to mention for neighborhood bus riders, mailmen and others who have to venture out by foot in the snow. Teenagers interested in shoveling for pay may want to consider advertising in the Barcroft News unclassified ads!



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BARCROFT

NEWS



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BSCL OFFICERS FOR 1989-90

President.....Randy Swart 521-2080
 Vice President.....Laurie Kelsch 930-9429
 Treasurer.....Larry Goldschmidt
 Corres. Secy.....Pat Roach
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 Arlington Hall.....Laurie Kelsch 920-9429
 Land Use/Zoning.....L. Goldschmidt 521-3746
 Restoration.....Jean Menefee 920-6521
 Hospitality.....

NEWSLETTER STAFF

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 920-9429
 Contributions: Laurie Kelsch 521-2080
 521-2080
 Editor: Randy Swart 892-6458
 Neighborhood News: Kathy Kerr
 Publisher: Vacant. Could be your Call.
 Mailing: Aileen Woods & Paul Metzler
 Deadline: 10th of the previous month.