

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 88, No. 1

September 1990

Welcome!

The *Barcroft News* is the community newsletter from your neighborhood civic association—the Barcroft School and Civic League (BSCL). You live in Barcroft if your home is in the area bounded by Arlington Boulevard, George Mason Drive, Columbia Pike, and Four Mile Run.

Neighborhood civic associations like the BSCL make some local decisions and advise the County Board on neighborhood issues. The League is active on zoning, land use permits, the future of Arlington Hall, street lights, traffic signals, parks, potholes, sidewalk repairs, the preservation of the Four Mile Run valley, and the renewal of Columbia Pike. It prepared a Neighborhood Conservation Plan to set forth what we residents want Barcroft to be in the future. You can participate, and you can make a difference in Barcroft.

The BSCL meets on the first Thursday of each month in the Barcroft Com-

munity House (c. 1908) at 800 South Buchanan Street (which also houses St. Georges Bulgarian Orthodox Church). The next meeting is September 6th. We would all be pleased to see you there.

BSCL Meeting Topics: Pool Hall and Parade Video

Our September program will open with discussion of the spontaneous effort to do something about the loitering around the Hi Cue Billiard Hall next to Rite Aid at George Mason Drive and Columbia Pike. In August Diane Sawyer (920-3458) led a protest march at the shopping center. She is interested in pursuing the issue and will speak at the meeting. In an unrelated incident, there was a shooting outside the El Salvador restaurant next to Blockbuster Video on Columbia Pike at Buchanan Street. We hope to have further information on that as well.

The second half of the program will be a screening of the Fourth of July Parade videotape, made by James Davis. Bring along your photos of the parade to share with everyone.



New Editor, New Look

With this issue Sara Leigh Merrey takes over as editor of the *Barcroft News*. Sara Leigh is a publications consultant with her own company, Merrey/Orgel Design & Publications, specializing in editorial, graphic design, and production work for a variety of publications. We are fortunate that she volunteered to do the *News*. She has a keen eye for graphics and does typesetting on her Macintosh II, which will make the *News* more readable. Welcome, Sara Leigh.

We still need a publisher to take Sara Leigh's output to the printer, pick it up, add labels, fold and bundle it in sacks for mailing, and drop it off with Aileen Woods and Paul Metzler, who take it to the Post Office. The job takes one evening a month, for a total of eleven in a year. Reliability is important so that people can get their newsletter on time. If you would like to take on this job, please call me at 521-2080 to volunteer.

Randy Swart

Barcroft School Renovation Depends on School Bonds

The Arlington County School Board approved a new design for the renovation of Barcroft School, keeping the original facade and correcting its deficiencies. They heard testimony on the design from the PTA and the BSCL in June. Implementation of the design depends on passage of the school bond referendum in November, so expect to see some campaigning for that issue in the neighborhood. For more information call Nora Rumpf at 521-8634.

Barcroft News Staff

Advertising	Laurie Kelsch	920-9429
Contributions	Laurie Kelsch	920-9429
Editor	Sara Leigh Merrey	521-0527
Publisher	Could be you!	521-2080
Neighborhood News	Kathy Kerr	892-6458
Mailing	Aileen Woods & Paul Metzler	

Deadline for submissions: 1st of the month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers for 1990-1991

President	Randy Swart, 521-2080
Vice President	Laurie Kelsch, 920-9429
Treasurer	Larry Goldschmidt
Corresponding Secretary	Talmadge Williams
Recording Secretary	Scott Allard
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NCAC Delegate	Meril-Lee Pattison
Civic Federation	Anne Noll, 892-6710
Arlington Hall	Pat Roach, 920-8131
Land Use/Zoning	Laurie Kelsch, 920-9429
Restoration	L. Goldschmidt, 521-3746
Hospitality	Jean Menefee, 920-6521

Board Approves Neighborhood Conservation Plan

On July 11th the Arlington County Board gave final approval to the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan. Congratulations to the many Barcrofters who worked on the Plan and provided comments on the drafts!

The Board was very complimentary about the work the neighborhood had done. They noted that the Plan's recommendations did not just follow a formula but showed that Barcroft had done some original thinking. Board member Mary Margaret Whipple moved that the County approve the Plan, and the vote was unanimous.

We now begin the implementation phase. Our Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee representative, Meril-Lee Pattison, will be chairing a committee to prioritize the recommendations, for funding by the County. First among the projects are likely to be the improvement of the County property at the curve of Pershing Drive and Sixth Street South and at the entrance to the W&OD trail at Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run. Please call Meril-Lee at 920-5942 if you have suggestions for the committee or would like to serve on it. Copies of the final plan should be available soon.

Barcroft Exchange

NEEDED SEPT. 1 Reliable, experienced child care provider to watch 22-month-old girl approximately 4 days a week. Prefer your Barcroft home (with 1 or 2 other children of similar age), but willing to consider other arrangements. Salary negotiable. Call Sue Kelly, (w) 789-1450 or (h) 685-4961.

FOR SALE Anderson Windows (3 #2856s, 1 #2832), Screens (4 #2856s, 2 #2831s, and 1 #2832), 3 boxes of Red Head 1" drive pins, and 3 boxes of Phillips anchors. Please call 979-1934.

FREE frame made of pipe. Would support a 9 x 12 patio awning. Please call the Hogans at 920-6761.

FOR SALE Chair lift for 12-step stairway. Please call Art Holman at 892-6531.

PART-TIME HELP WANTED FOR BUSINESS IN BARCROFT Flexible hours; chance to grow. Assist professional staff with exciting technology serving Fortune 500 companies across the U.S. Call Bill Lykes at 979-2520.

NEW TWO-OFFICE SUITE ON SOUTH WAKE-FIELD STREET Pleasant, convenient, well-maintained building. Parking. Call 979-2520.

WANTED Broken smaller appliances, old stereos, etc., for children to take apart to learn how they work. Call Kathy at 892-6458 and we will pick up your items.

WANTED Information from neighbors who have achieved decent TV reception without cable TV. Call Jim at 392-6450.

\$80 FOR 20 HOURS OF CHILD CARE We are looking for an energetic, patient person who can keep up with children and enjoys their company to take care of our 3-year-old boy in our home. We need care Tues. 9-4, Wed. 12-5, Thurs. 9-5 (Wed. is flexible, Mon. or Fri. could be substituted to fit your schedule). We live in S. Arlington near route 50 & George Mason Drive. Salary is \$80 a week. Providing your own transportation is preferred but if you live near by we may be able to work something out. If interested please call 920-1627 any time before 9 pm.

Noncommercial ads in the Barcroft Exchange are free for residents. Commercial ones are \$5.



Barcroft Crime Report

The following crimes were reported during the period of 7/1/90-7/31/90. This is an abbreviated report because Detective Bartleson is on vacation. We hope to give a complete report next month, when everyone is back from vacation. Numbers (e.g., 900) indicate the block of the street where a crime occurred.

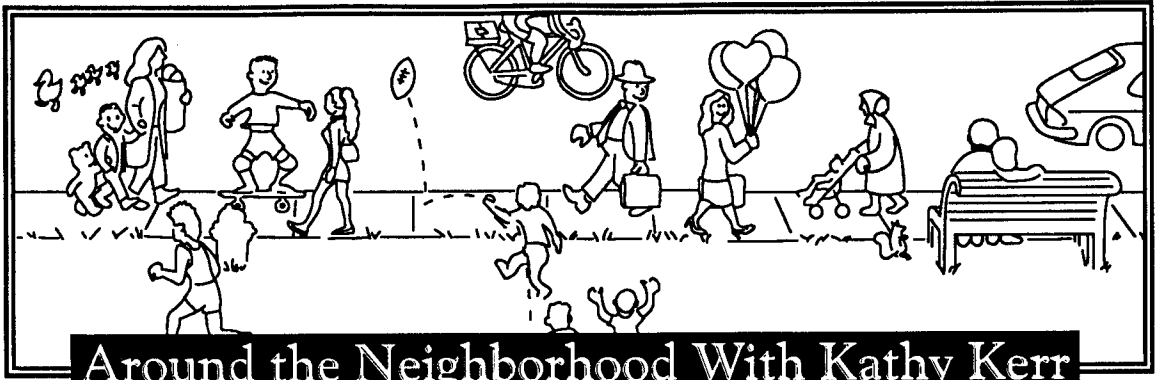
- 7/1 900 S. George Mason. Vandalism.
- 7/2 900 S. George Mason. Larceny.
- 7/3 4300 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.
- 7/4 4200 Columbia Pike. Larceny.
4800 Columbia Pike. Burglary.
- 7/7 900 S. George Mason. Larceny.
4800 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.
- 7/8 800 S. Wakefield. Weapons charge.
800 S. Wakefield. Miscellaneous public disturbances.
4300 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.
- 7/9 900 S. George Mason. Homicide.
900 S. George Mason. Vehicle theft
- 7/10 900 S. Buchanan. Vehicle theft.
- 7/17 900 S. Buchanan. Simple assault.
4300 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.
- 7/18 300 S. Aberdeen St. Larceny.
900 S. George Mason. Larceny.
900 S. Taylor. Vandalism.
- 7/19 4500 S. 8th St. Vandalism.
4500 S. 8th St. Burglary.
- 7/20 4800 Columbia Pike. Robbery.
- 7/27 600 S. Taylor St. Larceny.
900 S. Buchanan. Vehicle theft.
900 S. Taylor St. Vehicle theft.
- 7/28 900 S. Buchanan. Simple assault.
900 S. Buchanan. Larceny.
4800 Columbia Pike. Aggravated assault.
- 7/29 4800 Columbia Pike. Weapons charge.
- 7/30 100 S. George Mason. Narcotics.
4400 S. 1st Place. Larceny.
4800 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.
- 7/31 4300 Columbia Pike. Vandalism.

Substation Lot Tested for PCV Contamination

At the suggestion of Barcrofter David Michaelson, we contacted Virginia Power and asked them to test the soil of their former Barcroft Substation for PCV contamination. PCVs are a powerful carcinogen and were widely used in transformer oil during the period when the substation was in use. Since David had researched the subject to find a lab to do the testing, the BSCL offered to test the soil if Virginia Power was unable to do so. Virginia Power agreed to test the soil and has now shared the results with us, which show that PCVs in the substation lot are all within legally allowed limits. If you would like to see the results, please call David Michaelson at 553-3953 or Randy Swart at 521-2080.

Nauck Anti-Drug Patrols Need Volunteers

County Board Chariman Al Eisenberg has appealed to civic associations to inform their members that the anti-drug patrols in Nauck need volunteers to help. Patrols work with Arlington Police, taking down license numbers of cars cruising the "corner" of Shirlington Road and 24th Street South and videotaping activities there. The effect has been dramatic, closing down the County's open air drug market. If you are interested, please call Joan Cooper at 521-7493 for more information.



Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr

You have to admit, this was a pretty mild summer! Come Labor Day, neighbors will again prepare themselves for the mighty roar of the school busses and the daily parade of children to and from school.

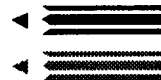
This year Jimmy Pascaleff will be in first grade at Barcroft. He loves school and also plays T-ball. Jimmy came to the Barcroft 4th of July parade and was very proud to win a prize for his red-white-and-blue-decorated scooter as well as an award for wearing his bike helmet. Jimmy's new baby brother, Nicholas, gained recognition as the parade's Youngest Participant. Nicholas was born June 2, 1990 (and was thus more than a month younger than my baby, Adrienne, who nonetheless shared the Youngest Participant prize).

Jimmy and Nicholas live over on South Pershing Street with their parents, Joan Golden and Terry Pascaleff. They moved here 2½ years ago after living up on Capitol Hill. Joan has worked at the Department of Agriculture for the past

15 years or so. Terry, who completed graduate studies in international relations at George Washington University, has enjoyed being a father-at-home since Jimmy's birth. He says it is the most fun and interesting thing he's ever done!



It looks like we had all better start saving our Safeway and Giant receipts again. Look for more information soon. Your receipts will make a **big** difference. Don't throw them out! Help Barcroft School get some new computers!



Zoning and Land Use Issues

No zoning requests or land use permits have requested in Barcroft this month.

Washington Post Features Barcroft in "Where We Live"

Those who do not read the real estate section may have missed the July 7th *Post* article about Barcroft. It quoted Adaline Robertson, Phyl Kinsey, Deborah Wood, and Randy Swart, who was shown riding his bicycle by some "typical" houses on 8th Street. (We suggested a photo of our parade co-chairs, Deborah and Mary Ann O'Rourke, placing a parade sign, but it was not used.) The article was the best newspaper piece on Barcroft since a 1950s article in the *Sun*. The *Post* article was written by David Lindsey. The Board of the BSCL presented him with a special Award for Excellence in Neighborhood Reporting and a Barcroft tee shirt. The award noted that the article was "the most perceptive, accurate, interesting, and informative piece on our neighborhood in a period spanning more than three decades." If you missed the article and want a copy, come to the September meeting or call Randy Swart at 521-2080.


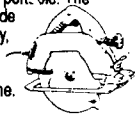


Children's Speech and Language Services

Barcroft Medical Building
939 S. Wakefield St., Suite 101
Arlington, VA 22204
(703) 685-1070

Donna S. Gaines, M.A., CCC-SP
Director

BSCL Coffee House Friday, September 21

Stop by the Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan, on Friday, September 21, 8:00-10:30 PM, for the monthly Coffee House. Featured performers include Kay Carpentre, on the hammer dulcimer, and Bill Taylor, a harpist who won the amateur competition held at the 1989 Virginia Scottish Games. Refreshments will be coffee (of course) and whatever people bring in the way of baked goodies. Admission is free and coffee is 25¢. There will be a jar for contributions to the musicians. Call Roger Cornell or Linda Titolo at 892-2421 if you want to perform or help with setting up.

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September Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2	3	4 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!	5	6 Barcroft School & Civic League Community House, 7:30 PM. Info 521-2080.	7	8 Farm. Market County Board Meeting, 9 AM, #1 Courthouse Plaza, Rm. 307, 358-3573.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Farmers Market—till noon County Board Meeting, 9 AM, #1 Courthouse Plaza, Rm. 307.
16	17	18 Join Scouting Night at the Barcroft School. 7:30 PM. For info call 892-1415.	19	20	21 Barcroft Coffee House. Barcroft Community House, 8–10:30 PM.	22 Farmers Market—till noon Clarendon Street Festival, 11 AM–4 PM, 276-0228.
23	24 Book Discussion Group at the Col. Pike Library. 7:30 PM. For info call 521-2080.	25	26	27	28	29 Farmers Market—till noon

Join Scouting Night

All Barcroft boys aged 6–18 are invited to come to the Barcroft School on Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 PM, to learn about scouting and join our local Tiger Cub Group, Cub Scout Pack, or Boy Scout Troop. After hearing a brief outline of the program, boys and their parents will have the opportunity to talk with adult leaders and fill out applications. For more information, call Tom or Betty Boothe at 892-1415.

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4th of July Parade

Our second annual 4th of July Parade was a great success. We had even more people, more floats, more bikes, and more marchers than last year and just as much fun.

Thanks to the diligent work of the previous committee, this year's committee started out running. Anne Noll, who was the inspiration for the parade and chairman last year, was again a major contributor to the parade's success. The other members of the committee did an outstanding job of pulling it all together. Susan Christopher organized a delicious picnic lunch for 400. Talmadge Williams once again served as an excellent publicist. Randy and Barbara Swart took care of everything that wasn't already covered, and Barbara sold the ever-popular Barcroft T-shirt during the parade. Judy Chartack and her family did an excellent job of decorating the Community House and grounds. All of this laid the groundwork for Tom Floyd, the parade director, to marshal his monitors and turn the various entries into a parade.



The job of getting the word out about the parade and signing up our 70-plus entries belonged to the block captains, who started talking to their neighbors and building enthusiasm weeks before the parade date. Some people had such a great time at the first parade that they came back for a second year as block captains. Ethel Schafer and James and Patricia Davis organized S. 8th Road for a second year and used their experience to produce another prize-winning float. Other second-year veterans and prize winners included Nancy Schroll, Marcia Bobal, and Felice Brunner. They were joined this year by Maureen Locke, Phyllis Talbert, Cathy Goldschmidt, Erin Loftus, Julianne Van Norden, Richard Holcombe, Joyce Mason, and Mary Williams. Special thanks go to Maria Salazar and her crew of young helpers, who passed out fliers and entry forms to many blocks that didn't have block captains.

The great day finally arrived, and there was **no rain!** The balloons were filled, the band tuned up, stars and stripes were everywhere, and Barcroft assembled for another celebration of our

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nation and community. Jack Turner once again called together the unique and talented Barcroft Community Band—always a sight to behold as well as to hear. It was very heartening for the committee to see how many people wanted to participate in the parade—and a lot of work for the parade monitors, who kept the marchers (especially the little ones) in line and on the route throughout the five-block march. Under Tom Floyd's direction, order was maintained by Tom Booth, Jim Casey, Jim Hogan, Susan Kelly, Chris Monek, Marsha Oresky, and Carl Tankersley.

The parade was led by impromptu Color Guard Larry Goldschmidt, who was followed by Grand Marshall Ellen Kahan, principal of Barcroft Elementary School. They were followed by more than 70 entries, as varied as the houses in Barcroft. We were thrilled by the number of floats and musical groups that appeared this year. There are some ingenious families out there. This made the judges' job even more difficult this year. Conchita Mitchell, Al Eisenberg, and Frank O'Leary met the challenge and

had a good time doing it. As Conchita said while passing out the prizes, "All Barcrofters are winners."

The winners of the longest-time resident category, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Long (who have four generations of their family living in Barcroft), show what a great place Barcroft is.


Back at the Community House, everyone enjoyed a delicious picnic lunch, with musical entertainment provided by Barcroft's own Linda Titolo and Roger Cornell. This was broadcast, along with all of the other announcements, thanks to the generosity of Colonel C.C. Roder, who once again provided his PA system. Master of Ceremonies Robert



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Christopher, Jr., kept the program running smoothly. The Civic Association will also have a very nice photographic record of the parade thanks to photographer Ken MacKnight.

We would also like to say a special thanks to our husbands and children (Michael O'Rourke, Claire, Conor, and Evan and Christopher Siple, Julia, and Audrey), who were our greatest supporters from beginning to end. When we started this job we wondered how we would manage to keep track of five children under 5, two husbands, and two households and still run a parade. But we quickly found out that with such supportive families, we could make the time to get the job done—and even enjoy it in the process. The spirit and enthusiasm of the Barcroft Community was inspirational. Because of this, we are sure the 4th of July Parade will continue to be a success for years to come.

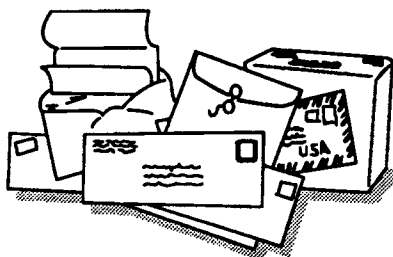
Mary Anne O'Rourke

Deborah Wood

Parade Committee Co-Chairmen

Cash Register Receipts for Computers

Giant and Safeway have both announced another "cash register tapes for computers" contest, and Barcroft Elementary School will be participating. Barcroft did very well last time and hopes to continue that success. You can drop off tapes at the school or at Nora Myers Rumpf's house at 4607 Third Street South. Or call Nora at 521-8634 for pickup.



Comments on the Pets Article: Zip!

The only comment on last month's article on making sure your pet does not annoy your neighbors was an anonymous note as follows:

"I read the article to my cat and received mostly a big yawn—but I detected a hint of a smile with the 'on anyone else's property.' She did, however, indicate that she wouldn't mind some help in keeping that big tomcat out of her backyard!"

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The Barcroft News.

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SEPTEMBER 28, 1903.

A STEP FORWARD.

The officials of the Southern railroad, recognizing the claims of the road's patrons to better service, next Sunday will establish a new schedule for trains on this division, even going so far as to put on another train each way. The committee which a few weeks ago met Mr. Finley, the vice-president, have had nearly all their requests granted, and many commuters will now be able to spend much more time at home and less in waiting for trains in town. There is ample opportunity for further improvement and the News is firmly convinced that Mr. Finley's promises of betterment will not end here. There are many difficulties to contend with that will vanish or be minimized with the completion of the new bridge. Patience, dear commuters, and

you will yet see an up-to-date service on the W. & O. branch. The schedule will be found on another page.

OUR ROADS.

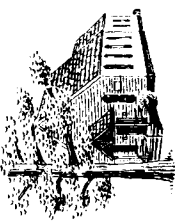
The natives of the county find it comforting to reflect that Columbia Pike and one or two of the lesser highways are, by reason of the recent improvements, in a better condition than ever before to withstand the ravages of the fall, winter, and early spring rains and April thaws.—(Alexandria County Monitor.

Columbia Pike is in no better condition now to withstand these ravages than it was last fall. From Palmer's hill to the county line it was impassable for loaded teams for several weeks in the early part of the year and remained in that condition until the "natives" of Fairfax county came down and repaired it so that they could get to the city with their milk and produce. The most comforting reflection of the natives of this district is that the term of the present road commissioner is soon to end, and it is to be hoped his successor will secure better results, so that in future we will not have to call upon natives of other counties to repair our roads at their expense.

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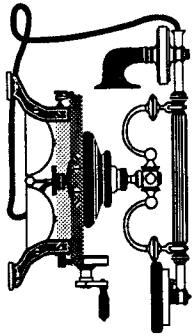
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BARCROFT NEWS



Time to Pay \$2 Dues

BSCL dues are only \$2 per person, or \$4 for a couple. Please send yours with the coupon on the insert in this issue. You are welcome at any meeting whether or not you pay your dues. We need your support to keep the Barcroft neighborhood spirit healthy.

Call the Barcroft Neighborhood, 521-1116, to get the latest info. To place a message on the line, call Randy Swart, 521-2080.