

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 90, No. 3

November 1992

NOVEMBER MEETING: Arlington Housing Corporation

The next meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League will be held on November 5. The featured speaker will be Gordon Ferris, the director of family programs for the Arlington Housing Corporation. The organization is dedicated to improving the quality of life for low- and moderate-income families and individuals by helping them maintain decent, affordable housing. It can assist with general repairs, exterior weatherization, and improving handicapped accessibility. Come to the meeting and find out what you can do to help or what you need to do to get the corporation to help you.

Barcrofters Meet Candidates

Our annual Candidates' Night in October brought out a full house for a firsthand look at the various candidates in local races to be decided on November 3.

The County Board candidates were Jim Hunter, currently Vice Chairman of the Board

and running for reelection, and his challenger, Ben Winslow. Mr Hunter pointed out the best features of the County's current situation and his long record of involvement in Arlington civic affairs. Mr. Winslow alleged that the County had given too much away to developers in a number of situations and, regarding his qualifications, said that Abraham Lincoln had not been active in civic affairs either prior to becoming President.

The Congressional debate was interesting but incomplete. The Republican candidate, Mr. McSarrow, had accepted our invitation but did not show up or call to explain his absence. Democrat James Moran appeared and explained his positions on local and national issues, including his opposition to the Cooke stadium proposal. He said that he appreciates having South Arlington added to his district this year rather than his previous Fairfax area. He will be campaigning here extensively, since he is less well known than in Alexandria, where he was Mayor. The opponent who did appear, independent Alvin West, stated that he was running for one reason—his determination to see that the federal budget deficit was eliminat-

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Candidates' Night

Continued from page 1

ed. He also said that he opposes any law that would restrict his right to buy a gun if he ever needed one and that as an old-fashioned type, his choice would be a forty-five.

A precise and repeated question about how the budget deficit could be reduced did not produce a convincing master plan from either candidate.

As always, the best feature of the meeting was the chance to meet the candidates face to face, question them about their views, and observe their conduct.

Don't forget to vote on November 3rd. It is important to your neighborhood to have a good turnout.

Bond Issues

Your ballot on Nov. 3 will include six local bond issues. With so many things to vote on, here are descriptions you can read in advance.

- ☒ **Wastewater Treatment** bonds of \$36 million would finance rehabilitating and expanding the sewage plant on S. Glebe Rd. More capacity is needed to prevent polluting Four Mile Run and the Potomac. Some of this plant dates back to the 1930s and needs upgrading to meet federal and state standards.
- ☒ **Public Schools** bonds of \$29 million would finance school improvements similar to the rehabilitation and expansion of Barcroft School.
- ☒ **Metrorail** bonds totaling \$25 million would provide \$20 million for Arlington's share of the cost of completing the metro-rail system and rehabilitating some of the older sections of the system.

- ☒ **Streets and Community Conservation** bonds of 13 million would finance paving, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, storm drainage, bridge rehabilitation, and trails. Under the same bonds would be funds for the neighborhood conservation program to fund street lights, landscaping small parks such as our park at Columbia Pike, and other neighborhood conservation projects.
- ☒ **Parks and Recreation** bonds of \$12 million would fund land acquisition, landscaping, and improvements such as bike trails and tennis courts. This bond would

Barcroft News Staff

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Mailing	Aileen Woods & Paul Metzler

Deadline for submissions: 10th of the month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers for 1991-1992

President	Larry Goldschmidt, 521-3746
Vice President	Scott Allard, 521-0825
Treasurer	Dee Kirkbride
Recording Secretary	Laura Falvey
Corresponding Secretary	Pennie L. Kinsey, 892-5962
Board Members	Susan Christopher, Pat Roach, Randy Swart, Talmadge Williams
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Arlington Hall	Pat Roach, 920-8131
Hospitality	Could be you
Transportation	Could be you
Crime Resistance	Could be you
Neighborhood Conservation	David Michaelson, 553-3953

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also provide two years of Arlington's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority system, which includes the W&OD trail that passes by Barcroft along Four Mile Run.

- ☒ **Higher Education** bonds would provide \$3 million for college campuses in Arlington, including Northern Virginia Community College, George Mason University, and possibly Virginia Tech and the University of Virginia.

Passage of all six bonds is not expected to adversely affect Arlington's prized AAA bond rating. Our debt per capita has fallen to \$1,272 this year from its peak of \$2,920 in 1978. Next year our per capita debt would increase to \$1,322. It is expected to remain at about that level through 1998. Bonds provide generational equity by spreading costs of items such as schools and wastewater treatment facilities over

time and letting the users pay for them. Today's interest costs are low. On the other hand, if you do not support these expenditures, you can vote against any of the six and if defeated, the County Board will not be able to issue the bonds.

Arlington Characters

The Arlington Heritage Alliance will sponsor a program called "Farmers, Raiders, and Entertainers: Arlingtonians Remembered" on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 7:30 PM at Mt. Olivet United Methodist Church, 1500 N. Glebe Rd. It will consist of short vignettes about some of the characters who have figured in Arlington history. Anyone with photos, memorabilia, or anecdotes is invited to bring them. There is no admission fee, no reservations are necessary, and refreshments will be served.

TESLER AND WERBLOOD ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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Committees Need Chiefs

The BSCL needs a few good committee heads! Positions are open for

-  Hospitality—Refreshments for meetings
-  Transportation—Will Arlington Boulevard access be further restricted?
-  Crime—What do we need to do now to keep our crime rate down?

Please call Larry Goldschmidt at 521-3746 for more information.

Bike Trail Bridge Opens In Falls Church

Users of the W&OD trail will be pleased to know that the bridge taking the trail over Route 7 in Falls Church is now open. An effort by Falls Churchian Craig Day was reinforced by Arlingtonian Bill Silverman and others in the form of the Friends of the W&OD organization, which has lobbied for approval and funding for the bridge since 1988. Their effort finally paid off when the bridge opened in September.

Guidelines for Siting County Facilities

At the request of the South Arlington Coalition of Civic Associations and others interested in developing guidelines for picking County facility sites, County staff and interested citizens have met twice. Ellen Bozman, Chairman of the Arlington County Board, has adopted this project as one of her initiatives this year. The goal is to avoid acrimonious debates over sites for new County facilities by establishing fair guidelines for site selection beforehand.

The first meeting, on Sept. 21, was exploratory in nature. The County Board was represented by Mrs. Bozman and board member Bill Newman. Barcroft was represented by President Larry Goldschmidt and board member Randy Swart. The turnout was less than expected, with only about 25 citizens present.

Participants presented their views on why the County needs written siting guidelines and how the process of developing them might be structured. The County staff members present will distill the various comments into a consensus. A second meeting was called for Oct. 19, with others presumably to follow.

Mrs. Bozman has sent letters to civic association presidents, appealing for more citizen participation in this process. Any interested Arlingtonian is invited to attend future meetings to register his or her views. Please call Larry Goldschmidt at 521-3746 for the time and place of the next meeting.

Halloween Safety

On Halloween night, October 31, from 7:30 to 10 PM, the emergency room of Arlington Hospital on George Mason Dr. at 16th St. N. will x-ray any suspicious candy brought in by children accompanied by adults.

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Crystal City Tunnel to Airport Opens

The National Park Service opened a pedestrian/bicycle tunnel connecting Crystal City and National Airport last month. The tunnel runs from 18th St. S. and Crystal Dr. under the train yards to the Mount Vernon trail where it passes National Airport. The route makes riding your bicycle from Barcroft to Crystal City safer and more convenient by opening up a route that eliminates the S. Eads St. connection. From DC it makes it possible to reach Crystal City safely from the 14th St. Bridge or further upstream.

Cub Scout Pack 648 Plans Food Drive

On November 7 Cub Scouts from Pack 648 will be seen in Barcroft, passing out bags for the Scouting for Food project. On the following Saturday, they will pass through the neighborhood again, collecting any bags left on your front porch with nonperishable food items for needy families. You do not need to be home, or even answer your door, to participate.

Pack 648 meets at Arlington Forest United Methodist Church and includes boys in grades 1-5 from Saint Charles, Paige, Barrett, and Barcroft schools. The Pack meets on the third Friday of each month, with den meetings in between, and welcomes new kids or parents. Unlike the den meetings, pack meetings are family events, rather than drop-offs. The Nov. 20 meeting theme is Turkey Day, and the Dec. 11 meeting will be on Helping Other People.

Call Den Mother Margaret Donkerbrook at 979-6379 for more information on Scouting for Food or Cub Scout Pack 648.

Want to Be a Secret Santa?

Arlington County has identified more than 300 families in need of a Christmas dinner and gifts for family members. The families meet Virginia state poverty guidelines. The County is seeking individuals, families, or groups willing to "adopt" a family by donating food or gifts for them.

For more information on being a Secret Santa, contact the Secret Santa Hotline at 358-4731. A volunteer will call you back to tell you how to participate.



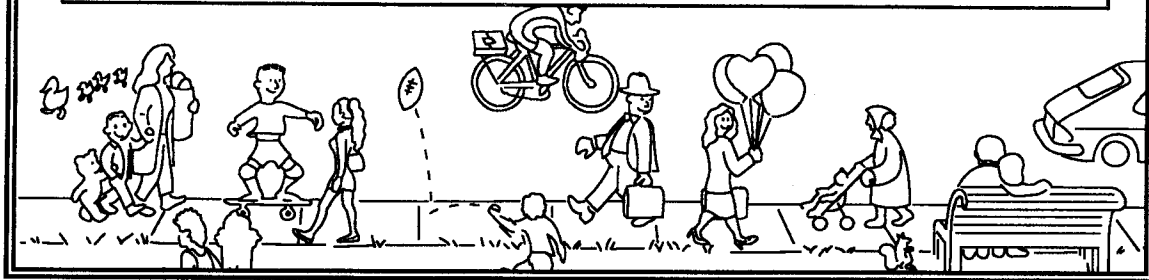
Your All-American Neighborhood Restaurant

Come see our new menu selections, or try some of our old favorites (homemade chili, onion rings, etc.).

Live Music Friday & Saturday

2421 Columbia Pike, South Arlington ♦ 486-3467
(Formerly Fins Bar & Grille)

Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr



Last spring while my neighbors Barbara Vierow and Andy Rosenberg were out of town, a car pulled up in front of their house and someone started taking pictures. As I well know from living across the street, Barbara and Andy have some of the most beautiful azalea bushes in the metro area! Being a watchful neighbor, however, I stopped my lawnmower and asked the people why they were taking the pictures. Inside the car was the original owner of the house, Ada Huff, who had planted the azaleas!

Mrs. Huff was born and raised in West Pittston, PA. After nursing school, she worked as a registered nurse for 10 years before moving to Arlington to take a postgraduate class in communicable disease. She continued to work as a nurse before shifting gears and accepting a position at the Department of Agriculture.

In 1939, a Barcrofter told Mrs. Huff about the new homes on 4th St. between Pershing and Abingdon. She liked the house and the woodsy atmosphere and moved in on December 1, 1939. She says that 4th St. then had very narrow paving with dirt gutters and no sidewalks. There was a farm on the former Arlington Hall site, with many chickens and cows. On warm days when her windows were open, she could hear the cows mooing! Abingdon St. pretty much ended at 4th St., and she remembers when the homes were built in what was once a dense wood. Mrs. Huff remembers her Barcroft friends and neighbors with great fondness, among them

Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Hudson, the Blundells, Mrs. Reid, the Buckrops, Mrs. North, Mrs. Mary Geary, the Stoneburners, and Mrs. Kennedy.

Mrs. Huff retired from the government in 1969 but continued to live in Barcroft until July 15, 1983. She now lives in a retirement home on Carlin Springs Rd.


Drive by in the spring and you will see Mrs. Huff's love of gardening in full bloom! My front porch across the street has the best view! Current owners of the house, Barbara and Andy, are avid gardeners themselves and thus continue Mrs. Huff's legacy. Barbara and Andy both work for National Public Radio. Their cat, Phil, is among the few Barcroft cats that regularly remain indoors.



Vexing Vixen Vanishes

Several Barcrofters at the Pershing and Arlington Blvd. service road intersection noticed that a fox was in the yard of Jim Lande and Joyce Mason. Indeed, Joyce and sons Nathan, age 9, and Josh, age 6, saw the fox sunning itself in their garden. Neighbors concerned about the health of the fox contacted the Animal Welfare League. A trap was set, on the assumption that a healthy fox would be far too cunning to be caught. After several days, the trap baited with cat food remained empty, giving some assurance that the fox is feeling fine. Any more sightings?

November Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 ELECTION DAY Civic Federation Mtg., 7:45 PM, Arlington Hosp.	4 Wednesday Bird Walk , 8:30-11 AM, Long Br. Nature Ctr., adults, no reservations.	5 BSCL , 7:30 PM, Community House. Call 521-3746 for info.	6	7 Columbia Pike Artist Studios Open House , 11 AM-4 PM, 932 S. Walter Reed Dr.
8	9	10 Signs of the Season , 9:30-11:30 AM, Long Br. Nature Ctr., adults; reservations, 358-6535.	11 VETERAN'S DAY	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Native Americans , 3-4 PM, Long Br. Nature Ctr., kids 9-11; call 358-6535 for info.	19	20 Cub Scout Pack 648 , Arlington Forest U. Meth. Ch. Call 979-6379 for info.	21
22	23	24	25	26 THANKS-GIVING 	27	28
29	30					

Christmas Band Rehearsal

Barcroft musicians have plenty of time to dust off those instruments in preparation for the famous Barcroft Holiday Band performance at the Barcroft Holiday Meeting Thursday, Dec. 3. Rusty musicians, beginners, and players of odd instruments are welcome (unless you play louder than Randy Swart's bagpipe). Excellent

performers are welcome as well. Jeane Roningen, we hope to see you again. Are any Evans available? Band rehearsal will be Sunday, Nov. 29, at 7 PM at the home of Randy and Barbara Swart, 4611 7th St. S. Call them at 521-2080 for more information.

Kathy Kerr

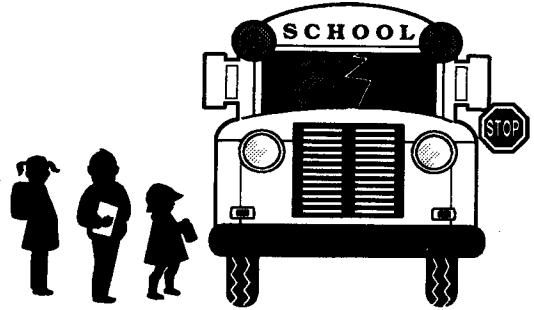
Barcroft Elementary School News

Channel 7 to Feature Barcroft School

Channel 7 has announced that as part of the feature "Seven on Your Side for Education," they will be following activities at Barcroft School all year. Their coverage began with Back to School night in September.

Save Grocery Receipts for Barcroft School

Again this year Giant and Safeway will have giveaway plans for schools that collect and re-



deem cash register tapes. Both programs have already begun. Giant's tapes are yellow. Safeway's tapes have Tapes for Education at the top.

In the past two years, Barcroft school has received a substantial amount of equipment, including several computers, as a result of the enthusiastic support of Barcroft families and neighbors. This year, in addition to computer equipment, the "prizes" will include audiovisual, library, science, and sports equipment.

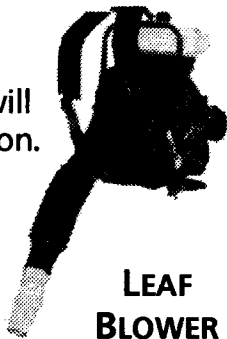
Please save your receipts for Barcroft Elementary School. Call Dodie Granofsky at 892-0672 if you have questions.

CPRO Update

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization has made some sweeping changes in the past few weeks. Paid staffer Valencia Cherry has left the organization. The Board has decided to suspend committee meetings and instead meet as a committee of the whole until a new executive director has been hired and funding has been secured. Stay tuned for a street fair event on the Pike sometime after Thanksgiving.

DISCOVER RENTING

The leaves
of autumn will
be falling soon.
Be ready by
renting one
of our leaf
blowers.



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center

Vienna
938-4807

Arlington
243-2122

Barcroft Exchange

Free Young guinea pig, cage, and miscellaneous supplies.
Call 979-4355 nights, 202-296-6267 x231 days.

Want to Be the *Barcroft News* Publisher?

Phil Cackley, our able and dependable *Barcroft News* publisher, has been forced to resign due to increasing job responsibilities (congratulations, Phil!). The job requires that you take the *Barcroft News* from the printer, insert the pages and fold it once, put it in mailing sacks, and deliver the sacks to Aileen Woods and Paul Metzler, who take it for a ride to the Post Office. Phil and Alicia Cackley were able to get it done in one evening. If you are out of town, we can provide a substitute to cover for you. Be part of the *Barcroft News* team! Call Randy Swart at 521-2080 to learn more about this exciting job. Think of how much more effective Phil's resume was with that "Publisher, *Barcroft News*" item in it. It got him full-time work.

Crime Bulletin: Break-in On Pershing Drive

The anonymous signs on Barcroft telephone poles were arresting but mysterious: "Warning—There has been a break-in of an occupied house on Pershing . . ." The details had to wait until the Crime Resistance Section of the police department issued a warning in its *Community Newsletter*. Its crime bulletin reads as follows:

Nighttime Burglaries-Robberies

There is an ongoing pattern of residential burglaries involving robberies occurring during the early morning hours of darkness. Four burglaries of this type have been committed between 8/12 and 9/30. Entry is

Continued on page 3



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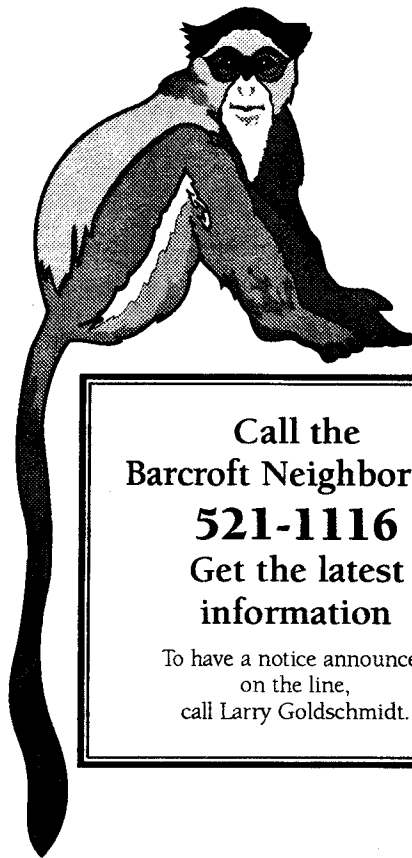
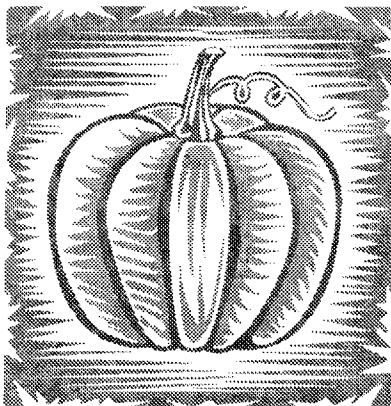


through an unlocked window or door. After searching for purses and wallets and removing cash, the suspect seeks out residents, all of whom have been middle-aged to elderly white females, and demands jewelry and money from them. In three instances he has sprayed them in the face with an orange pepper-like substance or mace. The suspect is a white male, 5'9", 145, wearing dark-colored or all-black clothing and gloves. In the latest case his attire included a black hat and ski mask. No weapon was displayed. Below are the areas victimized so far:

5000 blk N. 20 St.	8/12	5 AM
800 blk N. Irving St.	8/23	2 AM
Unit blk S. Pershing Dr.	9/3	2 AM
3500 blk N. 14th St	9/30	4 AM

For further information, contact the Burglary Unit at 358-4179.

We have quoted the police bulletin in its entirety, rather than removing the sex and race of victims and the criminal. This is information Barcrofters need to understand the nature of the threat, and a bulletin as serious as this should be passed on unchanged to the neighborhood when the police department believes that it



**Call the
Barcroft Neighborline
521-1116
Get the latest
information**

To have a notice announced
on the line,
call Larry Goldschmidt.

conveys vital information. (We haven't even tampered with their addresses, which erroneously place the N or S in front of numbered streets.) If you do not agree, please call the Editor of the *Crime Resistance Section Community Newsletter*, Detective Ken Rosenberg, at 358-4346 concerning their bulletin.

We applaud the resident who posted those signs, who had clearly been through a nasty experience and wanted to warn neighbors. For future reference, if you have a similar bulletin to report, you can also call any *Barcroft News* staffer listed. We will be glad to put this kind of information in as soon as possible. Meantime, lock your windows and doors at night!

Barcroft Crime Report

This report is longer than normal because it covers more than one month. The good news is that we have data up until the 20th of October; the bad news is that it has no detail.

September

- 9/3 Unit block Pershing Robbery
(see article)
- 9/5 900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 9/6 4300 Columbia Pike Burglary
900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 9/7 900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 9/9 Unit block S. Abingdon Burglary
900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 9/10 4300 Columbia Pike Vandalism
- 9/12 Columbia Pike & Taylor Hit and run
- 9/14 Columbia Pike & Wakefield
Hit and run
- 9/15 900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 9/18 4400 Pershing Ct. Larceny
- 9/19 900 S. George Mason Vandalism
- 9/19 Columbia Pike & Wakefield
Hit and run
- 9/22 900 S. George Mason Suspicious person
4600 5th St. S. Vandalism
- 9/23 900 S. George Mason Robbery
- 9/24 4600 4th St. S. Disorderly in public
- 9/27 4600 Columbia Pike Simple assault
- 9/30 4400 1st St. S. Vehicle theft

October

- 10/3 300 S. Pershing Burglary
- 10/5 Unit block Abingdon Robbery
Unit block Pershing Robbery
- 10/6 900 S. George Mason Vandalism
- 10/11 900 S. George Mason Vandalism
900 S. George Mason Burglary
900 S. Taylor Vandalism
- 10/12 900 S. George Mason Larceny
- 10/18 900 S. George Mason Trespassing
- 10/19 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting
- 10/21 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting

Got an Item for the Barcroft News?

We know there are lots of closet writers out there who would like to share their opinions, tips, and knowledge with the neighborhood. The problem is, to whom do you send what? Herewith, the list:

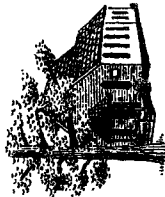
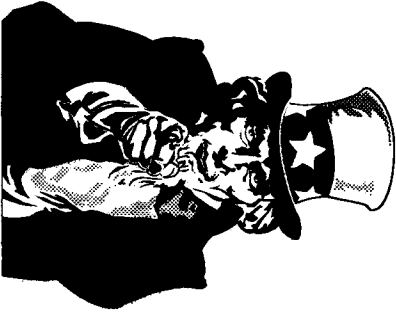
- ✉ Letters to the editor—Sara Leigh Merrey, 4669 4th St. S.
- ✉ Articles, notices of events, etc.—Randy Swart, 4611 7th St. S.
- ✉ Commercial display and classified ads, Barcroft Exchange noncommercial ads—Virginia Reinecke, 4636 2nd St. S.

Now that you know *where* to send your material, you probably want to know *how* we want it? Basically, in any format you want to use. You can write it neatly by hand, type it on a typewriter, copy it onto your DOS or Mac diskette (either 5¼" or 3½"; high, low, or double density), or send it over the modem (call first).

We really do welcome unsolicited material. If you have an idea you'd like to discuss first, call Randy or Sara Leigh.



**Vote for the Candidates
Of Your Choice Nov. 3**



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