

# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 94, No. 5

January 1997

## Late January Spaghetti Supper to Raise Funds

Barcroft's third annual spaghetti supper will kick off on Sunday, Jan. 26, at 5 p.m. The family-oriented event will include musical entertainment and desserts. It will be a benefit for the Community House renovation fund.

The menu will include delicious spaghetti sauce from an old family recipe, crisp Italian salad, warm bread and plenty to drink. We are encouraging the whole family to join us for this event. (Who wants to cook on a Sunday night before the Super Bowl, anyway?)

Tom Palance, who is organizing the supper, will need volunteers to help prepare, serve, cleanup, and also to donate your favorite dessert. If you are interested in helping with the supper donating baked goods for dessert, call Tom at 979-8366.

Tickets may be limited, due to space, so they will be reserved in advance. Please call Tom for reservations by Wednesday, Jan. 22. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids, 6-12 years old. Children under 6

years old will be free.

The proceeds will help support the Community House renovation fund. Come eat all you can, meet the neighbors, and join in on the fun. Bon Appetit!

## Vote Set on Support for Demeter Suit by BSCL

At the January meeting we will debate and vote on a proposal that the BSCL formally support an ongoing lawsuit against the County Board, concerning the use permit for the proposed Demeter house.

The meeting will take place Thursday, Jan. 2, at 7:30 p.m. in the Community House, 800 S. Buchanan.

It is proposed that the BSCL donate \$237 to the lawsuit. A Barcrofter has pledged to donate an identical amount to the Community House renovation fund, if the BSCL votes to allocate the money toward the suit. The amount represents 79 new members (not renewals) received at the August special meeting where Barcrofters overwhelming voted against a conditional use permit for a 22-person

*(continued on page 3)*

## Renovation Fund Drive Hits More than \$8,000

Dear Barcrofters,

Please remember us as you write your end-of-year donations. All checks should be made out to the Barcroft Community House Fund and are fully tax deductible. Mail your donations to BSCL Treasurer Dave Voorhees, 201 South Pershing Drive, Arlington, VA 22204.

We are very pleased with donations to date and want to thank everyone who has contributed. The Renovation Fund has received more than \$8,000 from many different contributors.

The Renovation committee has several bids out for the electrical work, which is planned as one of the first projects to be tackled. We will break up the renovation schedule into manageable chunks so that we can proceed on a pay-as-you-go basis.

The next meeting of the Renovation Committee to schedule the work will be in mid-January. Call Jim Kerr, 892-6458, if you are new and wish to help out. As the weather gets warmer you will begin to see the evidence of your contributions and your generosity, and it is appreciated.

Bill Huddleston  
Chair, Fundraising Committee

**Call the Barcroft Neighborline**

**521-1116**

**Get the latest information**

Barcroft on the Internet: <http://www.bhsi.org/barcroft.htm>

## Ad Manager Sought for Barcroft News Staff

We're looking again! The Barcroft News needs an ad manager to take over selling display ads and collecting payments. It's not an onerous task -- getting ads once a month and sending out billings about four times a year -- but requires someone with a little time and the ambition to sell advertisements. If interested, contact Editor Phil Cackley at 271-9743.

### Barcroft News Staff

<i>Editor</i>	Phil Cackley, 271-9743
<i>Publisher/Mailing</i>	Angie Woodward
<i>Advertising Mgr.</i>	Alicia P. Cackley, 271-9743
<i>Neighborhood News</i>	Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Contributions Ed.</i>	Barbara Guglielmo, 979-1852

**Deadlines:** 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material) day of the month preceeding the issue month.

### BSCL Officers for 1996-97

<i>President</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Vice President</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Recording Secy.</i>	Lisa Palance, 979-8366
<i>Treasurer</i>	Dave Voorhees, 979-8287
<i>Corres. Secy.</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Membership Secy.</i>	Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Board Members</i>	Scott Allard, Scott Brintzer, Tom Palance, Randy Swart
<i>Community House Facility Mgr.</i>	Tom Palance 979-8366
<i>Crime Resistance</i>	Chris Monek, 920-1287
<i>Landscaping</i>	Scott Brintzer, 892-0308
<i>Neigh. Conserv.</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Restoration</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Signs Manager</i>	Jack Turner
<i>Traffic</i>	Vincent Millin, 521-7331

The *Barcroft News* is printed by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.

## **Feb. 24 Trial Slated in Suit On Demeter House**

A Feb. 24 trial has been scheduled in a lawsuit filed by 14 Barcrofters against the Arlington County Board over the approval of a conditional use permit for a proposed substance abuse treatment home on South Sixth Street.

The unusually quick trial date in Arlington County Circuit Court was requested by Vanguard Services Unlimited, the operator of Demeter House. Vanguard told the court that its contract to purchase the single family home at 4317 S. Sixth expires in April and therefore requested the expedited trial date.

The Barcroft residents filed suit early in November against the County Board to appeal the Oct. 5 split vote by the board approving the use permit. The suit argues that the board's 3-2 vote was taken without due concern for zoning laws and public safety.

The board approved the use permit for Demeter House for a residential facility for up to 18 persons -- single women and some children -- plus six full-time staff. The large white house sits on a "pipestem" property on Sixth near Taylor Street, on a quiet residential street.

Vanguard has filed a cross-complaint against the plaintiffs, asking the court for an order to prevent the plaintiffs from "interfering with the use permitted by the use permit."

There is some question of whether Vanguard could complete its purchase of

the home -- and finance it -- with a lawsuit hanging over it.

Both the County Board and Vanguard have filed motions to dismiss the lawsuit. The motions argue that the Barcroft plaintiffs are not entitled to relief in the courts unless they can show the use permit was not appropriate as a reasonable accommodation under the Fair Housing Act.

At the county hearing in October, Barcrofters argued that if the County Board granted the Demeter House use permit, it would become precedent under the Fair Housing Act and guide future consideration of similar use permits.

A trial, if held, would be expected to last two to three days.

## **Vote on Lawsuit . . .**

*(continued from page 1)*

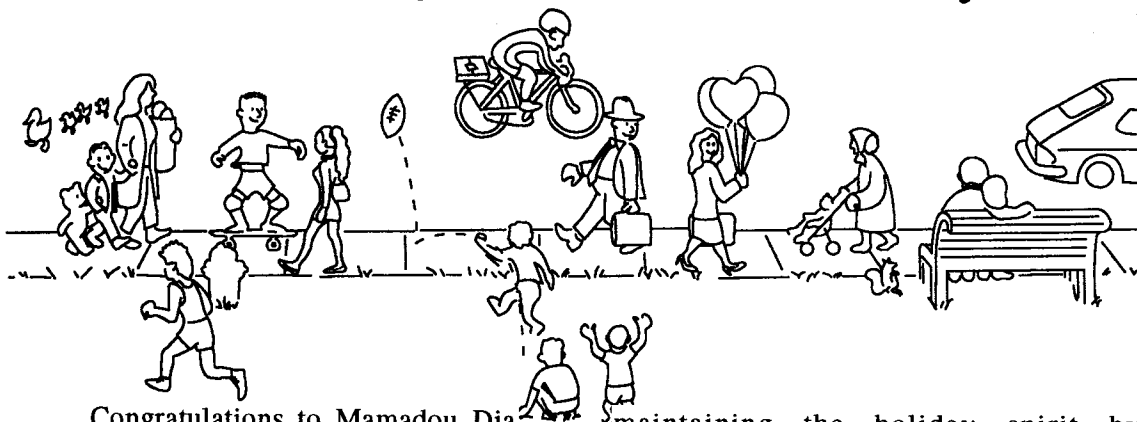
substance abuse group home on South Sixth Street.

The rationale is that these new Barcroft members would not have paid dues if Demeter House had not been an issue. Come and express your opinions.

Also at the meeting, there will be a presentation by staff from the county Planning Division concerning efforts to change the way "infill development" is taking place in Arlington.

During the past year, the county has been working on the issue and may be close to implementing new zoning and subdivision ordinances that would impact infill development, such as the building of large homes on small vacant lots.

# Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Mamadou Dia and Mary Dewitt-Dia whose new baby Moussa was born Sept. 30. Moussa's older brother, Aboubacar, is only 18 months old, born in May 1995. Mamadou and Mary met in Segou, Mali, when Mary was in the Peace Corps there from 1988-1990. She volunteered with the Chamber of Commerce working with small businesses. Mamadou owned a store across the street from her office and the rest is history! Moussa is pronounced "Moosa", Aboubacar is "ah-BOO-ba-car",

Mamadou is "MA-ma-doo" and Dia is "Ja." Last year on the 4th of July, the Dia family missed the Barcroft parade because they were busy moving into their new home on 1st Place South. They are enjoying getting to know the neighbors here in Barcroft. Mamadou is a real estate agent with Century 21 and Mary will soon be returning to work at the American Red Cross downtown.

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With the holiday season winding down, Mary Ann O'Rourke suggests

maintaining the holiday spirit by practicing random acts of kindness right here in Barcroft.

Mary Ann remembers a day a few years ago when nothing seemed to be going right. She was impatient with her kids and feeling frantic and frazzled. She was outside trying to get all four children into the car with minimal success when a woman in a car drove by, stopped and rolled down her window. The woman said "You know, I drive past your house all the time and I just wanted to tell you that this just looks like the most wonderful place to be a child. You are doing such a great job as a mother!"

The woman drove away leaving Mary Ann in a much better mood! Mary Ann has no idea who the neighbor was but still remembers that special random act of kindness.

Giving praise is just one act. What are some other nice things Barcrofters can do for one another? If you have a story to share, call Kathy at 892-6458.

## Eat That Cereal! Save Boxtops for Barcroft

How many boxes of cereal does your family go through every month? Wouldn't it be great if we could harness all those hearty, cereal-eating appetites for the good of Barcroft Elementary School?

Here's your chance! Barcroft Elementary School is participating in a program through General Mills to collect box tops. Barcroft School will receive 15 cents for every General Mills cereal box top collected before March 31. Simply clip the top flap of any General Mills cereal box carrying the 1996-1997 "Big G Box Tops for Education" symbol, with the cereal brand name showing.

Give the box tops to a Barcroft student or drop them off in the Box Top

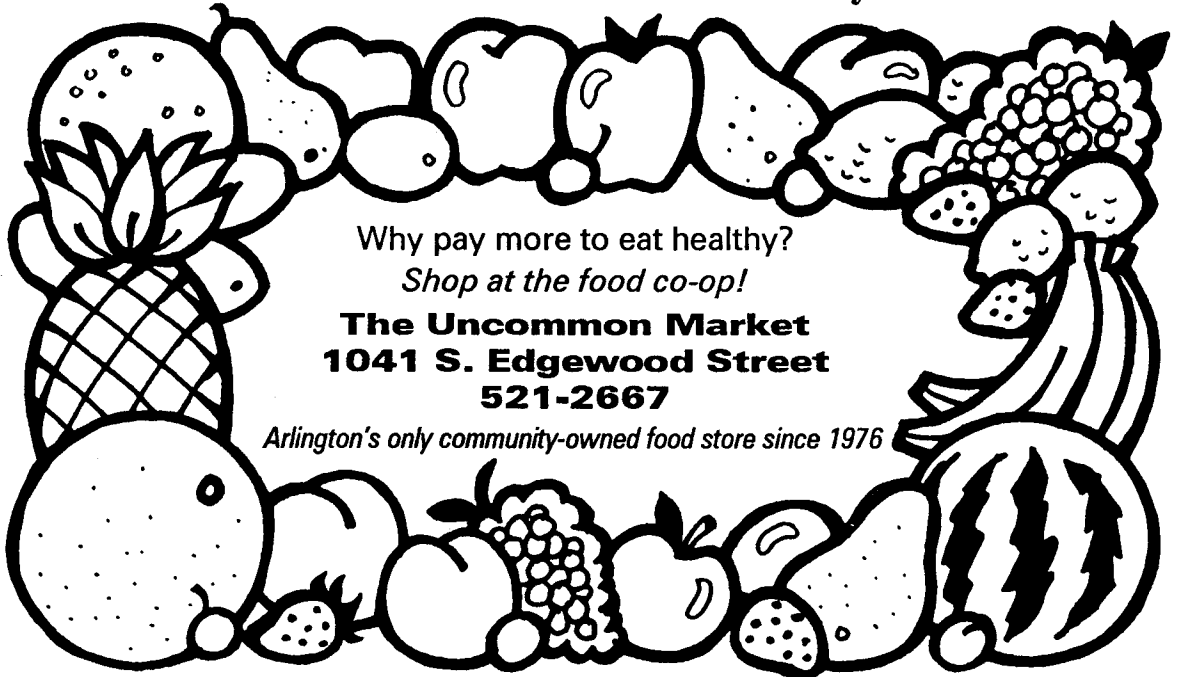
Box located in the school's office. If either of those is difficult, call Harriet Williams at 553-0911 and she will come get them!

## Safeway, Giant Tapes Help Barcroft School

Again this year, Barcroft School is participating in the computers-for-students campaign and needs your cash register receipts from Giant and Safeway. You can turn in your receipts at the school at any time, or leave them in the Community House mailbox, or send them to Barcroft School, 625 S. Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22204.

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## Contribute to the Barcroft Community House Fund!



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## Barcroft Awaits County Response on Committee

Per the motion adopted at the November meeting, the BSCL is objecting to the composition of Vanguard's Neighborhood Advisory Committee. As of press time, County Board Chair Jim Hunter had still not responded to a BSCL letter sent a month earlier. A second letter is planned requesting a meeting with Chairman Hunter, Vanguard, and the BSCL to resolve this issue.

## Barcroft Exchange

**HIRING FOR INAUGURAL.** Participate in the Inaugural! McM Group needs coatcheck attendants to work various Inaugural events, Jan. 15-20. Pay is \$6/hour plus tips. Call (703) 553-0970.

## YOGA

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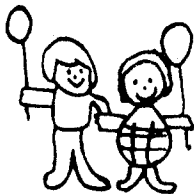
Join Barcroft's own Beth Lienard for Hatha Yoga Classes on Wednesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. at the Barcroft Community Center! Beth has been teaching Yoga since 1995.

10-week session begins January 22 thru March 26, offered at a special rate of only \$80 for Barcrofters!

Other courses for seniors and children may be offered if there is sufficient interest!

Call 521-5111 today!

\*50% of proceeds will go to Barcroft Legal Fund.



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# Holiday Music Fest a Hit With Kids, Adults

Santa Claus showed up, right on schedule, and wowed the younger children at the Barcroft School and Civil League annual Christmas program last month.

Third-grader Danny Cackley started the program with a violin rendition of "Deck the Halls." He was followed by the famous Barcroft Christmas Band.

A full program of songs -- and a reading of "The Night Before Christmas" by Mary Anne O'Rourke -- kept the capacity crowd in the Community House entertained.

One of the evening's highlights came from the Palance family musicians -- all three of them! While the band played and others sang, 2 1/2-month old Alyssa Palance added her two cents worth. But when her parents, Tom and Lisa Palance, played a lilting Christmas tune on recorder and keyboards, she quieted right down!

Santa's arrival was the culmination of the evening. It was interesting to note that Santa shops at Rite Aid -- the plastic sack containing the candy canes he handed out was emblazoned with the drug

store's logo!

Many thanks to all who helped make the evening a success!

## Advisory Committee Meets to Review Issues

The first meeting of the BSCL Demeter Committee was held on Dec. 12. This committee was formed at the November BSCL meeting and is chaired by Daphne Miller, 920-5681.

The week before, Barcrofters participated in Vanguard's Neighborhood Advisory Committee meeting. The committees are now beginning to address such issues as the proposed deck, fencing, fire escape, parking, and the trash dumpster for the property at 4317 S. Sixth St., the site of the proposed relocation of Demeter House.

Instead of installing a sprinkler system, Vanguard is proposing a rear second floor deck the length of the house that would serve as a fire escape. They are also proposing the use of three trash Eagle carts with compacted waste instead of a dumpster. The next meeting of the BSCL Demeter Committee will be held at the Barcroft Community House on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



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# EventsEventsEventsEveJANUARYntsEventsEventsEvents

Jan. 2, Thursday -- **BSCL Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Presentation by Planning Division on infill development proposals.

Jan. 20, Monday -- **Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday/Clinton Inauguration.** Schools closed.

Jan. 26, Sunday -- **Barcroft Spaghetti Supper.** 5 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Food and musical entertainment in a mid-winter benefit for the renovation fund. \$6 adults, \$4 children under 12. Call 979-8366 for reservations or info.

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Barcroft School and Civic League  
800 South Buchanan Street  
Arlington, VA 22204

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