

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 94, No. 8

April 1997

Appeal for Consensus On Barcroft Traffic

The County has appointed a group to study traffic calming and recommend a policy. The concept is to improve traffic movement on arterial streets like Columbia Pike and establish zones of "calm" traffic within neighborhoods. In general that means controlling speeds, increasing driver care and encouraging "cut-through" drivers to use the arterials.

The group realizes that any new traffic calming policy has to avoid the kind of arguments we had here in Barcroft with our circle experiment. We lacked consensus for the circle, and the result was a lot of angry neighbors who strongly objected. After a futile attempt to redraw the circle, it was clear that the real problem was a lack of consensus for any traffic control measures. Many people did not believe that there was a need to change. On the other side, many parents and frequent pedestrians did see a need, based on safety. The circle controversy set us back years by irritating the opponents, some of whom may be irritated by this article.

The County is looking at new devices for traffic calming. Fairfax City has raised the fine for speeding on neighborhood streets to \$200. Many cities are trying out changes in street surfaces. And Arlington is now permitting some four-way stop signs. But any of these measures will still require neighborhood
(continued on page 6)

Landscaping Program Set For April Meeting

With the arrival of spring, Barcrofters' thoughts will turn once again to the outdoors and gardening. But how does your garden grow? Randomly? Or in a planned, logical fashion?

Local landscape designer Scott Brinitzer is scheduled to provide a program for the April 3 meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League. The program will focus on developing a coordinated plan for landscaping your home, rather than randomly putting in a bush here and a flower bed there.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at the Community House, 800 S. Buchanan.

BSCL Directory Done; Soon to be Delivered

Peg Lefebvre has finished the Barcroft Telephone Directory, with a full listing of all Barcroft neighbors who did not ask to be excluded. One list is by name and a second list is by street and number (answers the question "who is that who lives three doors down?").

A copy of the directory will be delivered to all BSCL member households. (Call Peg to help deliver some, 531-0184) If you are not a member and want one, just join, or make a tax-deductible donation to the Community House Restoration Fund.

Graffiti Patrol Rides Again; Tags Disappear

Recent actions by the Barcroft Graffiti Patrol:

March 8, removed an old fashioned obscenity from a downed tree in Grandma's Creek. Removed a probable gang tag from a sign on the W&OD near the first trestle.

Feb. 22, removed an LL tag and obscenity from the stop sign at the bottom of 9th Street hill. Also removed a lover's tag (?) from the railing along the W&OD at Huffman's Whitewater. Finger nail polish remover did both.

Call the Barcroft Neighborline

521-1116

Get the latest information

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

Feb. 12, removed LL markings from the telephone box at Columbia Pike. Removed an anti-shoplifting bumper sticker from a power pole near 9th Street.

Feb. 10, removed "STR 83" tag in heavy yellow paint from a power line pole.

Call the Barcroft Neighborline at 531-1116 to report graffiti anywhere in the neighborhood.

Contribute to the Barcroft Community House Fund!

Barcroft News Staff

Editor Phil Cackley, 271-9743
Publisher/Mailing Jane Duffy
Advertising Mgr. Debra Albrecht, 979-4730
Neighborhood News Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
Contributions Ed.

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

BSCL Officers for 1996-97

President Jim Kerr, 892-6458
Vice President David Michaelson, 553-3953
Recording Secy. Lisa Palance, 979-8366
Treasurer Dave Voorhees, 979-8287
Corres. Secy. Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
Membership Secy. Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
Board Members Scott Allard, Scott Brinitzer, Tom Palance, Randy Swart

Community House

Facility Mgr. Tom Palance 979-8366
Restoration Jim Kerr, 892-6458
Fundraising Bill Huddleston 920-2011
Landscaping Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308
Crime Resistance Chris Monek, 920-1287
Neigh. Conserv. David Michaelson, 553-3953
Signs Manager Jack Turner
Traffic Could be you!
Parade Mary Anne O'Rourke 920-5619

The *Barcroft News* is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.

What A Mess! Creek Cleanup Removes Junk

On a fine Saturday morning in March (early spring) a group of Barcrofters found a small mountain of trash scattered down in Grandma's Creek and hauled it up to six different pickup sites.

The trash included two lawn mowers, 40 empty Sterno cans, two milk crates, a gas tank, a hot water tank, fencing, a metal gate, a wooden gate, soccer balls, a muffler, a baby rattle, a street sign, a golf ball, nails, a Frisbee, a lawn spreader, bottles, cans, canned food, smashed glass, paper of every description, many Hechinger's plastic sacks for potting soil or fertilizer, real estate brochures, a sleeping bag, quilts, blankets, milk bottles, a construction

company sign, siding, pipe, a bed frame, baby shoes, clothing and lots more. Some of it was clearly left by vagrants, but who could be throwing that other stuff down the hill? The crew also removed one piece of graffiti.

In addition to evidence of vagrants, we found that someone had been using the only tree in Grandma's Creek that has been designated by the County as a Notable Tree as the backstop for target practice. We suspect a pellet gun. Targets were nailed to the tree.

Our pickup crew this year consisted of Jim Kerr, Jonas Robinson and Randy Swart. They had a lot of fun and really enjoyed the morning.

You can join them next year -- just look for the announcement in the Barcroft
(continued on page 6)



Casey O'Neal

Associate Broker

RE/MAX Horizons

4900 Seminary Rd. Suite 150

Alexandria, VA. 22311

Office: 824-4800 ext.179

Voice/Mail Pager: 705-9348

Email: CaseyOneal@aol.com

www.remamaxhorizons.com/casey

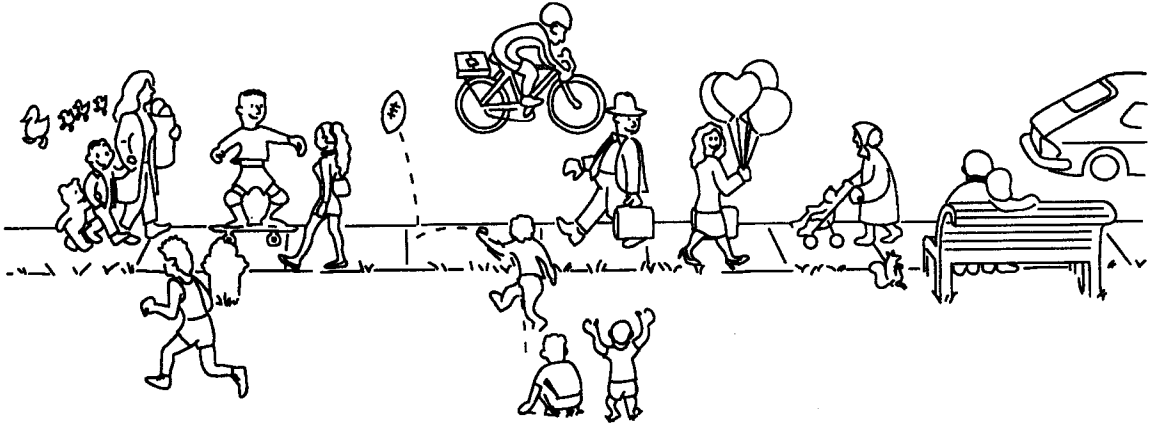
Before You Buy or Sell Your Home with Any Realtor, Make Sure they Offer You These 3 Great Guarantees:

Quick Cancel Guarantee - As part of my commitment to provide you with professional service, this guarantee gives you the right to cancel our listing or buyer broker agreement at any time and for any reason.

Progress Report Guarantee - I am committed to keeping you in control and completely informed. If for any reason I am unable to provide you with a progress report within 24 hours of your request, this guarantee entitles you to \$50 per report with 48 hours.

60 Day Sale Guarantee - To ensure that I provide you with an accurate evaluation of your property (updated regularly), and an effective marketing program, this 60 day Sale Guarantee entitles you to the following; if your property is not sold within 60 days of listing date, I will deduct \$500 of my commission at closing. Then, I will reduce my commission by another \$10 every day until only \$10 is left for me at closing. (property must qualify)

Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Pennie Kinsey of 7th St. South who was inducted on March 2 into the Golden Key National Honor Society of the George Mason University Chapter. The top 15 percent of students, with a minimum 3.3 grade point average, are invited into the society. The group, which has members all over the world, is involved with community service.

Pennie is recognized by many Barcrofters as our Barcroft Poet Laureate. She has shared her wonderful poems over the years at various Barcroft Community House events and has also shared some recipes in our Barcroft Cookbook.

Alex and Mike Thornton on S. Abingdon St. have a new baby, Camille, born Feb. 7. Their first daughter is Michaela (Kaley) who will be turning 2 on April 13th. Happy Birthday Kaley!

Barbara Vierow and Andy Rosenberg's new baby is Alexander Michael, born March 15. Alex's big

brother is Max who turns two on March 30. Happy Birthday Max! The Vierow/Rosenbergs live on 4th St. South with their cat, Phil.

Condolences to the family and friends of longtime Barcrofter Annie Hazel who recently passed away. In lieu of flowers, her family has asked that donations be made to the BSCL Renovation Fund. Mrs. Hazel was 98 years old and lived in Barcroft for 67 years. She was the first teacher at Barcroft School and a founder of the BSCL. Our Community House was very dear to her heart. She was very pleased that we are in the process of protecting and renovating the building.

Bicycle Safety Tips

Eric Wester, a St. Thomas Moore 9th grader, who lives on S. George Mason Dr. has sent around the following list as part of his work for a Boy Scout merit badge on "Safety."

Spring is here. Kids like to ride bikes and so do adults. This is a list to help you have a safe time bicycling:

- Make sure bike wheels are not loose and that the brakes work.
- Always wear an approved helmet.
- Stop at stop signs and traffic lights.
- Use proper hand signals to indicate changes in your direction or speed.
- Ride on the right side of the road.
- Ride single file when with others.
- Give pedestrians the right of way.
- Do not carry passengers (except on approved baby seats).
- Wear clothes that make you visible in the day or night.
- Lock your bike when leaving it.
- Do not "trick" ride on streets.
- Have fun; ride smart.

BBQ for BSCL in May

It's not too early to begin planing for Barcroft's spring barbecue extravaganza. The fundraiser for the Community House renovation will be held Saturday, May 3 at 4 p.m.

Expect live entertainment and mouth-watering barbecue. David Michaelson is coordinating the event -- neighborhood chefs who want to participate should call David at 553-3953. People who can donate side dishes, such as baked beans or salad, or help out in other capacities, also are asked to contact David.

No entry fee will be charged, but food tickets will be available for sale so the Community House renovation fund can grow while you enjoy barbecued treats.



Bobbi Bradley, GRI, CRS *Barcroft Resident*

TERMITES

Termites are tough, determined and highly efficient. Chances are you'll see no evidence of their work until structural damage has been done. Subterranean termites, the most common kind, live in colonies in the soil, from just below the surface to as much as 12 feet down. Each colony is built around a king and queen, whose sole job is reproduction. All termites need is the tiniest gap in concrete, mortar or metal, and they're in. By treating the soil around and beneath your home with a chemical effective against termites, you prevent this movement. The termites that are in your home return to the soil, and soon die.

Call me if you have questions or need more information. . . .

Your Agent of Distinction.

(703)522-1940 (office)
(703)515-9777 (home office)

REMAX

Properties of Distinction, Inc.
1010 N. Glebe Road, Suite #160
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Consensus is Best for Calming Local Traffic

(continued from page 1)

consensus. If supporters of traffic calming in Barcroft are interested in seeing any changes here they will have to begin building that consensus, and I think they should expect the process to take years.

I am one of the Civic Federation's representatives on the traffic calming committee. We will be working for at least a year on the study. I do not advocate reinstalling the circle, of course, but it seems to me that with a consensus we might make progress on some other more acceptable means of slowing down the substantial number of fast drivers who registered 40 to 45 mph on Abingdon during the County's test there. If stiff fines accomplished that, would anyone object? I want to hear your views. I am available at

any time at BSCL meetings, by phone (521-2080) or by email (randy@helmets.org).

By Randy Swart

Grandma's Creek Clean-up Finds Piles of Junk

(continued from page 3)

News. Or take a pair of gloves and a couple of supermarket bags and stroll down Grandma's Creek yourself some fine day. You are almost sure to find a couple of bags worth of trash. If you don't have rubberized canvas gloves, you'll need a scoop for broken glass. You can report any graffiti by email here or by calling the Barcroft Neighborline at 521-1116 and leaving a message.

In addition to Grandma's Creek, the BSCL has adopted the W&OD Trail from Columbia Pike up to the first trestle, including the open space at Columbia Pike. You are encouraged to pick up trash down there too. It needs some cleanup almost every day, and at present we are maintaining a schedule of three times a week, usually Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

SCOTT BRINITZER DESIGN ASSOCIATES



AWARD • WINNING

Landscape

Design, Installation & Consultation

Arlington, Virginia

(703) 892-0266

• MEMBER •
BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU
LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION



BARCROFT PET SITTING

Exclusive to the Barcroft Neighborhood

Cat and Dog Sitting, Dog Walks
and other Pet Services

Sylvia Stone
4644 S. 2nd St.
(703) 979- 3545



Kindergarten Program Coming on April 12

Barcroft Better Beginnings, a meeting for local parents and preschool aged children, will be held Saturday, April 12, from 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. The meeting will give parents and kids the chance to the local school and meet some of the staff. The session is designed to help children make a successful entry into Barcroft Elementary School.

If you have a child 5 or younger, call the school at 358-5838 and reserve a

Barcroft Exchange

FOR SALE. Upright piano, antique German "Ibach." Beautiful wood with carving on front. Ivory keys. Recently tuned. \$800. Call 892-6458.

BABYSITTER. Lauren Wilson, age 12. Experienced sitter, great with kids of all ages. References provided. Call 920-9410.

CHILD CARE. Looking for 2-family child care situation, friends or neighbors. Five years experience, own transportation and good references. Call 671-7325.

FOR SALE. 4 Kitchen base cabinets, raised panel, oak doors and drawers. High quality Pella accordion door, height 6 foot 8 inch, expands to 8 foot. Call 521-7523.

WANTED/CHILD CARE. Part-time sitter to care for infant in my home. Call Ann at 553-0804.

space at the program. If you need a translator or know someone who does, let the office staff know that.

Our Savior Approval

At the BSCL Board's recommendation, the Arlington County Board approved the use permit for Our Savior Lutheran Church and School with a review in one year instead of three years. There are still two issues that need to be addressed by the church. First is the long term disposition of the trailer used as a classroom. Second is neighbors' concern with after-hours use of the parking lot.

A special thank you to Charles Fischer, the principal, who met with the immediate neighbors to discuss concerns.

TYLER, INC.

Kitchen & Bath Remodeling Full-Service Plumbing Drain Cleaning

- Seniors: 10% Discount on Labor
- Barcrofter Owned and Operated

703-920-4326

VA Class A License #2705-035998A Insured



Tel: 522-1311

Free delivery on lunch orders over \$10
and dinner orders over \$15

Open M-F
11:30 am-10:30 pm,
Sat-Sun
noon-11 pm
Carryout/Delivery:
11:30 am-2 pm
M-F,
5:30-9 pm daily
4819 Arlington
Blvd & Park Dr

Buy One Get One FREE!

Enjoy 1 Complimentary Lunch or Dinner Entree
FREE When a Second Lunch or Dinner Entree
Of Equal or Greater Value Is Purchased

Monday-Thursday Only With This Coupon for Dine-in Only

Maximum Discount \$8.00
Not Valid With Other Promotions

Expires 4/30/97



EventsEventsEventsEventsEvAPRILentsEventsEventsEven

April 3, Thursday -- **BSCL Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St.

April 4, Friday -- **BSCL Service Luncheon.** 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Barcroft Community House. Donations of food and volunteers needed to help. Call Randy at 521-2080.

April 12, Saturday -- **Better Beginnings.** 9:30 to 11:15 a.m. Barcroft Elementary School. Kindergarten preparation program for preschoolers and their parents. Call 358-5838.

May 3, Saturday -- **BSCL Barbecue.** 4 p.m., Community House. Food and music in a fundraiser for the Barcroft Community House. Call David Michaelson, 553-3953, for information or to volunteer.



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

Bulk Rate U.S. Postage Paid Permit #59 Arlington, VA
