

# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 96, No 4

December 1998

## **December Meeting: Here Comes Santa Claus**

The Barcroft School and Civic League's December 3 meeting isn't a meeting at all. Instead, it's the annual Christmas party. Barcroft musicians (the prestigious "Ad Hoc Orchestra") will accompany Christmas carol singing. Santa Claus has appeared before, and – if you believe – will no doubt do so again. Of course there will be good fellowship with your friends and neighbors. Come join the party, which starts at 7:30 p.m. The Ad Hocs will rehearse on Sunday, Nov. 29. Call Mark Wigfield at 979-0339 for details.

## **A Civil Look at Calm Traffic, by Trav Fick**

About 40 Barcroft residents came out to see Trav Fick in person (no, he did not appear wearing his black leather Harley

regalia, as rumored) and to hear the Traffic Committee's considerations for traffic calming in our neighborhood.

This much quickly became apparent. There is too much speeding in our neighborhood. And the methods used to reduce the speeding should be effective, cheap, self monitoring, quiet, legal, and without inconvenience to the residents. And there are no such methods.

Waiting for Trav himself to arrive, Traffic Committee Chair Elaine Squeri skillfully led a discussion that considered the various realistic options for traffic calming. After questions, debate, and suggestions, by vote and by consensus, the Association accepted the six alternatives proposed: humps (not bumps), additional and re-aligned stop signs, gateways, pavement narrowing, signage, and stricter police enforcement of the 25 mph limit. The Committee was asked to research several other ideas, including one-way north/south streets, restrictive signage like

no turns off Columbia Pike into Barcroft during rush-hour, lowering speed limits to 15 mph, creating a fund to hire off-duty police for further enforcement, and asking county vehicles including school buses to avoid the neighborhood when possible and go the limit. Officer Paul Larson has already arranged speed traps so watch your speedometer and raise your foot! (It was duly noted that those who favor slower traffic should not protest any speeding tickets they received.) The Committee has now approached Public Works to plan the next steps in implementing the recommendations. The Traffic Committee will next meet on January 5. (Trav "Slow Rider" Fick will again host the meeting, but refuses to discuss his tattoos further until then.) In the meantime, if you are waiting for the County to take steps to calm our traffic, don't hold your breath – just hold your speed, for peace sake!

## **Hmmm, Good: Barcroft Holiday Sale**

Get in that last minute holiday shopping by stopping by the Barcroft Community House on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. There will be many different kinds of handmade crafts and baked goods as well! If you have any questions, or have a craft you would like to sell, please contact Barbara Vierow at 521-7822. If you have kugel, kringel, lebekuchen, or other lovingly-cooked cakes to donate, contact Sally Breeden at 892-2845. Call now....space is limited! Baked goods will be sold to benefit the renovation fund.

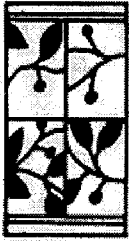
## **A Gift For All**

The Barcroft Community House is pleased to announce a gift for all that includes beautiful music, warm and inviting surroundings, and a joy-filled experience! The Young Flutists' Fellowship will be performing selections from Handel's Messiah, Christmas favorites, as well as other spiritually uplifting pieces on Sunday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1998 at 7 p.m. The Fellowship is a semi-professional flute quartet comprising highly talented high school students who perform regularly in the metropolitan DC area under the direction of acclaimed local flutist and teacher Sheila Lynch. Those performing include Sarah Anderson, HB Woodlawn; Alison Clowery, Thomas Jefferson High School; Jean-Marie Thomas, George Mason High School; and Senta Wooten, Washington-Lee High School. Take time away from the hustle and bustle of the season and enjoy the sweet sounds of heavenly music! Admission \$5 at the door. For more information, call Phil Anderson at 685-7204.

## **Please....Don't Play in the Street!**

That advice seems like common sense. But Arlington County police say several children were recently hit while playing in the street. Police don't know what would start such a trend, if it is one, but they say it's happening. So it's time for a reminder. Here it is again:

Streets are for cars, not kids.



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## Other Arlington Events....

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3 :** "The Winter's Tale," by William Shakespeare. Washington Shakespeare Company at the Clark Street Playhouse, 601 Clark St., 8 p.m. \$17.50, \$20, \$22. 418-4808. Through Jan. 2.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6:** Christmas Concert by the Arlington Symphony and the Metropolitan Chorus (formerly Arlington Metropolitan Chorus). Bishop O'Connell High School, 6600 Little Falls Road, 3 p.m. \$24 - \$16. 528-1817.

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18:** "Christmas Around the World." Entertainment for the whole family with an original script. The Children's Theatre, Theatre One at Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St., 7:30 p.m. \$6, \$8. 548-1154. Also Dec. 19.

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**FHA Loan increased to \$194,750!** New changes in the FHA loan program make it more competitive with conventional financing. The minimum investment is 3% of the sales price (2.25% downpayment with another .75% paid in allowable borrower paid closing costs (or additional downpayment). Example: Sales Price: \$199,250, Purchaser's required investment: \$5,978. Purchaser must pay \$4,500 for downpayment and \$1,478 towards "allowable" closing costs (or they could increase their downpayment to 3% and not pay closing costs). Mortgage insurance of 2.25% (\$4,382) can be financed into the loan amount making the total loan \$198,632. All of the funds for closing can be a gift, with a non-occupant co-borrower allowed.

# Barcroft Con Dece

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursda
		1 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	2 Yoga 7 p.m.	3 BSCL Meeting: Night Before C
6 Barcroft Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.	7	8 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	9 Yoga 7 p.m.	10
13 Private Party 3 -6 p.m.	14 Hunter's Cub Scouts 7 - 8 p.m.	15 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	16 Yoga 7 p.m.	17
20 Flute Concert 7 - 9 p.m.	21 Cub Scouts 7 - 8 p.m.	22	23	24
27	28 Cub Scouts 7 - 8 p.m.	29	30	31 New Year's Ev p.m. - ?

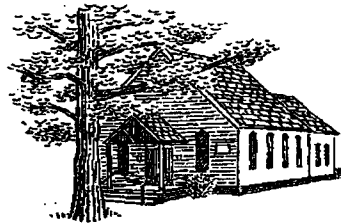
# Community Calendar

## November 1998

	Friday	Saturday
the 21 <sup>st</sup> Christmas	4 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. O'Rourke Cub Scouts – 8 p.m.	5 Private Party 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
	11 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts, 8 p.m.	12 South Arlington Family Exchange (families not exchanged) 3 – 5 p.m.
	18 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.	19
	25 Merry Christmas!	26
Party 7	Happy New Year's!	

**Want to Dance, Eat  
Birthday Cake, or Toast the  
Wedding Couple?**

**You can do these things, and  
more, on a budget, at the  
Barcroft Community House**



**Large space, small rental fee;  
Sparkling new kitchen & restroom**

**Call Tom at 979-8366**

**Special Low Rates for BSCL  
Members!**

# Barcroft Community

## Friday Playgroup

The community house will be open on Friday mornings in December for a parent-child playgroup. All ages are welcome, so please come meet your neighbors! We will meet from 9:30-11:30 on the dates noted below. Bring toys as appropriate. January dates will be announced in the next newsletter. There is some interest in a Monday or Tuesday playgroup, but no critical mass has developed as yet. If you have questions or would like to express interest in a Monday/Tuesday group, please call Lisa Rom at 486-2983.

We held our first playgroup on Friday November 20<sup>th</sup> with seven parents and ten children playing and talking together.

Play group Dates: Fridays from 9:30-11:30 on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. NO playgroup on Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> or January 1<sup>st</sup>.

## Smoky and Sweet

Saturday November 14 was the perfect day for the BSCL fall festival. The barbecue was as close to perfect as is possible outside North Carolina and, together with the baked beans, the jalepeno cornbread, and the diverse side-dishes provided by our neighbors, the meal left the crowd in sixth heaven....But then the angelic strains of the Behind the Bar band lifted us all the way to the seventh level....Thanks to all who came, who ate, who cleaned...and who helped make this event another neighborhood success.

## Much, Much, Mulch

So the desert will someday bloom, the bold and brave Barcroft landscapers -- led by the indefatigable Scott Brinitzer -- mulched, raked, planted, dug, shoveled, then did it all over again and again on the weekend of November 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Through their strong backs and good work, the grounds of the Barcroft Community House have been totally transformed from a barren plot to a lovely garden setting. Many thanks to all who helped!

### Barcroft News Staff

<i>Editors</i>	Mark and Lisa Rom 486-2983
<i>Publisher/Mailing</i>	Jane Duffy 892-6015
<i>Advertising Mgr.</i>	<i>We need your help!</i>
<i>Neighborhood News</i>	Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Contributions Ed.</i>	<i>More fun than flubber!</i>

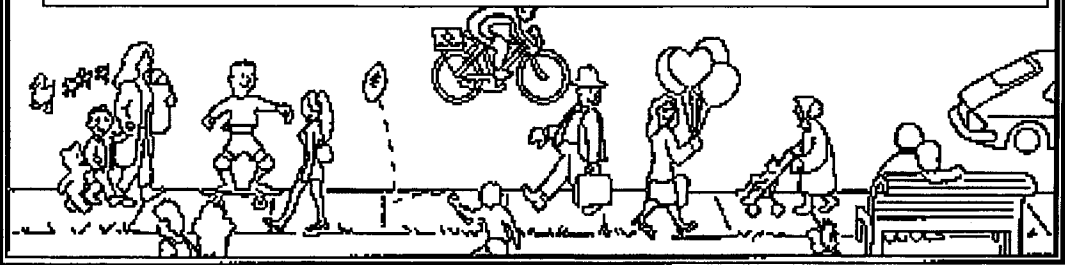
**Deadlines:** 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material) day of the month preceding the issue month.

### BSCL Officers for 1999-1999

<i>President</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Vice President</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Recording Secy.</i>	Maria Corey 486-2060
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Corres. Secy.</i>	Bill Huddleston 920-2011
<i>Membership Secy.</i>	Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Board Members</i>	Scott Brinitzer, Jim Kerr Tom Palance, Randy Swart
<i>Community House</i>	
<i>Facility Mgr.</i>	Tom Palance 979-8366
<i>Restoration</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Fundraising</i>	Bill Huddleston 920-2011
<i>Landscaping</i>	Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308
<i>Crime Resistance</i>	<i>Help keep us safe!</i>
<i>Neigh. Conserv.</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Signs Manager</i>	Jack Turner
<i>Traffic Committee</i>	Elaine Squeri 920-7014
<i>Parade</i>	Andrew Hunter 979-8247

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

## Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Ruth and Michael Carolan on 8th St. S whose new baby Liam Michael was born September 7, 1998. Michael is a writer for the National Institute of Health, Office of Alternative Medicine. Ruth will soon return to work part time as a legal assistant. They have lived in Barcroft for 2-1/2 years

Nels Roningen, age 24, died on March 24, 1998. Nels and his family moved to South 9th Street when he was three. He graduated from H-B Woodlawn and then spent three years at Kenyon College in Ohio. At the end of his junior year he suffered a head injury in an automobile accident and was subsequently diagnosed with schizo-affective disorder, a severe brain disorder. He returned to college at George Mason University and was in their English Honors Program when he died from an overdose of the medication required for his illness.

Nels accomplished a great deal in his short life. His family is printing a booklet of his poems. He was passionate about film and

hoped to be a film maker. He had a passion for working against social injustice. He was on a glorious intellectual search; a rebel to the core. He participated in the Z Media Institute in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. He interned at the Washington Peace Center. He wrote for the Kenyon College student magazine and for George Mason's alternative student newspaper. Despite the serious nature of his illness, Nels continued to live with remarkable courage.

Nels is survived by his father, Vern, who works as an economic consultant and his mother, Jane, who works as an educational diagnostician and tutor. His sister, Jeanne, graduated from Columbia University and is currently spending a year teaching violin on the West Bank in Israel. His sister, Anne, is a freshman at Virginia Tech.

This Thanksgiving Day, please take the opportunity to walk our tree lined streets, to smell the smoke from the fireplaces, perhaps jump in a pile of leaves....and greet your neighborhood friends....

## Events December Events December Events

December 3, Thursday ⇒ **BSCL Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Holiday merriment and, for the merry, mints.

December 4, 11, 18 ⇒ **Play Group**, Barcroft Community House, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

December 6, Sunday ⇒ **Barcroft Holiday Craft Fair and Bake Sale**, Barcroft Community House, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

December 20, Sunday ⇒ **Flute Concert**, Barcroft Community House, 7 p.m., \$5 admission.

December 1, 8, 15 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 6:30 p.m.

December 2, 9, 16 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 7 p.m.

# Happy New Year!

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Barcroft School and Civic League

800 South Buchanan Street

Arlington, VA 22204