

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 96, No 8

April 1999

April Meeting: Don't Be an April Fool!

Come to the April 1 BSCL meeting, where you will learn about using native plants in your landscape plan. Naturalist Pam Newit from the Long Branch Nature Center will talk about various types of native plants, how to grow them, where to find them and how they can fit it with what is already growing in your yard. She'll also talk about gardening for wildlife: How certain plants can attract butterflies, birds and other fauna (hopefully not deer).

Also, we'll get an update on the status of community house renovations. Learn what project your next donation could fund!

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. on April 1 at the community house, 800 S. Buchanan

Easter Egg Hunt

Our Second Annual neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt will be held Saturday, April 3 at 10 a.m. at the Barcroft Community House.

Last year we had lots of fun. Remember the Golden Egg? It was found, but its prize was not claimed for a few weeks. Sisters Katrina and Georgie McTigue found it and won the chocolate bunny. This year we plan to have a Golden Egg for the 0-3 crowd and one for the 4-8 group.

Children should bring a basket in which to collect their eggs. Admission is \$1 per child. Parents bringing children are asked to call Anna Peterson (521-8756) so she will know how many eggs to bring. Anna is also looking for volunteers to: donate plastic eggs and individually-wrapped candy. Volunteers should get their donations to her by April 1.

There will be posters, prizes, doughnuts, coffee and games inside the community house

Dog Park Survives by a Whisker

The neighborhood's only official dog off-leash play area in nearby Glencarlyn Park survived by a whisker when its loyal users -- and their owners -- persuaded a county task force to reconsider a recommendation to close it. The dog owners buried the idea that the dog park is a source of fecal coliform contamination in Four Mile Run. Unlikely, since most of the dog park users are diligent about cleaning up.

The group also showed the task force how it was barking up the wrong tree when it said a dog run along the creek is a violation of the state's Chesapeake Bay protection law. The law prohibits construction, excavation, plowing and similar activities within 50 feet of a Bay tributary, not simple use of a park. The group committed itself to reducing erosion problems in the park. They also noted that the presence of owners and their dogs has turned a rather isolated and perhaps unsafe area of the park into a place where people can feel comfortable going.

But park watch dogs need to stay alert. Arlington Dogs is the county-wide support group for the off-leash runs, while a Glencarlyn group forming is called Glencarlyn Dogs, or GlenDogs for short. You can join Arlington Dogs for about \$20 by writing PO Box 6160 Arlington, VA 22206-0160, or phoning (703) 578-0522. Its e-mail address is arldogs@digizen.net. Mention your interest in GlenDogs, which will coordinate activities with Arlington Dogs.

Guitarrific!

Larry Unger, guitar, will play traditional and original tunes on a variety of instruments including slide and blues guitar, and the rarely heard piano-harp, fretless banjo, and banjo-guitar. There's a jam session afterwards, so bring your instrument. Saturday, May 1, at 7:30 at the Barcroft Community House. \$5 admission. Contact Julie Gorka for information at 979-0339.

Barcroft News Staff

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

BSCL Officers for 1998-1999

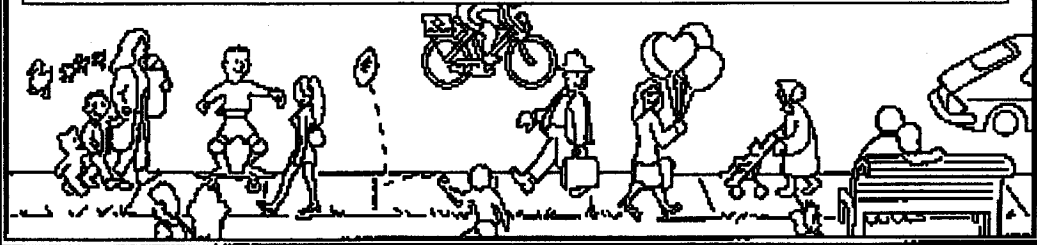
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Community House

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<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>
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<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 Company.

Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



It's never too late to have write about your baby in the *Barcroft News*. Dennis and Debra Albrecht of 7th Rd. S are the proud parents of Owen, born Oct. 6, 1997, age 18 months. Dennis is with the Marine Corps and Debra is a contract specialist for the government.

Happy 15th birthday to Emily Anderson of 8 Rd. South. Watch out in case she gets her Learner's permit...!

Congratulations to Tom and Lisa Palance whose new daughter, Annabella, was born February 26, 1999. Annabella's big sister is Alyssa, age 2 ½. Tom plays trumpet with the Navy band. Lisa leads the band at the Potomac School in McLean and teaches flute privately. Needing a bigger house, the Palances are in the throes of putting an addition on their home on 8th Rd. South. Residents of Barcroft for just 7 years, they have made such a difference. Each of them has invested considerable time and energy to make Barcroft a better and more FUN place to live.

First to come to my mind are the Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Tom's fantastic Louisiana jazz band "The Crawdads," who performed at the BSCL Mardi Gras party. By the way, The Crawdads "Don't Lose Your Tail" CD sells for \$10 and \$2 of it goes to the BSCL. (Next month I'm writing about another band who might not be so generous, but then again they might!)

Tom helped with the renovation and design of the Community House and was integral in making the facility available to the community. He volunteers considerable time managing the Community House scheduling events and rentals there. He's also on the BSCL Board of Directors. Whew!

To schedule a use of the Community House or to pick up a copy of "The Crawdads" CD, call Tom, 979-8366.

Do you have new neighbors, new babies or interesting neighborhood news? Call Kathy Kerr 892-6458. She missed a few issues recently and needs all the help she can get!

Barcroft Community Calendar: April 1999

All events in the BCSL Community House

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 BCSL Meeting 7:30 p.m.	2 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts, 8 p.m.	Easter 1
4	5	6 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	7 Yoga 7 p.m.	8 Pre-Natal Yoga, 7 p.m.	9 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts, 8 p.m.	
11	12 Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.	13 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	14 Yoga 7 p.m.	15 Infant Massage, 11 a.m. Pre-Natal Yoga, 7 p.m.	16 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m.	
18	19 Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.	20 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	21 Yoga 7 p.m.	22 Infant Massage, 11 a.m. Pre-Natal Yoga 7 p.m.	23 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m.	
25	26 Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.	27 Yoga 6:30 p.m.	28 Yoga 7 p.m.	29 Infant Massage, 11 a.m. Pre-Natal Yoga, 7 p.m.	30 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m.	1 Plant – Ung 7:

tuesday

3
Egg Hunt,
0 a.m.

10

17

24

May 1
Sale, 9 a.m.
1 p.m.
Concert,
30 p.m.

**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

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Members!**

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The sale of your home could be your most important financial transaction. Hiring an experienced and knowledgeable advisor could mean a higher price at the negotiating table, selling in less time, and with the minimum amount of hassles during the entire process.

Please call my office for your free copy of a report called "The 9 Most Deadly Mistakes You Can Make When Selling Your Home." Also available are handbooks for buyers and sellers with some great industry tips

July 4th Parade

What? The snow is hardly melting! But if this puts you in the mood for foolish antics, mute amusements and musical anomalies, then make plans to be part of Barcroft's 11th annual 4th of July Parade.

Mime Mark Jaster is already lined up for this year's entertainment after the parade. Also rumor has it that the 8th Road (Hardly) Precision Lawn Mower Drill Team will dazzle the crowds once again with shame defying stunts.

After winning the "best float" award in 1997 and "best performance" award last year, 8th Road is looking for some fashioned competition so it won't walk away with this year's "best" award. Any challengers out there? (Third Street says, "You talking to me?")

Also since Tom Palance sold his red Oldsmobile convertible we are in search of another vehicle (preferably a convertible) worthy of carrying this year's Grand Marshall. Please call Parade Chairman Andrew Hunter at 979-8247 if you have any suggestions.

Oakridge Appeals for Classroom Volunteers

Oakridge Elementary School is looking for additional volunteer classroom helpers. The school has a diverse student population with new students from all over the world. It has grown so fast that it uses two school sites: Montessori through third grade at the North campus and

Kindergarten through fifth grade at the outh campus.

If you would like to volunteer or your organization might help the school, please call Roy Brooks, Oakridge's Resource Assistant, at 228-5840 (a.m.) or 228-5845 (p.m.)

Barcroft School PTA will be hosting an International Dinner and Silent Auction on Friday, April 16. It will be a great place to have fun and to possibly pick up on some great bargains! Call PTA President Beth Lodsun for more information at 979-1104.

On April 10 Barcroft School will have their "Better Beginnings" program for rising Kindergartners at 9:30 a.m.. This provides skills and support to students who otherwise might not be ready to attend Kindergarten in the fall.

AIDS Ride Fundraiser Plant Sale

Saturday, May 1, 1999 will be the date for the 3rd Annual Benefit Plant Sale! Peter Wood will be selling annuals, herbs and perennials to benefit the Washington DC AIDS Rides. Beautiful, high quality plants such as impatiens, marigolds, begonias, salvia and a variety herbs and perennials will be featured. The plant sale will be held at the Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan Street, Arlington, VA, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you have any questions, contact Peter Wood at 703 - 892-1692 or rustymetal@mindspring.com

March Melting Pot

Our fast-growing immigrant population comes to Arlington for the same reasons U.S. citizens do: low crime, good schools and public transportation and jobs., according to *Washington Post* writers Pamela Constable and D'Vera Cohn.

At Barcroft's March meeting, the two spoke on their three-part series about immigration in the metropolitan area that appeared in the *Washington Post* last fall. The series devoted considerable ink to Arlington's 22204 zip code, which Constable and Cohn reported has the region's largest immigrant population.

Constable, who lives near Columbia Pike, reported that Arlington has been more welcoming to immigrants than other parts of the metropolitan area. The county has taken a pro-active approach to the problems faced by immigrants. Schools in particular have done a good job in creating a sense of community.

Still, the influx of newcomers has strained the community. High rents mean families are crowded into small apartments. Salvadorans from poor, rural communities struggle the most. These families tend to have little time for getting involved with schools or community groups. And few service organizations cater to Central Americans.

The immigrant population in the metropolitan area does tend to be better educated than in other cities, however. For example, one in four come to the region on work visas. And those lacking an

education are getting one now. Adult education is extremely popular with new immigrants. Every program available in the region is overbooked.

The Washington area's immigrant population is unique in its diversity. Drawing immigrants to the region are embassies, international organizations such as the World Bank, refugee programs (about one in six immigrants here are refugees), foreign policy groups -- and Washington's status as the capital of the free world.

Salvadoran immigrants are still the leading group. But the number of immigrants from Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia and other African countries is growing, largely because the 1996 immigration law opened the door a little wider for countries that historically sent fewer people here.

Volunteer activities exist for people who want to learn more about our area's diverse population -- and help out at the same time. For more information, call Mark Wigfield at 979-0339, or send an e-mail message to mark@bscl.org.

Library Needs Records

Do you still have your old LP's that you haven't played in years? (Admit it.) Would you like to clean your closet and get a tax deduction, too? Well, Jeff Green on S. Pershing Dr. is a Friend of the George Mason Regional Library, and he's in charge of looking for donations of records. The next sale is at the end of April, so call Jeff at 920-0399 to pick up your records and to give you a receipt for your tax file.

Events April Events April Events

Special Events

Thursday, April 1 ⇒ **BSCL Meeting**, 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St.

Saturday, April 3 ⇒ **Easter Egg Hunt**, 10 a.m., Barcroft Community House

Saturday, May 1 ⇒ **AIDS Benefit Plant Sale**, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m, Community House

Saturday, May 1 ⇒ **Larry Unger Guitar Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Community House

Regular Events

April 2, 9 ⇒ **Play Group**, Barcroft Community House, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

April 16, 23, 30 ⇒ **Play Group**, local playgrounds TBA (call Lisa Rom, 486-2983)

April 8, 15, 22, 29 ⇒ **Pre-Natal Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 7 p.m (call Pervin Davar, 354-3072.

April 6, 13, 20, 27 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 6:30 p.m.

April 7, 14, 21, 28 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 7 p.m.

April 15, 22, 29 ⇒ **Infant Massage**, Barcroft Community House, 11 a.m.

Barcroft School and Civic League

800 South Buchanan Street

Arlington, VA 22204

