



# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 96, No 9

May 1999

## **May Meeting: Final Landscape Plan for Community House Set for Review, Vote**

A final vote on landscape plans for the community house is scheduled for the Barcroft School and Civic League's May meeting, on May 6 at 7:30 p.m. As anyone who has walked by the house since last fall can plainly see, the grounds have never looked better. But more work is in store -- if the community approves. Discussion during the meeting is expected to focus on completion of the plan, and whether large events like the neighborhood's signature July 4 celebration can still be accommodated comfortably.

Last April, the community gave preliminary approval to the landscape blueprint drawn by Scott Brintzer.

(continued inside)

## **BSCL Officer Elections**

May is the month for when the Barcroft School and Civic League elects its officers. With a two-year term limit on all positions, the entire slate turns over. A nominating committee has been formed to recommend candidates for the next cycle.

If you would like to run, or would like to suggest a candidate, please contact BSCL president David Michaelson at 553-3953, or e-mail him at [david@bscl.org](mailto:david@bscl.org). Positions include president, essentially the "mayor" of Barcroft who speaks for the neighborhood; vice president, who plans the monthly meeting; recording secretary; treasurer; and corresponding secretary. Some general board positions may also be open. Board members participate in decisions of the executive committee.

## **Guitar Concert**

Danny Unger plays traditional and original tunes, Saturday May 1, 7:30 p.m. Community House.

## May Meeting (Continued)

Scott has been the driving force behind the plan. By last fall, Scott had assembled an impressive roster of volunteers who gave up several weekends tilling and fertilizing the soil, planting new shrubs, trees, ground cover and bulbs, and sowing new grass. Last month, the community approved the expenditure of \$2,300 for an irrigation system -- purchased at a deep discount from its \$7,000 pricetag with the proceeds from a memorial fund for Scott's partner, Carroll LeTellier Jr., who died suddenly last December.

Now, Scott is ready to begin the final stage of his plan, which includes extensive planting in the rear of the yard, additional screening from the back yards of neighbors, a picket fence, and possibly, a gazebo. Scott says his final plan will accommodate the many needs of a diverse community. It's meant to make the grounds a beautiful backdrop for a wide variety of community needs, from intimate conversation at a gathering or between neighbors meeting there after an evening stroll, to a more attractive and intentional setting for large events.

Indeed, the looks of the place have never been more important. The community severed its long relationship with a steady tenant, the Bulgarian Orthodox Church, in order to reclaim full use of the house. Now, the house must pay its way through rentals for receptions, parties and other events. The better the place looks, the more desirable it becomes for such events. At April's meeting, however, some community members expressed the view

that the landscaping should remain child-friendly and also offer room for large gatherings. The board has wrestled with ways to accommodate both the landscape plan and major events. Last year's vote of approval was preliminary in nature, supporting the landscaping concept but concerned that traditions be preserved. Now, the community will review what's been done, and decide what should come next.

A portion of the meeting will be held outside so that we can see more clearly the planned changes planned. With the sun setting at 8 p.m., arrive on time to see things while it's light!

### Barcroft News Staff

<i>Editors</i>	Mark Rom, 486-2983
<i>Publisher/Mailing</i>	Lisa Rom, 486-2983
<i>Contributions</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Advertising Mgr.</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
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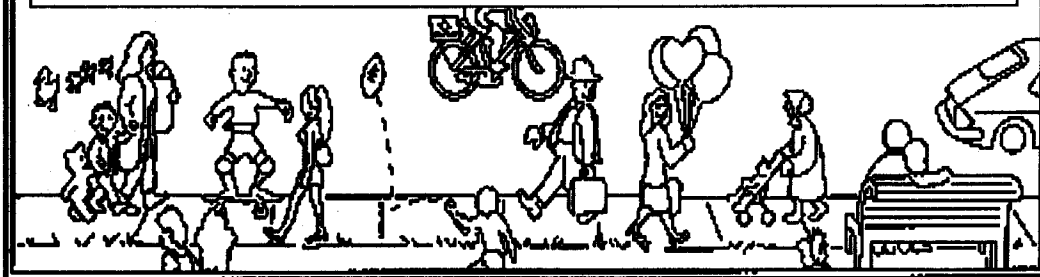
**Deadlines:** 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material)  
day of the month preceeding the issue month.

### BSCL Officers for 1998-1999

<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>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 Company.

## Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



A cool band, the "J Street Jumpers," recently played at the Kennedy Center Millenium Stage, which has free shows every evening at 6. Little did I know that a member of the band lives right here in Barcroft!

Jeff Lodsun of 6th St. South is drummer for the band which plays mostly swing and jump blues. The Jumpers performed at the White House on February 21 for the Governor's Ball. On New Year's Eve, they played for the city of Ft. Lauderdale, FL. Locally, they appear at the Glen Echo swing dances, at Old Glory in Georgetown, and at Whitlow's here in Arlington.

The band has its own fancy web site ([www.jstreetjumpers.com](http://www.jstreetjumpers.com)) maintained by Jeff's wife, Beth. On the website Jeff is described as \*one of the busiest blues and swing drummers in the D.C. scene, having played thousands of gigs over more than 30 years. Before joining the Jumpers, Jeff worked with many big acts including Bo Diddley, Hank Ballard, The Clovers, Pine Top Perkins, and Sunnyland Slim.

When not working on that web site, Beth works as an administrator for a law firm. She has served as Barcroft School PTA president for several years now but hopes to pass the torch next year. Jeff and Beth have three children, Matt age 13 ½ who plays sax at Kenmore, Emily age 12 who also attends Kenmore, and Alexis age 7 who attends Barcroft School. The Lodsuns have lived in Barcroft for 12 ½ years.

The J Street Jumpers also play for private parties and have a CD, *Is You Is Or Is You Ain't My Baby?* Contact Jeff and Beth at 979-1104 for more info. The band is a bit too large and a bit too busy to perform at the BSCL Community House, but we can always hope!

You don't have to be as interesting as the Lodsuns to be in the Barcroft News. New to the neighborhood? Been here a long time and have memories to share? Have a new baby (or anything else) to brag about? Have a story to tell? Please call Kathy Kerr, who ALWAYS needs ideas for this column, at 892-6458.

# Barcroft Community Calendar: May 1999

All events in the BCSL Community House unless in *italics*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
			April 28	April 29	April 30 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Place TBD	Pla G
2	3	4	5	6 BCSL Meeting 7:30 p.m. “Landscaping Plans”	7 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Place TBD	C B P S
9	10	11	12	13	14 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Place TBD Retirement Party, 3:30 – 5:30	
16	17	18	19	20	21 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. Place TBD	
23/30 Spring Barbecue, May 23, 4 p.m.	24/31	25	26	27	28 Play Group 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.	

aturday
1 Sale, 9 a.m. 1 p.m. r Concert, 30 p.m.
8 mbia Pike Festival, ick Henry ool, noon
15
22
29

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

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more, on a budget, at the  
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# **Retirement Party for Barcroft Teachers**

Barcroft Elementary School's Reading Specialist, Fran Simms, is retiring at the end of this school year. She has been an instrumental influence in Arlington County Public Schools for 35 years, and came to Barcroft in 1980. During her auspicious career she has earned Who's Who in American Education, Who's Who in American Women, Who's Who in America, Greater Washington Reading Council "Teacher of the Year" in 1995, Margaret McNamera Children's Literacy Award in 1994 and Outstanding Young Women of America in 1966.

Hundreds of children have been touched by Mrs. Simms' dedication and enthusiasm. She has been an inspiration to her peers county-wide. She will be remembered as a storyteller, a lover of literature, and the excitement she brings to each group she works with. She has shared the joy and the gift of reading with everyone she has taught or worked with.

Please come and celebrate Fran's wonderful career on Friday, May 14 from 3:30 - 5:30 at the Barcroft Community House. If you have any questions, call the school at 228-5838.

Barcroft Elementary is also saying Best Wishes to Bernice Williams, School Librarian, as she retires at the end of this school year. She has been a driving force behind our library for 18 years, and has worked to enhance its quality. Her quiet influences have inspired children to read

many wonderful books. She has been an asset to the Barcroft community.

We will miss both of these special women who truly touched the future with their gift of teaching.

## **Marching Towards the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade**

Please call Parade Chairman Andrew Hunter at 979-8247 if you have any suggestions or would like to volunteer.

The Second Annual Barcroft Easter Egg Hunt was Huge Hit. Never have so many children collected so many eggs so quickly. Thanks to Anna Peterson (and her helpers) for hosting it!

## **Barcroft Babies**

Congratulations to Izumi and Rob LaPointe of S. 6th St whose new daughter, Tyler, was born March 6. Rob owns the White Birch School of Kung Fu and Tai Chi which recently celebrated it's 10th year anniversary. Rob and Izumi have lived in Barcroft since 1993.

Congratulations to Catherine and Gerry Cox on S. Taylor St. who are the proud parents of a new baby girl, Caroline Elizabeth, born March 16. The Cox family has lived in Barcroft for 1 ½ years. Catherine is working on her Ph.D. in nursing at George Mason University. Gerry is a Navy physician.

**Special thanks to Mark Wigfield for becoming Contributions Editor and Lisa Rom for becoming Publisher. Thanks!**

## Hog Calling

On May 23, 1999 we will once again hold our annual spring barbecue. We are looking for people to provide side dishes, desserts, and main courses. We are also interested in finding someone who will plan activities for the kids. The festivities are slated to begin at 4:00 P.M. and will conclude at 8:00. We encourage you all to come out and enjoy a good meal and the Barcroft Community Spirit. If Tom Palance can find time away from his growing family and his house addition we may even have some live music. For more information or if you would like to volunteer in any manner please contact David R. Michaelson at 553-3953. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## Fight Bike Theft

Help fight bicycle theft and assist in stolen bicycle recovery by registering your bike at the upcoming Columbia Pike Blues Festival. The Blues Festival will be held on Saturday, May 8, at the Patrick Henry School field, 701 S. Highland Street from noon until 6:00 p.m. This is a free service limited to Arlington residents and will take place at the Police Department booth.

Registering a bike is simple and quick. A brief two-part form is completed with the information on the bike and its owner. A sticker bearing a unique number is attached to the bike for reference [this is not a requirement but the sticker's presence might deter a bike thief]. A limited number of Arlington bike trail maps will also be available.

Questions? Call Captain Steve Holl, 3rd District Commander at 228-4097 or Conchita Mitchell, Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, at 892-2776.

## Barcroft Exchange:

Wanted: Baby-sitter Nanny needed for 3 month old baby girl. 40 hrs/wk beginning in May. Our house or yours. Must be loving caregiver with references. Call Jodi at 920-0070

Offered: Our excellent dependable nanny is available from 2-5PM every day to clean your house. Ericka 486-0484

Offered: Five adorable kittens to give away in early June. Call Dick at 521-0731

Found: Wedding ring, inscribed on the inside. Call Lisa at 271-0659

For Sale: Child Craft crib--cherry \$150, Fisher Price Car seat \$25, Gerry high chair \$25, Century play yard \$25, Football toy bin \$5, 2 Fisher Price gates \$5/each, Crative Playthings playground set with 3 swings, slide fort and sand box \$200. Call Karen 920-9346

For Sale: Solid wood Sofa and 2 chairs all for \$175. Call Jim or Kathy Kerr 892-6458

## AIDS Benefit Plant Sale

The plant sale will be held at the Community House Saturday, May 1, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Proceeds go to the AIDS Ride and the Barcroft Community House. The plants go fast, so come early. If you have any questions, contact Peter Wood, 892-1692 or [rustymetal@mindspring.com](mailto:rustymetal@mindspring.com)

# Events May Events May Events

## Special Events

Saturday, May 1 ⇒ **AIDS Benefit Plant Sale**, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Call Peter Wood at 892-1692 for details.

Saturday, May 1 ⇒ **Larry Unger Guitar Concert**, 7:30 p.m., Community House. \$5 contribution. Call Julie at 979-0339 for details.

Thursday, May 6 ⇒ **BSCL Meeting**, "Landscape Plans," 7:30 p.m., Community House.

Saturday, May 8 ⇒ **Columbia Pike Blues Festival**, Patrick Henry School, noon.

Friday, May 14 ⇒ **Retirement Party**, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m., Community House

Sunday, May 23 ⇒ **Spring Barbecue**, 4:00 p.m., Community House

## Regular Events

May 7, 14, 21, 28 ⇒ **Play Group**, local playgrounds TBA (call Lisa Rom, 486-2983)

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Barcroft School and Civic League

800 South Buchanan Street

Arlington, VA 22204