

# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 97, No 10

June 2000

## **Barcroft 12<sup>th</sup> Annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade!**

Come and march or come and watch. Build a float! Perform! Anyone can join in the fun. The parade starts at 10:00 a.m. sharp on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. We will start and finish at the Community House. Just show up! The Magical Genie will amaze grownups and kids after the parade and during the picnic. Please call Parade Chairman Andrew Hunter at 703-979-8247 if you have any questions. See you there!

## **Marchers Unite!**

Calling all Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, musicians, dancers, fire engines, police motorcycles, antique car owners, float makers, 8<sup>th</sup> Road precision mulching law

mower team (with their shame defying stunts), kids in strollers and kids on bikes, dragons and other walkers....

to unite and march in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade!

## **World-Infamous Barcroft Marching Fiddle Band Needs You!**

Fiddle players, violinists, and other string players--dust off your instruments. The Fiddle Band (along with violins, mandolins, guitars, etc) marches in the Fourth-of-July parade every year. Don't worry if you aren't a virtuoso, or have forgotten how to hold the bow--quantity matters more than quality. Kids, beginners, fiddling dogs, all are welcome. Call Julie Gorka at 979-0339 for info, encouragement, and copies of the music. Please dress in loud, tasteless colors.

# Times of the Signs

Friday morning, June 1st, under the direct supervision of the Artiste herself, the Arl Co signs crew installed our first two neighborhood signs, the pair designed for George Mason Drive and 8th St. S.

Sara Leigh Merrey, designer of the signs, took off from work on a moment's notice to come and make sure the placement was correct. That's dedication!

Congratulations to the long-suffering Signs Committee and the long-suffering NCAC staff who finally brought this project together. Phase two will be the Arlington Boulevard sign, which will be much larger, and phase three will be the one on the W&OD trail. The signs look great to me! Randy Swart

# Barcroft Playgroup

Each Friday morning a group of Barcroft parents and children meet for a morning of play and conversation. We generally arrive at the parks between 9:30 and 10:00 as the weather heats up. The dates, places and directions are as follows:

June 16	Tuckahoe
23	Lyon Village Park
30	Madison Manor Park
July 7	Harrison Street Park
14	Lyon Park
21	Lyon Village Park
28	Madison Manor Park
Aug 4	Harrison Street Park
11	Lyon Park
18	Lyon Village Park
25	Madison Manor Park

Directions to each Park.

Harrison Street Park: Go N. on George Mason to Lee Highway (Rt. 29). Make a left on Lee Hwy. Make a right on Harrison Street. Go past the Safeway and Baskin Robbins into the more residential area, the park is on the right.

Lyon Park: Take Rt. 50 East and make a left on Irving St. You will go several blocks and see the park on your left. If you cross Pershing Dr., you've gone too far.

Lyon Village Park: Take Rt. 50 East. Make a left on Highland St. Stay on Highland street all the way through Clarendon and in to the residential area. The park will be on the left hand side. If you reach Lee Hwy. (rt 29) you've gone too far.

Tuckahoe: Take Geo. Mason North to Wash Blvd. Make a left on Wash Blvd. Stay on Wash Blvd all the way to the eas falls church metro station area. Make a right onto Sycamore Street. Tuckahoe is on the left some blocks up Sycamore.

Madison Manor Park: Take Geo. Mason N. to Wilson Blvd. Left on Wilson. Stay on Wilson and make a Right onto Roosevelt St. (near Ames and the Jiffy Lube). Make a right onto 12<sup>th</sup> Place (not 12<sup>th</sup> street which you will see first). The street winds through a neighborhood and turns into Quantico but the park will be on your left.

By September the playgroup will be looking for a new coordinator....maybe you? Contact Michelle, 703-920-8110, [rmherwig@erols.com](mailto:rmherwig@erols.com) for more information.

# Barcroft Elections

The entire slate of Barcroft officers was re-elected in May for their second -- and final -- one year term in office. Two board members, Scott Brinitzer and Tom Palance, asked to be relieved of their positions, and replacements were elected. They are Mike Behringer of 4610 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St., and Shirley Gay of 210 S. Abingdon St. Scott remains active with the garden, and Tom remains building manager. We thank Scott and Tom profusely for their many contributions -- and welcome Shirley and Mike to the board. Board terms last four years.

# Safety in Numbers

During your springtime activities, please take a minute to see if the identification numbers on your residence are clearly visible. The County Code [section 27-12] requires that the street identification number must be visible "from the curb line or pavement edge of the opposite side of the street on which the dwelling unit or building is located." This is critically important for emergency responders [police, fire, and paramedics] who need to find your residence quickly. If there is an alley behind your residence, is the number posted there as well? Do lights or the lack of lights make the number difficult to see at night? Please take a minute to check and, if you find a problem, please fix it as soon as possible.

Be safe. Steve Holl, Captain, 3rd District Commander

# *Life Comes to Barcroft*

by Pennie Kinsey

Chant each arrival dear robin, cardinal and bluejay

Stretch blossom-necked forsythia and daffodil

Kiss drizzly light mist neighboring lawn

Gather close cloaken fog

Revive wind blown jogger in mossy scent

Coax slumbering yawn to vibrant life

Waakkkeee uuuppp

Wake up

*WAKE UP BARCROFT*

# Barcroft News

# Contributions

Please don't mail contributions to the *News* to the Community House. Instead, send them to Mark Wigfield, 624 S. Buchanan, or preferably, e-mail them to [mark@bscl.org](mailto:mark@bscl.org). You may also send them directly to Mark Rom at 4636 Third St. if you are already doing so or, even better, by e-mail to [romm@gunet.georgetown.edu](mailto:romm@gunet.georgetown.edu). Documents in attached Microsoft Word format are desirable but not necessary. If you use a word processing program other than the Beast from Redmond's, paste a duplicate in the body of the message to be safe.

**This is the Final Issue of the NEWS for the Summer. Thanks so much to everyone -- contributors and deliverers -- for your help. See you in September!**

# Letter to the Editor

April 18, 2000

Dear Editor:

This letter is prompted by the appearance of an on-going love-feast between the Association and the Demeter House, based on certain actions and recurring (monthly) PR articles on the House in the *Barcroft News*. The House is here and is to be tolerated but not embraced; certainly not at the Association level. To be otherwise would be contra to the Association's record of overwhelmingly negative position on the location of the House, a demeaning of the resulting casualties and a playing into the hands of Vanguard for its benefit in the next like venture. There should be no quarrel with the Vanguard clients but no so as to Vanguard and their handmaidens, the County staff. Empathy for the clients and their efforts to rid themselves of their drug addiction is understandable. So too the desire to have the House succeed if it fits one's political agenda. Both those efforts and desires are best supported at the individual level or by outside groups and not carry the imprimatur of the Association or the perception of such. When the location of the House was at issue, I have recollection of a remark by a then-County Board to the effect that once the House is here for a year, no one will know that it exists. Such, of course, has not occurred. With the Association having recently been caught with its over-zealous hand in the cookie jar, i.e., running the ill-fated Demeter photo on the Association's web site, this might well be the time to

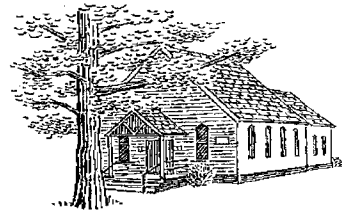
declare a moratorium on the House PR articles.

Sincerely yours,

Frank T. Peartree, S. Third St.

Editors note: This letter was received too late to appear in the May issue. As the *Barcroft News* went to press, Demeter House was facing its second sixth-month review at the County level at the Saturday, June 10 meeting. No complaints have surfaced at this point. County staff has recommended that compliance reviews be annual rather than every six months; the BSCL board has agreed, but will ask that review be shifted from June to February to better accommodate BSCL meeting schedules and leadership transition times. After that 8-month period, reviews would become annual.

**Come Dance, or  
Pin the Tail, or  
Toast Your Friends  
Host Your Party at the  
Barcroft Community House**



**Large space, small rental fee;  
Sparkling new kitchen &  
restroom  
Call 521-1116 for reservations**

*The Pines of Naples*  
*Serving Barcrofters the*  
*finest spaghetti....*  
*until they are full!*

3205 Columbia Pike  
Arlington  
703-521-7551

## Casey O'Neal

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## Sizzling Summer Begins

Trav Fick is shaking his head: another accident on Buchanan - drunk driver reportedly; people groaning about speed and volume. Want to do something about it? Several neighbors are joining the Radar Training Effort June 5 to train ourselves on what speeding is and to alert drivers of their speeds.

Here are some other activities: plan Barcroft Traffic improvements on July 6, Thursday, 7:30 PM at 216 South Abingdon Street. Agenda: current County road counts on our streets, accident (s) on Buchanan/what to ask County to do, and County Fair opportunity to talk with passers-by about traffic. The Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee needs help covering the Fair booth on August 18, 19, 20. It would be a great chance to share our 'DRIVE 25" and other traffic concerns with drivers on our streets and elsewhere. Call Elaine Squeri 703-920-7014. Don't just shake your head - shake up creativity!

## Spring Barbecue Best

On May 13 the Barcroft neighborhood got to hear some of the hottest New Orleans jazz (served by Tom Palance and company, "Crawdad" style), eat the finger-lickingest barbecue (smoked by David Michaelson and his team), sip the ice-coldest drinks, and enjoy the lip-smackingest potluck dishes...courtesy of many, many loyal volunteers. Thanks, all!

# Spaghetti Feast

On January 23rd close to 150 Barcrofters gathered at the Community House and feasted on a home made spaghetti dinner. New 8th Rd. neighbors Helene Stebbins and Ed Foley along with Gary Mason (Gary and wife Sarah bought the Handy house) decorated the House and created just the right atmosphere for macaroni mania. Soon the House was full of new and old neighbors breaking bread, drinking wine, soda, and consuming about 11 gallons of sauce. By 5:45 Scott Peterson, of South Wakefield, commandeered the stage to set up another table for the arriving crowds (good thing we didn't need the stage for entertainment!). At 6:30 it was apparent that the sauce was running out. Chef Palance used the sauce hot-line to call neighbor George Khan, owner of Pines of Naples, for more sauce. Generous George offered us a gallon of his delicious marinara sauce. Ed Foley ran out and picked up one more gallon to replenish the supply. When 7 p.m. finally came around Howard Deardorff, Bruce Atkinson and Tom Palance were relieved to have had enough to feed the entire crowd. Many thanks go to Helene, Ed and Gary for setting up, the tireless efforts of Howard Deardorff and Bruce Atkinson for making the kitchen run smoothly, Maureen Locke, Randy and Barbara Swart, and the many neighbors that helped clean up. Also thanks to those who brought desserts. Thank you to Peg Lefebvre who collected a record \$905 at the door. After expenses \$582 will go to the Community House fund! Mille grazie all.

# Barcroft Exchange

Offered: Dog walking and Pet sitting. Call Becky Wilson at 703-920-9410 or SheBec7@hehe.com

Offered: Babysitting. Red Cross certified. 15 years old. Call Lauren Wilson at 703-920-9410

For Sale: Available late Fall. 3BR up, 2 ½ BA, updated kitchen with new appliances. 1<sup>st</sup> floor office/den, fine family room, screen porch, deck, hardwood, tile, lovely landscaped lot. Call 703-486-1220.

## 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
<i>Neighborhood News</i>	Kathy Kerr, 892-6458

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

### BSCL Officers for 1999-2000

<i>President</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Vice President</i>	Marie Korn, 521-8069
<i>Recording Secy.</i>	Bruce Atkinson, 979-4868
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Corres. Secy.</i>	Sharon Tope, 920-2567
<i>Membership Secy.</i>	Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Board Members</i>	Jim Kerr, David Michaelson Mike Behringer, Shirley Gay

### Community House

<i>Facility Mgr.</i>	Tom Palance 979-8366
<i>Restoration</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Fundraising</i>	Vacant
<i>Landscaping</i>	Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308
<i>Traffic Committee</i>	Elaine Squeri 920-7014
<i>Parade</i>	Andrew Hunter 979-8247
<i>Columbia Pike</i>	Bryant Moore 271-0944
<i>Demeter</i>	Daphne Miller 920-5681
<i>Crime</i>	vacant
<i>Parks</i>	vacant
<i>Volunteers</i>	Scott Royal 553-0909

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

## Could Have Been Dead Man's Curve

Recently a car traveling north on S. Buchanan just before "dead man's curve" at S. Pershing careened off the road, crashed through a wooden fence at 608 S. Buchanan, tore across the yard, and plummeted down the ravine into the woods, stopping just short of Grandma's Creek. The car probably would have landed in the creek had it not smashed through a stump and boulder in the yard. The driver, who police believed to be drunk, was fortunately not seriously hurt.

This is the second time in about six weeks a car has plowed through the yard of this house at 608 S. Buchanan. Clearly, both these incidents are examples of why traffic calming is needed on S. Buchanan. Thanks goodness no one was walking along the sidewalk -- a popular route to the W&OD bike path -- was in the yard, or was driving southbound in the lane.

Unfortunately, the county's traffic calming program is slow-moving and bureaucratic. But I think we can move on at least one item: a four-way stop at 8th and Buchanan. This costs no money, creates one disincentive for cut-through, and makes people slow down for at least one block. I know all the S. Buchanan residents who were there watching police pull the guy and his car out of the ravine would be ready to sign a petition for just about anything at this point. I hope other neighbors will join us in getting some sensible traffic calming measures underway. President Mark Wigfield.

## Barcroft Exchange, Take 2

Wanted: Used sewing machine. Call Julie or Cara at 979-03391 e-mail [mjccj@his.com](mailto:mjccj@his.com)

For Sale: Swing - battery operated with interchangeable chair and bassinet attachments by Graco. \$35. High Chair by Century with one hand tray release, large tray and adjustable height. \$30 Infant car seat - Century, Navy and taupe. \$20 Exerciser - \$15 Play Gyms - Bouncy Seat - with battery operated vibrator by Fisher Price. \$12 Baby Gate - with one hand release by Safety First. \$5 Nursing pillow - with great back support and removable, washable cover. \$12 Other items Call Mary at 486-1220.

## Rom's Reflections

What, you might ask, is an article about a spaghetti dinner in January doing in a June newsletter? The simple answer: I forgot to print it in March, April, and, ummm, May, even though I received gentle reminders to do so. (I blame tricky software, tight deadlines, and editorial stupidity for the delay, not in that order.)

So why print this old news now? Because the message is as important in the sweat as it was in the snow: many, many individuals volunteered their time, energies, and talents for the good of this community. They certainly don't do it for the money or the glory....and yet they keep on doing it. The spring barbecue was hosted by many of those same neighbors who had not yet been thanked for the spaghetti. Actually, we really can't thank them all enough. We should try, though.

## Summer Events Summer Events Summer Events

Tuesday, July 4 ⇒ **BSCL Fourth of July Parade**, 10.a.m., Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Street.

Every Friday, June – August ⇒ **Parent/Child Playgroup**, 9:30 a.m., various local parks (see details inside)



*The Barcroft Community House can be rented for your special event. Call 521-1116 for more information*

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