



Barcroft News

March 2002

Vol 99, Issue 7

President's Note

By Pat Williamson Edwards

Facing the Parking Problem

The February 7 BSCL featured a presentation on ways to stem the tide of parking woes encroaching on our Barcroft neighborhood from all sides by Inta Malis, President of the nearby Columbia Forest Civic Association. Both Columbia Forest and Douglas Park began suffering from problems with commercial vehicles and scores of non-residents parking in their neighborhoods several years ago. Inta's presentation detailed their situation and the actions the County staff took to assist them in alleviating these problems. Effective immediately, Barcroft will have its own Parking Task Force. Tom Palance of S. Eighth Road (and spaghetti dinner fame) will be the chairman. (See pg. XXX for more info). Thanks to Peg LeFebvre for coordinating the letter sent on January 28 from BSCL to County Board Chairman Chris Zimmerman detailing the parking crisis on S. George Mason Drive.

Support for Columbia Pike Renovation

Amid much controversy and discussion, a resolution supporting the Concept Plan for the Columbia Pike Revitalization process was approved by a majority of those members present to be forwarded to the County Board. Caveats of concerns were added to the general support document regarding density at Buchanan and Columbia Pike node, the alignment of Four Mile Run Minor and Columbia Pike and Buchanan, and an appropriate "step down" of density at the George Mason and Columbia Pike node as the commercial area meets the residential

neighborhood. The Planning Commission will meet on February 25 to hear further neighborhood comment. We are promised design input opportunities at "charettes" to be held in the Spring where neighbors may actively draw their design ideas on proposed plans. We must participate in this process in great numbers so that the diversity of feelings on the Columbia Pike development are made clear.

Please join us on Thursday, March 7, at 7:30 pm at the Community House for the monthly meeting. In the meantime, if you have not already joined up for BSCL e-mail news, please contact mark@bscl.org. Also check out our website - www.bscl.org. Randy Swart constantly posts meeting minutes, documents for comment and many other items. It is a great resource.

Late Breaking News: A building permit has been issued to BSCL for the ramp!!

With David's research, Bruce's construction plans, Randy's plat and the dedication of so many Barcrofters we are finally on our way. I also had incredible good luck which I accounted for at least half of this miracle — I walked through the process. It is even stamped HALRB approved!!!!

Let's dig and pour before the moon has many more phases. We can keep the grant money and we can welcome many more folks to independently access our beloved Community House.

Traffic Calming is Here!

Solid Community Support and Years of Hard Work Win County Board Approval for Barcroft Traffic Calming

By Mark Wigfield

In case you haven't heard, the Arlington County Board in late January approved not only traffic calming plans for S. Wakefield and S. Buchanan, but agreed to extend the plan to Third, Fourth and Abingdon Streets. Although it could be another year or two before traffic humps and circles grind their way through the budget-and-construction cycles, the local and county-wide significance of this 3-2 vote can't be overstated.

The Plan. It includes a series of five humps on S. Buchanan/Pershing, and circles on Wakefield between Fourth and Ninth. More humps will be installed on Third, Fourth and Abingdon. Some of the highest overall speeds in the neighborhood have been recorded on S. Fourth.

These measures could help reduce north-south cut-through traffic neighborhood-wide. They could discourage traffic cutting through on Taylor, 8th and Fourth St. since all exits to Arlington Blvd through Pershing or Abingdon will have humps.

The History. There was the long, hard work of our traffic calming chair, Elaine Squeri. Elaine helped develop the rules county-wide for ranking traffic calming priorities as a member of the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee, or NTCC, while also laboring on Barcroft's own problems.

There was the extraordinary effort by what is probably one of the most cohesive blocks in Barcroft, S. Abingdon, where Elaine also lives. Abingdon's efforts represent a text-book case of good old block-party neighborhood organizing, coupled with a lot of hard work and guts.

Led by former fireman and professional lobbyist Kenny Harrell, the Abingdon/3/4 crew accomplished the difficult task of persuading the county

board to go beyond the strict guidelines of the NTCC's traffic calming priority system, which awarded relief to Buchanan and Wakefield, but not Abingdon/3/4. Anyone who lives in the neighborhood knows that much of the traffic from Buchanan and Wakefield usually ends up on Abingdon/3/4.

Neighborhood activist Randy Swart must also be recognized for doing what he does best: Stepping in when an issue threatens to tear the neighborhood apart and fixing the problem, using his smarts, hard work, and relationships of trust with the county's powers-that-be.

The County Board. County-wide, Barcroft's campaign could result in the board devoting more money to traffic calming. Most of the Board members commented on the need for more resources for the program in the next budget cycle. The grassroots uprising by the 3rd/4th/Abingdon contingent led by Kenny, plus strong overall neighborhood support, did a lot to demonstrate that this is a program whose time has come, and the pressure on the Board in the future will come from those who are waiting too long for traffic calming rather than the nay sayers.

Without that kind of demonstrated support they would be reluctant to move faster. The Abingdon/3/4 neighbors who appeared and cheered in the Board room probably did more to affect public policy than just get three additional streets calmed!

The vote will also spark a review of the NTCC criteria for ranking traffic calming projects, which the majority said fell short by failing to address cut-through traffic.

(cont. on next page)

(cont. from pg. 2) While the NTCC was slated to start the first review of its guidelines in March, the vote in January gives them a real mandate to do so.

The vote marks the emergence in Barcroft of the board's newest member, Charles Monroe, as a thoughtful and creative politician. Charles "got it" on the ground level as he sat with Kenny on S. Abingdon and watched the cars stream by. And he was able to effectively frame his gut reaction into a motion grounded in sound legal arguments about why the board, in this case, should go beyond the recommendations of the NTCC.

Charles pointed out that while the county legally recognizes that cut-through traffic is a problem, the NTCC had ignored it. This enabled Charles to effectively counter arguments by members Jay Fisette and Barbara Favola.

Jay and Barbara took the principled stand that making an exception for Abingdon/3/4 would undermine the NTCC and open the board to relentless lobbying by neighborhoods trying to get traffic calming through politics

rather than merit. But Charles was backed by board member Paul Ferguson, and his reasoning swung the vote of board Chairman Chris Zimmerman. In the end, Chris, who is up for election this year, demonstrated his signature pragmatism, casting the swing vote in favor of amending the plan.

Chris noted that a cut-through study that we demanded demonstrated that Barcroft has become a commuter route. And cut-through tends to bring higher-speed, hurried drivers. He noted that drivers trying to avoid humps on Pershing would go to Abingdon. He noted the high speeds on Third and Fourth, even if traffic volumes are relatively low.

"So in the end, we have a problem," he said. "Do we say we can't do anything about it? I'm not willing to say that."

At any rate, the day was a huge success for Barcroft, and another sign of what a great neighborhood this is. There is a history, work and commitment behind victories like this one that you can't build in a day.

KUDOS

By Elaine Squeri

While Traffic affairs are quiet now and for awhile, Trav Fick and I add our personal congratulations to you all and our thanks for your patience, persistence, perspectives, and individual contributions to Barcroft's Traffic Calming endeavor. This effort is certainly more than the Plan or the Petition or the measures themselves or the meetings, small and large, since 1995, it is the sum of time, talent, energy, and life-expectations that kept us going to resolution. And whenever you gently roll over a hump or turn smoothly around a circle, remember all that went into these lumps of concrete!

EVALUATION TIME

Traffic Calming - Is it effective? Is the process fair? Is it addressing problems that affect neighborhood streets? Do you have any recommendations? The NTCC will start its review of the process it created and has been testing for two funding sessions with the third session just announced February 4. Your feedback is needed. Send it either to Elaine (frenchsqueri@erols.com) or to the NTCC care of Jeff Sikes at DPW/TC, 2100 Clarendon Blvd. #714, Arlington, VA 22201 or email: jsikes@coarlington.va.us.

BSCL Resolution Supports Columbia Pike Plan

By Bryant Monroe

Change is good! Change is good? Well, change is hard... and changing the image of Columbia Pike raises both excitement and promise alongside apprehension and doubt in our neighborhood. As the Columbia Pike Initiative enters an active stage, residents along the corridor must consider the trade-offs and decide what they want to see along the Pike. Will the initiatives create an energetic and responsive venue, improving the surrounding areas? Or does the proposed density spell unwanted parking, traffic and congestion problems?

The BSCL considered the draft Columbia Pike Initiative at its February meeting. The County Board will consider Phase I of the Plan at its March 9 meeting. Phase I of the Plan lays out the general concepts for revitalizing the Pike, focusing on four "nodes" for development, two of which directly affect Barcroft. The Plan envisions development at George Mason and at Buchanan Street enticed by various economic development incentives and some measure of increased density.

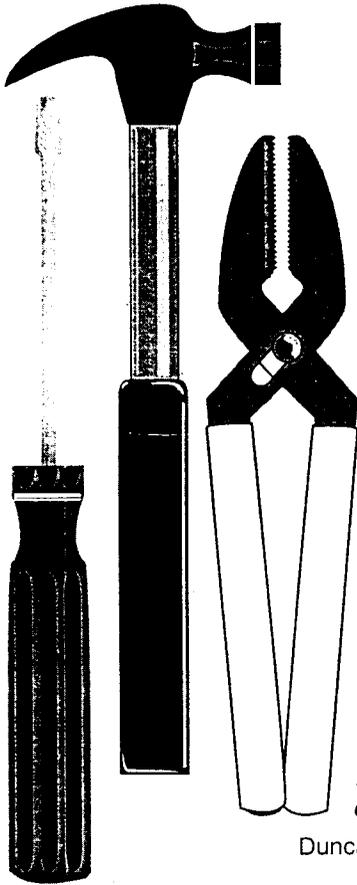
The discussion began with a question and answer session with Bob Rulli of the County's Department of Economic Development, and Tim Lynch, Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization. Rulli fielded questions about the Plan's increased density at Buchanan Street. Several Barcrofters expressed frustration with the Plan's illustrations showing a maximum height of six stories at the Buchanan Street intersection. Mr. Rulli pointed out that the "by-right" use of that intersection could be substantially more than currently exists, and that six story buildings would only be approved with substantial concessions from developers. Further, without any changes a developer could propose higher density using the "site plan" approach. While contentious at times, this discussion con-

cluded with some Barcrofters expressing their opposition to the Plan's increased density, and others supporting the need for incentives to bring improvements to Barcroft's portion of the Pike. Several Barcrofters also questioned the development that would occur at George Mason Drive.

Mr. Lynch talked about the second Phase's design guidelines for the Pike, to be crafted on a neighborhood by neighborhood basis. There will be a series of forums at which interested citizens can work with County staff and architects/planners to develop a neighborhood vision for how development should proceed. These meetings will be held in the Spring, and will offer all those interested to actively participate in what is billed as an innovative approach to zoning and land use regulations.

At the conclusion of the discussion two similar resolutions were debated, with one ultimately approved. Both resolutions supported the Plan. The resolution not approved would have spelled out in greater detail the Barcroft concern about density at Buchanan Street. The approved resolution includes two less detailed caveats - that the County keep in mind Barcroft's concern about density at Buchanan Street and the realignment of the Four Mile Run (minor) intersection. The resolution was forwarded to the County Board for use in their deliberations on the Plan on March 9.

Interested citizens may email the Board to express their opinion on the Plan by using the County's home page (see the Barcroft home page for instructions). The County's Planning Commission will consider the Plan on February 27 and make its own recommendation to the Board. If you have any questions, or would like to see copy of the Plan, please contact Bryant Monroe (703-271-0944) the Barcroft representative on the CPRO Board.



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James, S. Taylor St.



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Barcroft Principal Named "Person of Vision"

Miriam Hughey-Guy, principal of Barcroft Elementary School, has received one of the county's highest honors — the 2002 "Person of Vision" leadership award, this year celebrating "Women Sustaining the American Spirit." Arlington Public Schools Superintendent Robert Smith nominated her for the award, which is presented by the Commission on the Status of Women.

The award adds to a number of laurels Ms. Hughey-Guy has received in recent months. Earlier this year, a Washington-based research group said Barcroft was one of 4,577 schools nationwide successfully challenging the long-held belief that poor or minority students can't do well in school. Barcroft's reading and mathematics test scores rank in the top third of Virginia schools. Last year, Barcroft became the first ethnically

and economically diverse school in Arlington to meet Virginia's tough Standards of Learning requirements for full state accreditation.

Barcroft is known for its small class sizes, viewed as particularly important in the early learning years. Ms. Hughey-Guy is also proposing another strategy to enhance student learning — a "modified school calendar" designed to help students retain academic material throughout a shortened summer break and curriculum-supporting "intercessions" during the year. (The program would go into effect with the 2003-04 school year; anyone interested in finding out more should contact Ms. Hughey-Guy at 703-228-5838 to set up a parent briefing).

The following is an article Ms. Hughey-Guy wrote for Virginia Parent News' "Principal's Corner" on the reasons for Barcroft's success.

Steps to Success: Words from the Principal

By Miriam Hughey-Guy

Barcroft Elementary School is a neighborhood school that strives for excellence and embraces the richness of its diverse student population. Many people ask us how we have raised student achievement on standardized test scores to become fully accredited. The answer is simple — we have great teachers, involved parents, motivated students and committed business partners, school administrators and central office staff who all believe that children can and will achieve. We hold ourselves accountable for the success of our students and strive to provide *every* student with a quality education.

Barcroft has a diverse student population: 60 percent Hispanic, 21 percent Caucasian, 11 percent Asian, and 8 percent African/African American. In addition to English, 18 different languages are spoken. Approximately 60 percent of the students are eligible for free or reduced-price

breakfast/lunch. Some people describe our school as a high minority, high poverty, high achievement school. We refer to our school as a school with 550-plus eager and enthusiastic learners who depend on their teachers, parents and school system to give them the best education possible.

The following are just some of the techniques and programs we have implemented to ensure our students' success.

THE INSTRUCTIONAL DAY

Our rigorous instructional day is designed to meet our students' individual needs. Homeroom classes are grouped heterogeneously and are small in size. During reading/language arts time, groups of 8 to 12 students are taught in uninterrupted blocks of 1.5 to 2.5 hours daily. Supporting these classes are reading, special education, ESOL and gifted specialists.

Fifth grade students are invited to participate in the Principal's Reading Club during lunch and after school. During the daily, one-hour math class, an additional instructional staff member is assigned to each class to support instruction and lower the teacher/student ratio. With guidance and assistance from the school's lead science teacher, science is a real hands-on learning experience. *History Alive!* is used to teach social studies. All students take art, music, physical education, library and computer classes on a weekly basis. Field trips and special performances regularly enrich learning.

THE LEONARDO DA VINCI PROJECT

One project focused on enriching and raising student achievement is the teacher-designed exemplary school program, the Leonardo da Vinci Project, now in its 12th year. Each unit is organized around essential questions related to a theme or concept that focuses learning.

The Leonardo da Vinci Project fully incorporates the Virginia Standards of Learning and the county-approved curriculum expectations. Students at all levels are involved in focused thinking and problem-solving activities. In addition, art and writing become "real events" for audience sharing and publication. The activity culminates with the Leonardo da Vinci Fair, an academic night when students demonstrate their learning through products from all areas of the curriculum.

UP TO B.A.T. (Barcroft Assistance Team)

Every Tuesday morning, an early intervention team of 15 teachers and the school's administrators, led by the guidance counselor, meets to dis-

cuss children who are experiencing difficulties academically, socially and/or emotionally. Specialists from all areas share their expertise and offer assistance. Each child is monitored closely by an assigned mentor.

AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

Barcroft invites students in grades two through five to extend their learning experiences in math, reading, and history with after-school classes held Monday through Thursday. The PTA also sponsors after-school enrichment for K-5 students on Wednesdays and Fridays, focusing on computers, art, drama and recreational activities.

BARCROFT SUMMER ACADEMY

While many students' school year is interrupted by the summer, over 425 of our 550-plus students attend Barcroft Summer Academy. The Academy gives students a jump-start on the next grade level curriculum or extends the school year for those who need additional time to complete their grade level requirements. This coming summer the students will have an opportunity to participate in M.A.R.E. – a science-based program focused on marine science, funded by the H.R.C. Foundation and Arlington Public Schools.

Success is not magic. It's hard work, dedication, and commitment! Barcroft's staff, with the support and assistance from involved parents, business partners, community members and central office personnel, makes it possible for all students to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

Additional 22204 School success stories.... According to Dr. Ward, principal of Kenmore Middle School, there were close to one hundred applications for inbound transfers for the '01 school year versus the 30 requests they'd seen in previous years. Word seems to be getting out about Kenmore's Arts, Communication & Technology focus!



Hatha Yoga

In this progressive course, you will learn yoga poses, breathing techniques and deep relaxation that combine to unblock and increase the energy within your body. Yoga is for everyone regardless of age or present physical condition. Come, enjoy and stay young with yoga. Please bring a mat and a blanket or 2. Wear non-restrictive clothing. We do yoga in bare feet.

Classes:

Mondays *Level 1 Beginner 6:30pm - 7:45pm
*Level 2 Intermediate 8:00pm - 9:15pm
Tuesdays Level 1 Beginner 7:45pm - 9:15pm

Qigong

Sometimes referred to as Chinese Yoga, Qigong is an ancient healing art that combines movement, deep breathing and meditation. Qi is "life Force", the essence of nature itself that nourishes and energizes all living things. The style of Qigong taught in this class is called Wuji Yuan Gong. It is a system of moving and non-moving Qigong meditations for improving physical health, the emotions, and opening the heart.

Classes:

Tuesdays *Qigong 6:30pm - 7:45pm

*Some classes currently in session still have room available and can be attended at a prorated cost.

Location: Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Street, Arlington, VA
Mondays: \$110 / 11 weeks starting Monday April 8, 2002 (No class May 27th, Memorial Day)
Tuesdays: \$120 / 12 weeks starting Tuesday April 9, 2002

To register or for more info: Call John Kuberka at **703.527.5906**
Or email at johnkuberka@hotmail.com

Instructor: John Kuberka (RYT) is a Registered Yoga Teacher with the Yoga Alliance. John is also a certified Qigong teacher in the Wuji Yuan Gong style of Qigong

E mail workshops?



These classes are affiliated with **Peaceable Dragon**, a consortium of instructors and students of the internal arts who seek to further develop and enhance their physical, emotional and spiritual condition.

For additional classes, visit our website at www.PeaceableDragon.org

Time to Thank the Board

By Randy Swart

On January 26th the County Board acted at Barcroft's request and extended our traffic calming measures to 3rd, 4th and Abingdon. When they are that enlightened it is important to send thank you notes! In particular, we need to thank Charles Monroe. His motion was really the key to getting the relief we needed for those three additional blocks.

We need to emphasize that the Board action will unify neighborhood support for traffic calming by avoiding diversion of traffic. We might also point out that 4th Street in particular has some of the highest measured speeds of any neighborhood street in Arlington. Its "85th percentile speed" is a stunning 38 mph, meaning that one car in six is traveling at more than 38. That's a car every 15 minutes at over 38. So the Board action reaffirmed Arlington's determination to make our neighborhood streets safer for

pedestrians and children.

You can send an email thank you to the Board addressing it to:
countyboard@co.arlington.va.us

You can mail a paper note to the whole Board by addressing it to:
Charles Monroe or Chris Zimmerman, Chairman

Arlington County Board
2100 Clarendon Blvd STE 300
Arlington, VA 22201.

It does not have to be a formal letter. A handwritten note from a senior citizen who is afraid to cross the street because of speeding cars probably counts double!

You can call 703-228-3130 and leave a message for the Board or for Charles Monroe. This type of voice mail is easy and quick.

Your mother taught you about bread-and-butter letters. Now is the time!

March Meeting: Affordable Housing & Columbia Pike

In our continuing discussions about the Columbia Pike redevelopment, we will turn to issues somewhat unrelated to traffic, density and parking.

There is a well-known deficit of housing throughout the region, and this particularly affects low-income families. While many support the redevelopment and revitalization of Columbia Pike, what affect will this have on the current housing crunch? This month's meeting will hopefully provide insights into affordable housing issues, with particular emphasis on how the proposed Columbia Pike redevelopment will affect housing. Reid Goldstein, former president of

the Douglas Park neighborhood association as well as former president of CPRO, will discuss how the Pike plan addresses affordable housing. Doug Petersen, the Executive Director of the Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing (APAH), will also be on hand to provide insights from an advocacy group. APAH is a non-profit organization that, subsidized by the County, buys multifamily buildings and rents them at affordable rates. They also provide a small amount of affordable homes for first-time buyers. Please join us for a meeting of new perspectives on the future of Columbia Pike.

The Parking Scene: Part II

Letter to BSCL President:

After reading Peg Lefebvre's article on the parking situation on George Mason, I felt the need to respond describing a similar situation on our street. In the last two years I have noticed a great increase of the number of non-street residents parking on 8th Rd S. I especially notice the cars parked on the weekend evenings. Since we are the only residents on our street without a driveway I am sometimes left with no space to park near my house so I am forced to park in my neighbors' driveways.

There have been other problems associated with this recent parking situation. There is a lot of noise coming from the vehicles as they are looking for spaces up and down the road late at night. Sometimes trash such as beer bottles and fast food bags are left on the curb. On at least three occa-

sions there have been drunken fights occurring on the street late at night. Occasionally the non-street residents leave their cars for the entire weekend leaving me without a space in front of my house.

We have lived in our house fourteen years and paid business as well as property taxes and like other Barcroft neighbors have seen a dramatic increase in these taxes. As a home owner, I feel I should be able to park near my house and enjoy peace and quiet in the evening. Any support from you or the BSCL on this matter would be appreciated before the only thing louder than the blaring music and fights on my street is the sound of our property values crashing to the ground.

Thank you, Tom Palance

Reading, Writing and Etiquette

By Susan Tenenbaum

A nice thing happened at the Barcroft school last fall. After an August vacation I returned home to find, to my dismay, what appeared to be a large Amtrak passenger train pulled up permanently at its "siding," the southern fence of the Barcroft School.

On closer inspection, this large and unwelcome apparition turned out to be ten mobile classrooms (read "trailers") replacing the two of the previous year. After averting my eyes did not make them go away, I wrote a small note to Mrs. Hughey-Guy, the school principal, asking if anything could be done to soften the visual impact and the noise of the compressors.

She explained that Barcroft has an influx of students while the Claremont school is renovated. When that school is ready, the trailers should disappear. However, in her usual energetic and efficient fashion she proposed to do

something about it, pointing out that other Arlington schools have trees to screen their temporary trailers.

After September 11, the trailers seemed less important and I lost sight of the issue. The fall drought brought me along the back fence watering plants. Though I'd been trying hard not to dwell on our large new neighbor, as I watered I noticed—to my surprise and great pleasure—six lovely, sizeable white pines neatly planted along the trailers on the side facing 8th St.

They won't be noticed by most of the neighborhood for several years, as even at 6 feet tall, their presence is dwarfed by beige siding. But I am heartened to think that someday those trees will soften the long, forbidding metal wall. If all goes as planned and the trailers are removed in a few years, so much the better.

(cont. on pg. 11)

Announcements: What's Going On

• PARKING COMMITTEE FORMING

There is a new committee forming to address the recent concerns of many neighbors about parked cars and commercial vehicles in Barcroft. Problems include many non-home owners parking in the neighborhood late at night, making noise, throwing trash out of their cars, and parking commercial vehicles in areas which cause blind spots for on-coming traffic. The first step in solving these problems is input from as many neighbors as possible. We need YOU! Tom Palance will be chairing a committee to address the parking situation in our neighborhood. If you would like to join this group or express concerns about this matter, please send e-mail to tlpalance@yahoo.

Sparrow Pond Restoration Project: If you've been on the bike path recently, you may have noticed some surprising changes to Sparrow Pond. Restoration has begun, starting with drastic work by bulldozers. The water from the old Sparrow Pond had been seeping under the W&OD trail and undermining it. The plans for the new site include three small ponds, with an improved outlet running under the trail. The area will be replanted with native wetland plants. When the project is completed, the nature center staff will

stock the pond with native frogs, toads, salamanders and aquatic turtles.

The project should take 90-120 days and should be done by no later than June. *(By Julie Gorka, with info from Greg Zell of the Long Branch Nature Center)*

Annual Stream Clean Up: The Long Branch Nature Center will hold its annual Stream Clean Up on Saturday, March 9, from 9:00-noon. The Park Rangers will be organizing the clean-up of Four Mile Run, and are looking for volunteers and volunteer groups. To sign up, please call the Ranger Station at (703) 525-0168.

New Carlyn Springs Elementary Welcomes

Visitors: Principal Chris Sutton is happy to have interested Arlingtonians visit the beautiful new elementary school. Visits may be conducted on the First Tuesday of the month, between 6 and 7 PM, which is before the schools' PTA meeting. Principal Sutton is usually the guide.

Wednesdays are also available, 1 - 2PM.

Chris Berman, school staff member, conducts these tours. She recommends coming the 1st or 3rd Wednesdays, at 1 PM; this fits between children's dismissal and teacher meetings. The school is two floors and that there is an elevator available.

RESERVATIONS must be made for either day and one would call 703-228-6645. The school is at 5995 S. 5th Road, next to the Kenmore Middle School.

(cont.. from pg. 10) The plants will continue to make a lovely boundary for school playground and activities when the trailers are long gone.

I have written Mrs. Hughey-Guy and the Arlington County Schools to thank them, but I wanted the larger neighborhood to know of this addition to the school grounds and eventually to our neighborhood.

(Susan lives at 4413 S. 8th St, where you can stand on the front sidewalk and see the "train". If you walk to the back and peer through the fence you will see the trees; in a few years you will see them from the front, as well!)

Arlington Mill Center Offers Much While Planning for Future

By Bill Lykes

The area for the Arlington Mill Community is comprised of five Civic Associations in an area adjacent to Fairfax County border: Barcroft, Columbia Forest, Columbia Heights West, Douglas Park, Forest Glen, and Glencarlyn -- 14% of Arlington. In 2000, the population of this area was 26,456; roughly, 43% Hispanic or Latino 29%, White, 29%, African-American 13%, Asian 11% -- and some others. The Hispanic or Latino population is 19% of Arlington. (Source: US Census Bureau)

A number of programs are underway to provide special support to the area, and the Center is very active. This is no doubt promoted by temporary presence of the ESOL school that occupies much of the space on a temporary basis. There is both ongoing and occasional need for individuals to support various programs. Contact the Center for more information if you are inter-

ested in helping. Programs include:

- A public computer center with technical support
- English as a second language courses for adults
- Citizen "Santas." This past Xmas, many citizens acted as substitute Santas, providing food and clothing to help needy families. The Center provided family names and their needs. The family received their gifts from the Center.
- The 'Farmers & Craft Market,' scheduled for late Spring, has a number of vendor applications in hand, and room for a few more.
- Job training and placement assistance

The design of the future Center is still in process, and is projected to start after the school ESOL moves.



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

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Restoration Jim Kerr, 892-6458
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Landscaping Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308

Traffic Committee Elaine Squeri, 920-7014
Parking Task Force Tom Palance, 979-8366
Parade Andrew Hunter, 979-8247
Columbia Pike Bryant Monroe, 271-0944
Demeter Darlene Mickey

Crime vacant
Parks Shelley Fichtner, 486-0856
Volunteers Scott Royal, 553-0909

The *Barcroft News* is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.
All phone numbers are area code 703.

Barcroft Exchange

Free Tools: Any woodworker who would like to have an old Sears 12" bandsaw, please call Ron French at 703-920-7014. The saw is about 25 years old, works fine, comes with some extra blades, and is free to its new owner.

Cat for Adoption: Looking for a good home for my sweet, gentle female cat. Irie is 11 years old and in excellent health. We are moving to the West Coast this summer and fear the stress of the move will be too much for Irie. She is an indoor cat, although she has been an outdoor cat in the past. She is good with kids and has always been gentle with our now three-year-old daughter. She tolerates dogs (including ours), but would prefer a home without one. She gets along well with other cats. If you think your family might be right for Irie, please e-mail or call Jodi Cleesattle at jcleesattle@rdblaw.com or (703) 920-0070.

Projection TV, Nova-Beam, 5.5' wide x 5' tall— excellent condition, just too big for our house! Perfect for a day care, business, movie or sports lover. Best Buy cost \$5000 and up. We're asking \$750/obo. Call Carol or Paul, 703-892-4640.

Got Something to sell? Let your neighbors know about it— send in your classified ad by the 15th of each month. Email editor@BSCL.org or call 271-0631. **Babysitters!** Are you out there? If you are a babysitter, advertise your talents in next month's newsletter!

The Casey O'Neal Team at RE/MAX Horizons



Casey O'Neal
Associate Broker

Rosemarie Johnson
Buyer Specialist



703-824-4800

Arlington Resident and Specialist
Free Notary Service for Barcroft Residents
Representing Buyers & Sellers throughout Northern VA

Before you make a move, get the facts on buying and selling real estate via the internet! Free reports, a link to the Local MLS, Financing strategies, & much more at www.HomeSaleAdvisor.com, your ultimate resource for all of your real estate needs.

Coming soon at 614 N. Taylor Street in North Barcroft!

3 New Luxury Homes offered for sale at \$495,000

4 Bedrooms, 3 finished levels, 2 Car Garages, 11,500 sq.ft lots

Call or email Casey or Rosemarie for details. 703-824-4800, casey@caseyoneal.com.

Are you making a career transition?

Do you know the work you would like, but don't know how to get it?

Try working with a career coach— it can help you focus on what you want and create plans for getting there.

For more information, call—

Carol Roller

703.979.2175

aland@erols.com

Career Coaching

Finding the right career fit!

BARN DANCE!!

Saturday, March 9, 8:00

Traditional American dancing (contras, squares, and circles) for everyone. Liz Donaldson, caller, will teach all the steps and dances, so non-dancers can participate immediately. Live music provided by JumpStart (Julie Gorka, piano and fiddle, Kathy Kerr, fiddle, and Jim Besser, guitar and concertina).

At the

Barcroft Community House

800 S. Buchanan St.

Info: Julie Gorka (703) 979-0339

\$7/adults; \$5/kids; \$15/families



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

BARCROFT EASTER EGG HUNT
March 30, 10 AM Sharp
Barcroft Community House
Eggs for Kids -- Coffee for Adults!
Baked Goods Welcome! Rain or Shine

If you have any ideas, observations, insights, complaints, or praise to share, please send it along! All submissions to the Barcroft News should be submitted no later than the 15th of each month. Send items to editor@bscl.org, or call Christina at 271-0631. We want to hear from you!

Around the Neighborhood.... With Kathy Kerr

Congratulations to Barcrofter and high school freshman Carrie Tucker who took first place for diving in the National District. In the Northern Virginia Regionals she placed 16th. Carrie attends HB Woodlawn but represented Wakefield High School at the Meets.

Congratulations to Ben Harris and Jenny Lindenauer, parents of new baby Lucia Harris, born August 30, 2001. Both Ben and Jenny are teachers. Ben is taking some time off to be with the baby while Jenny teaches first grade at Carlin Springs Elementary. The family lives on S. Taylor Street in the home Ben's family first moved into in 1979. Many neighbors also know the friendly family dog, Micah.

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Arlington Fairfax Jewish Congregation
2920 Arlington Blvd (Rt. 50 & Fillmore St.)
M/T/W/Th 6:05pm and 7:15pm

Arlington Forest United Methodist Church
4701 Arlington Blvd (Rt. 50 & Henderson St.)
Saturday 8:30am and 9:00am

Verizon
1310 N. Courthouse Rd - T/Th 12:00 Noon

Barcroft Community House
800 S. Buchanan St.
M/W/F 9:30am

Dance Factory
954 N. Monroe Street
Sunday 9:00am

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