



# Barcroft News

October 2003

Vol 101, Issue 2

## President's Report: Improvements Coming All Around

— By Eric Harold

At our first meeting last month, we had a lively discussion on the County's proposed improvements to the intersection of Columbia Pike and S. Buchanan Street (meeting summarized on page 3). Thanks to all who attended to put their two-cents in on the intersection improvements. Please, PLEASE plan on attending the October meeting, which will be a candidate's forum (look for the meeting announcement on page XX). This promises to be a great opportunity for Barcrofters to hear from the candidates for state delegate, state senator, the County Board race and (tentatively) the school board. Because of the large slate of candidates, we will be starting the meeting at 7:00 pm rather than the normal starting time. The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 2.

Last month I neglected to note that our vice presidency vacancy was filled over the summer. Over the summer, the BSCL Board

voted to appoint Annette Osso to fill the VP position. She has been working diligently to arrange the meeting programs and to otherwise support the efforts of BSCL. She is a welcome edition to the neighborhood leadership.

In County news, the Board at its Sept. 13 meeting approved two items of interest to Barcroft residents. A contract was awarded for the first phase of major improvements to Barcroft Park. This 65.5-acre community park, located off South Four Mile Run Drive, is one of the largest and most heavily used parks in the County. Improvements include lighted athletic fields, lighted community field, batting cages, restrooms, a dedicated stage area and three-level parking garage.

The County also approved a new blight ordinance. The County's press release states: "The new blight ordinance will: identify specific criteria for determining if a property is blighted, offer a method to bring the property into compliance without involving the court system, and provide ample opportunities for property owners to bring their properties up to code. It also allows the County to use eminent domain to address a problem property when the owner fails to appropriately respond." For more information on these and other Board actions from the September meeting, please visit the County web site (<http://www.co.arlington.va.us/> ).

Finally, I would like to continue my list  
*(Continued on page 2)*

- ☛ Next BSCL Meeting: Come and meet the candidates running for office in the November election! More info on pg 7.
- ☛ A new concept for the interchange at Buchanan and Columbia Pike is coming—read the details on pg. 3
- ☛ Don't miss the annual Woman's Club of Arlington's Craft Fair! See pg. 6.

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The Barcroft News is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.  
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**Car for Sale:** '95 Mazda Protégé LX. Great condition, 1 owner, only 58,500 miles. Manual transmission, AC, brand new exhaust system, sand color. I love this car, but had to move on to a family-sized station wagon. \$3500. Call Andrea 703-920-7427.

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**For Sale:** Two 19" RCA color Televisions, \$20 each. Three-shelf wheeled bookcase/TV stand, dark wood, 30" W x 30" H, 16.5" deep, \$25. Call Susan, 703-892-6179, auntsuebh@aol.com.

*(President's Note, Continued from page 1)*

of the many, many people that work to make Barcroft a great neighborhood. This month I would like to focus on the people who keep you informed. The Barcroft News staff works hard to create the newsletter and update us on all the events happening in Barcroft and beyond. Christina Cavoli has done a fantastic job of editing and publishing the newsletter. Susan Hunn and the host of volunteer deliverers work hard to make sure the newsletter gets delivered to all the residents. Jim Kerr has done a fantastic job of getting advertisers, so good that advertising revenues cover all of the production expenses. Kathy Kerr keeps the focus on the neighbors and makes sure we know of the happenings around Barcroft. Randy Swart does a great job maintaining the web site ([www.bscl.org](http://www.bscl.org)) and keeping it current. And last but not least, Jack Turner quietly and without fanfare posts the meeting announcement signs the night before each meeting. Thanks to all of you for keeping the information flowing.

**Keep up with events by joining the Barcroft chat group and news list. Go to:  
[www.bscl.org](http://www.bscl.org).**

## Streetscape Work at Buchanan & Columbia Pike Discussed at September Meeting

The Barcroft School and Civic League kicked off the new year at its September meeting. About 15 neighbors attended to listen to updates from the BSCL committees and to provide input to County staff on proposed improvements to the intersection of Columbia Pike and S. Buchanan Street. BSCL continues to seek interested people to help on our committees, especially the Parks Committee and the Parking Committee.

The County is currently moving on plans to fix up the intersection at South Buchanan Street and Columbia Pike. Bill Roberts from the Capital Projects Coordinator for the Dept. of Community Planning, Housing and Development (DCPHD) and Richard Hartman from the Department of Public Works (DPW) Planning Division presented the Barcroft residents with a status of the design and funding for this project. Nearly all of the funding has been secured for the projects, and the design phase is set to begin soon. As reported previously, the preliminary concept plan for the intersection includes:

- Left turn lane from Columbia Pike westbound on to Four Mile Run

(major)

- Streetscape improvements, to include widening sidewalks, undergrounding of utilities, pedestrian scale street lighting and street trees
- Pedestrian improvements to include improving the crosswalks and shortening the crossing distances
- Consolidating entrances and otherwise improving the circulation into and out of the shopping center on the north side of Columbia Pike (across from Bob & Edith's, with the dry cleaner).

There are no plans at this time to align Four Mile Run (minor) with Buchanan Street. Barcroft residents requested that as part of this project, S. Four Mile Run (Minor) be made one-way southbound away from Columbia Pike. They suggested that this be done on a trial basis to evaluate its effectiveness. A motion was made and approved to send a letter to DPW and DCPHD to include this suggestion as part of the project. The motion passed unanimously on a show of hands vote.

## Dues Reminder! Show Support by Joining the BSCL

Thanks to all who have already renewed their membership or joined for the first time. Special recognition goes to the residents of 1<sup>st</sup> St for the sign-up effort at their block party.

If you haven't done it yet, don't forget to send in your BSCL dues for the new year that just started. The membership form was distributed with the September newsletter.

This year's form provides a new volunteer opportunity - to be part of the Barcroft Players. You don't have to be an actor; behind the

scenes help is also needed. Of course, there's a continuing need for help in all the other areas—perhaps one will interest you.

In case you didn't know, BSCL members also get a preferred rate on Community House rentals.

If you can, please include a tax-deductible contribution to the Community House Fund. Much has been done, but much still remains.

## Bus Service Changes!

What's that new green bus? The 16X line through Barcroft has been replaced by the ART 41 Line to and from Ballston and Court House Metro running every 30 minutes during rush hour on the same loop through our neighborhood that the X bus took.

The Pike now has bus service in rush hour every six minutes, coordinated with the Blue Line Metro trains at the Pentagon. Buses run every 12 minutes in non-rush hour. So we have Metro-grade service with closer-spaced stops and without the overwhelming Metro development.

The 16Y bus that Mark Wigfield wrote about still runs in rush hour from Four Mile Run and the Pike all the way in to McPherson Square. It has proven so popular that the County may add more buses.

Greg Bolton, the civic-minded owner of Bob and Edith's, has given the County permission to install a bus shelter at Buchanan St. Now we'll see how long it takes to get that done.

For details on the bus service and links to County schedules, see our Web page at [www.BSCL.org/bus.htm](http://www.BSCL.org/bus.htm)

### Feedback Needed from Transit Users:

So with all the new choices, how well are these busses working? The 16Y has been a mixed bag, but the ART seems to have promise. Send feedback to Mark Wigfield, preferably at [mark@bscl.org](mailto:mark@bscl.org), or by snail mail, 624 S. Buchanan. Sound off on what is better, what is worse, and what remains to be improved. If we get enough responses, we'll try to review the service in the Barcroft News.

For more information about ART, go to <http://www.commuterpage.com/art/index.htm>.



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**Next BSCL Meeting:**

**Thursday, Oct. 2**

**SPECIAL TIME: 7:-00 PM!!!!**

**Thursday, Nov. 6**

**7:30 PM**

**Community House  
Buchanan Street**

Please join us

SATURDAY OCTOBER 25

10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
for the

## The Women's Club of Arlington ANNUAL CRAFT BAZAAR

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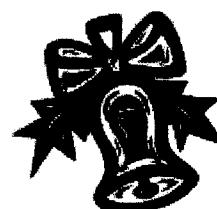
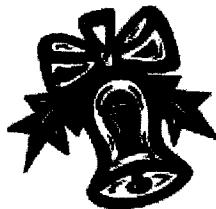
Doll Clothes

Jewelry

Quilt Sale

Pecans

Bake Sale



Luncheon served from 11:30 - 1:00



## Light In October Art Show and Sale

Barcroft resident and artist Peter Wood is coordinating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Light In October Show and Sale. Peter, along with Chris Mann and Jason Alexander, are three local artists who host an annual art sale showcasing the work of local and nationally recognized artists. Last year's event was an overwhelming success and this year's event is expected to be even better!

Light In October will be held at the Barcroft Community House on Saturday, October 11, 2003, from noon to 8 pm. Eight artists will

showcase their art which will be available for sale. In addition to the three returning artists, Chris Mann, Photographer; Jason Alexander, Ceramist; and Peter Wood, Metal Sculptor; five new artists will include Dana Ellyn Kaufman, Painter; Christine Bartoletta, Jeweler; Brian Green, Potter; Matt Sesow, Painter; and Kerrigan Kessler, Creator of Handbags.

Examples of the artists' work, directions, sponsors and more can be found on the website: [www.lightinoctober.com](http://www.lightinoctober.com) or you may contact Peter Wood at 703892-1692.

## ST. CHARLES FALL FESTIVAL – OKTOBERFEST

Come enjoy food, fun and games at the annual St. Charles Borromeo School Fall Festival – Oktoberfest, Saturday October 18th. There is no admission fee and the festival features:

- ❑ **Kid's Corner: 9AM - 4PM** - carnival games, Bongo the Clown (performances all day), balloon animals, face painting, tattoos, nail polishing, Moonbounce, and kiddie crafts.
- ❑ **Krafthaus (Crafts & Treasures): 10AM - 4PM** - variety of arts and crafts available for purchase.
- ❑ **Bake Sale/Cake Walks: 9AM - 3PM** (or whenever the goodies run out!) - fresh baked goodies for sale and the ever enjoyable "cake walk"!
- ❑ **Live Entertainment** - Mike Flaherty's Dixieland Direct (a dixieland style jazz band); Bolivian dancers; Bongo the Clown; O'Neill-James Irish Dancers.
- ❑ **Spaghetti Dinner: 4PM - 7PM** - Join us for a fabulous spaghetti dinner starting at 5PM.
- ❑ **Raffle Drawing: 7PM** - Top prize \$500.00

This is a great way to spend a beautiful Fall day -- Please make plans to attend! St. Charles is located in the heart of Clarendon on the corner of Washington, Fairfax and Kirkwood; directly across the street from the George Mason School of Law. For more information, contact the St. Charles School office at: 527-0608.

## Candidates' Night is coming up October 2



— By Annette Osso  
You will not want to miss the October 2nd Meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League, which will be devoted to Candidates' Night. We are pleased to have an

exciting line-up of state and local candidates who have agreed to make brief presentations and engage in a question-and-answer session with the Barcroft neighbors.

At time of publication, the four County Board candidates - Paul Ferguson (D), Walter Tejada (D), Richard Kelsey (R), and

Sarah Summerville (I) - have agreed to attend. In addition, Mary Margaret Whipple (D) and Kamal Nawash (R), who are running for the Virginia Senate, 31st District seat, will participate in the meeting. Additional invitations are out to the House of Delegate candidates, Christian Hoff (R) and Albert Eisenberg (D); and to the School Board candidates, David Foster (I) and Larry Fishtahler (I).

PLEASE NOTE: Due to candidate schedule restraints, BSCL will begin the meeting at 7:00 P.M. instead of the usual 7:30 P.M.

Please mark your calendar for October 2nd Candidates Night.

## Announcements

**First annual Columbia Pike International Music and Arts Festival:** Sunday, October 5, Noon to 6:00 p.m. at the Columbia Pike festival site (Walter Reed Dr. between Columbia Pike and S. 9th St.) The next big thing on Columbia Pike, the festival will include music, art and food from around the globe at your favorite street festival venue. This is the latest addition to our Columbia Pike festival schedule that includes the Blues Festival, the Uncommon Market Festival and now Music and Arts. Make sure to stop at the Farmers Market before hand. It will be open at its usual time from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**Wakefield Reunion:** Wakefield High School will celebrate its 50th anniversary this fall. A weekend has been planned for 7 & 8 November, beginning with an assembly during the school day on November 7, where alumni will share Wakefield's history with its current students. Events also include a pep rally, and march to the football game. On Saturday, a visual history will be on display throughout the school. There will be a "hall of fame;" music from the decades; space available for "mini reunions;" memorabilia from our days at Wakefield; a PowerPoint presentation about Wakefield and Arlington county; a time-line of the past 50 years; self-guided tours to activities throughout the school; classic cars on display; and a concert of current and alumni string players will take place at 3:00. Volunteers and donations (of time, money and memorabilia) are needed. For general information, contact [wakefieldalumni@aol.com](mailto:wakefieldalumni@aol.com) or 703-892-4780.

**Arlington Bike Maps:** Arlington County has a big, beautiful new bike map! It has bike trails, on-street lanes, recommended routes, and every street in Arlington. The back has a similar map with suggested loop rides. You can get

the map from the Department of Public Works by calling 228-3681 or by sending an email to [cdenney@co.arlington.va.us](mailto:cdenney@co.arlington.va.us). The map is also on the Web at [www.co.arlington.va.us/dpw/planning/bike/bikemap.htm](http://www.co.arlington.va.us/dpw/planning/bike/bikemap.htm) or just search for "bike map" from the County home page.

**All Purpose Recycling Event!** Saturday, November 1, 9 am 3 pm: Collecting Household Hazardous Waste Collection; Used bicycle collection; Old eyeglasses; Computers and electronics. Held at Thomas Jefferson Middle School parking lot, 125 South Old Glebe Road. Sponsored by Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE), in conjunction with the Arlington County Recycling Office. For info, call 228-6427. Event includes Pedals for Progress Used Bicycle Collection, a 501c3 charity that collects repairable bicycles in the United States, for donation to charities overseas, for productive use by those in need of affordable transport. Collection will take place rain or shine. For further info, visit [www.p4p.org](http://www.p4p.org) or call Pedals for Progress at 525-0931.

## **First Presbyterian Arlington, VA**

(PCUSA)

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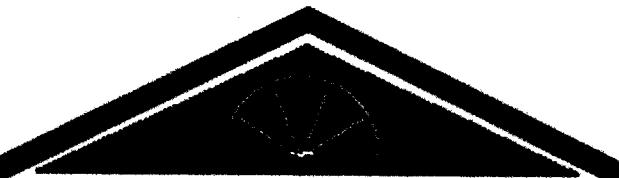
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c/o Peg Lefebvre, Membership Secretary  
812 S. George Mason Dr.  
Arlington, VA 22204-1555

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E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (with area code): \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish your e-mail address included on the BSCL Web Page?  Yes  No

Removed from the Web Page?  Yes  No

I/we would like to volunteer to help with (please indicate which member):

<input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/> Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Parade & Picnic	<input type="checkbox"/> Distribution (Newsletters, Flyers, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Barcroft Players (Theater Group)	<input type="checkbox"/> Food Events (Cook-outs, etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Efforts (as they arise)

Serve on a Committee -- Please specify which one: (Crime Resistance, Community House Renovations, Signs, Traffic, etc)

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_



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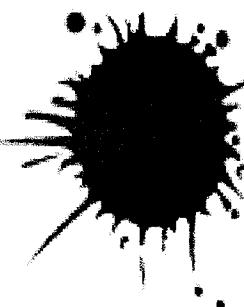


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## Graffiti Reappears

In the first ten days of September, the Barcroft Graffiti Patrol removed three separate graffiti tags, including the bus shelter on Arlington Boulevard, a stop sign and a pylon on the W&OD trail. We take photos first and email them to the police.

This is our first graffiti in over two years. The tags have not



been gang-related, and seem to coincide more with the start of school. If you see graffiti, you can call the County's hotline at 703-358-2222 or drop an email to [graffiti@BSCL.org](mailto:graffiti@BSCL.org). We're faster, of course. If you want to remove it yourself, there is lots of info how to do that on our Web site at [www.BSCL.org/graffiti.htm](http://www.BSCL.org/graffiti.htm).

## Generous Donation

In appreciation of the Barcroft Players' presentation of Tales of Barcroft, a grateful Barcrofter has donated \$500 to the Community House Fund. The donation puts us a long way toward the curtain and lights that we need to outfit the stage for our plays! The next production will be a children's play written by neighborhood resident Cecilia Cackley, based on a story by award-winning child author Katherine Paterson. Stay tuned for more information....



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

### A Reluctant Move goes Smooth!

Just a quick note to let you know how we can help your family, friends, & work associates you refer to us.

Henry & Lois were long time owners in Arlington. Their neighbor, Nancy, had used Casey's services with great results so they called him. After Casey met with Hank and Lois it was obvious that they needed serious help. Henry had lost his vision in just a matter of months and was practically blind. Lois was recovering from surgery and couldn't get around very well. With no family members to help out, they needed some guidance. Casey helped them analyze their options, and recommended several retirement communities in Arlington. They found a 2 bedroom unit available, and after helping them with the paperwork, Casey orchestrated a plan to sell their existing home and also to find a moving company.

Their home went on the market and sold for over list price in "as-is" condition. A huge challenge was deciding what to keep in their smaller apartment. Casey found a company that helped them pack their furnishings and dispose of the items they wouldn't keep (a daunting task!). The move went smoothly along with the settlement. While Henry and Lois miss their old home, they are happy now with their new assisted living environment.

If you or someone you know could benefit from expert buyer or seller representation, please call or email so we may be of service. It is our philosophy to listen and understand ones needs, a quality of business conduct that seems to have been forgotten in today's highly automated society.

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