



March 2005

Barcroft News

Vol 102, Issue 7

President's Report

— *By Eric Harold*

This May, vote for Annie for President. Join us for the next meeting on Thursday March 3. The meeting will start at 7:30 pm as usual. The program will feature our new precinct captain, Paul Larson. He will be providing an update on crime in the area and will address any questions or concerns

that we may have. We will also hear from the architect of new apartments to be built at 910 S. Buchanan Street, the house that was gutted by a fire a few years ago. The architect is noted "green building" specialist Rick Schneider, AIA, LEED™, Inscape Studio. See you all on March 3.

A Substitute President's Report: Bragging on Barcroft

— *By Annie Harold*

I start out my morning with a stroll to the preschool Liza Jane attends on the other side of Barcroft. I almost stumble on the morning paper delivered to my doorstep by a thoughtful neighbor—Mrs. Hunter, our crossing guard. I talk to Mrs. Hunter about current affairs before she escorts us across the intersection as she has others for over 17 years. I am greeted by several school children as they scurry past on their way to elementary school. They know my children and me by name.

I pass the historic community house and imagine the orange day lilies that will bloom this spring. I can still smell the aroma left behind by the spaghetti dinner. I know the street we follow is parallel to

Four Mile Run. I am comforted by its constant flow.

I think back to a conversation I had with a colleague who suggested I move further away from the city for a more affordable space and a bigger yard. I told him I would never trade our 4th of July parade, our babysitting co-op, our jolly Saint Nick, our snow brigade, our larger Arlington County community for a place further west.

I wasn't surprised when the Washingtonian wanted to feature Barcroft as an excellent place to live. I was surprised it took them so long to find us. Look for a mention of Barcroft in an upcoming addition of the Washingtonian.

The Barcroft News Needs You!

We are looking for a NEW editor for the newsletter. This requires a couple of hours a month, and is a great way to get to know the neighborhood, what is going on in Arlington, and to meet many of our interesting neighbors. Interested? Please give me a call— Christina @271-0631 or editor@bscl.org.

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

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 All phone numbers are area code 703.

Classifieds

For Sale: Pottery bard Kids Bed with Trundle (great for sleepovers or guest) 3 yrs new, and in beautiful shape. includes: 1 Kendall twin w/out mattress, white, org price- \$749 sale \$450 trundle, used 3 times, w/ mattress (slides under bed) org \$578 sale \$300. Total org. \$1327 sale- \$750 for all! Kids backyard Plastic play unit w/slide \$25 obo, Kids bed w/mattress \$50.
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Need a Room to Rent: I'm looking for a room to rent or a house to sit in your area while I get to know the area of my new work place (in Tysons Corner). Bill Owen, 301-455-5344, email, bilowenphoto@hotmail.com. PS: I've a second career as a professional pet/people photographer: www.mansbestfriend.org
 Should I become your tenant or house sitter, one bonus is I'll keep your dog and cat (and you and any children) well chronicled in great photographs.

Looking for a part time job? A non-profit organization with a home office in Barcroft is seeking part-time administrative assistance for 10-20 hours a week. We can deal with a flexible work arrangement (your home office or mine) and schedule. Please call 703-486-2966.

Have anything for the Barcroft News?

Submissions are due by the 15th of each month.

Contact Christina at 271-0631
 editor@bscl.org
 618 S. Stafford St.

Ads are due by the 10th of each month;
 contact Jim Kerr at Jim@bscl

Keep up with events by joining the Barcroft chat group and news list.

**Go to:
 www.bscl.org.**

Update on S. 6th Street Development

At our January meeting, we heard from Mr. Lou Sagatov, who bought the stone house and the three adjacent properties on S. 6th Street (between Wakefield and Buchanan). At that meeting, he discussed preliminary plans for the lots. I received the following update from him recently: "FYI, to bring you (Barcroft) up to date on our plans. We have submitted a preliminary 6 lot subdivision plan for review to the county. The plan is 'by right.' I am also working on an alternative 6 lot subdivision plan that we would pursue thru the URD process. I would like to show the community both plans. I would be interested in the community opinion and

ultimately support or lack of if we choose the URD route." "URD" is a county development option known as Uniform Residential Development, which allows more flexible placement of houses on the lot.

At the time of this writing, the residents of S. 6th Street and S. 7th Street (those immediately impacted by this development) as well as members of the executive committee will have met with Mr. Sagatov to discuss this proposal as well as his proposed use permit for construction headquarters. Watch the web and the next newsletters for updates on this.



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Around the Neighborhood

— *By Kathy Kerr*

Welcome to one of Barcroft's newest neighbors, Marta Lozano, who arrived from Madrid, Spain in November, 2004. She is participating in a program through the Embassy of Spain called the "Spanish Culture Assistant's Program." Marta is a certified teacher with a Master's degree and is also a licensed translator. She was assigned to work as a teacher for one school year at Claremont Spanish Immersion Elementary school (located near Wakefield High School), but she needed a place to live. Several Claremont School families offered their homes, and the Skoloda family here in Barcroft was selected.

Joey and Maureen Skoloda and their 3 children moved to Barcroft two years ago and live on S. Abingdon St. They heard wonderful things about Barcroft School but decided to give their oldest daughter, Natalie, the opportunity to learn Spanish at Claremont. Now they have the opportunity to learn about Spanish culture as well as practice Spanish at home any time! Marta is fully fluent in English but is happy to converse with the family in Spanish. The Skoloda children, 1st grader Natalie, 4 year old Daniel and 2 ½ year old Ai-

dan, all adore Marta. For Marta, it's a chance to learn about the American educational system, as well as about our culture and family life.

Claremont Immersion School is an Arlington Public School. The children are instructed for half the day in English and half the day in Spanish. Barcroft children who will turn 5 by Sept. 30, 2005 are eligible to apply for Kindergarten. Applications need to be in by April 15th, 2005 and there will be a lottery for admission if there are too many applications. There are orientations scheduled that explain the program and give parents a chance to see the school. Contact the Claremont for more information (703)228-2500.

Everyone is invited to the Silent Auction at Claremont Immersion School on Saturday night, March 12th at 6 PM. This would also be a great chance to visit the school located at 4700 S. Chesfield Road, Arlington.

**Next BSCL Meeting:
Thursday,
March 3, 7:30
Barcroft Community House
800 Buchanan Street**

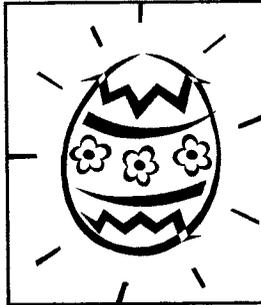
TRAV FICK has Good News!

On February 2, 2005, the NTCC (Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee) selected 6 streets to begin preparation of a plan for traffic calming. This is the County's 9th cycle of streets to participate in this project and Barcroft's Pershing Drive, from the Rte 50 access road south to the first curve near Woodrow Street, is included in this group. It's volume is 1980 vehicles per day and the 85th percentile speed is 37 mph! Thanks to Anita Warner for submitting the written request for traffic calming to the County. Anita has been a Barcrofter for 25 years; she grew up

on Pershing Drive, where her Mother still resides, and now lives at 4416 South 1st Street. The County NTCC staff will notify our BSCL President and Anita Warner this month of the project start for Pershing. County Staff, NTCC volunteers, and at least 4 residents from this specific section of Pershing will form a Working Group. Other Barcrofters interested in participating on this Working Group should contact Anita or Elaine Squeri, Barcroft Traffic Committee Chair.

Easter Egg Hunt

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place at the Community House at 10:00am. Please be on time as the actual "hunt" only takes about 5 minutes once it starts! There will be coffee for the grow-ups and donations of baked goods would be greatly appreciated. Each child should bring a basket/pail or some sort of



container in which to collect the eggs. The event will be held rain or shine and the Easter Bunny will be on hand to greet the kids and pose for pictures. This is a free event.

St. John's Episcopal Church

415 South Lexington Street, Arlington, VA 22204
(one block off Carlin Springs Rd. & 5th St. just south of Rt. 50)



Come Celebrate EASTER With Us!

Palm Sunday, March 20

8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.* Blessing of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

Maundy Thursday, March 24

7:30 p.m. Holy Eucharist and Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, March 25

12:00 noon and 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy

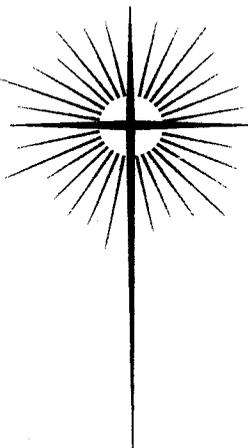
Easter Sunday! March 27: The Celebration of Jesus' Resurrection

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Hymns

10:00 a.m.* Festival Holy Eucharist with choir and instrumentalists

Reception and community Easter Egg hunt following the 10:00 service

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Meeting Summary of Arlington Mill Steering Committee

From January 11, 2005

Tim Lynch, Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, and Richard Tucker, Planner IV, from the County's Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development provided a presentation about the Form Based Code that was developed to guide future redevelopment along the Columbia Pike corridor. The presenters explained that because Arlington Mill Community Center and School was a public facility, it was not required to conform to the Form Based Code. Site furnishings (trash cans, benches, lights, etc) that are eventually selected for use at the new community center would not be required to "match" the furnishings used within the Columbia Pike streetscape.

Michelle Ferguson, Assistant County Manager, addressed the committee about their role throughout the A&E process. The Steering Committee's main duties fall into two categories: those duties related to the project's public process and those related to the design of the new community center.

Brad Macomber and Michelle Kotula, of the Office of Facilities Planning, provided a presentation and handout of the design timeline. The timeline identifies major phases of the A&E process and their duration. The group was reminded of the aggressiveness of the current design schedule and the importance of meeting several key deadlines. County staff pointed out that in order to seek construction funding in the Fall 2006 Bond Referendum, 50% Construction Documents and related cost estimates must be developed by April 2006. Staff stressed the importance of utilizing the next 5-6 months effectively with the architectural team. During this time, the architectural consultant is tasked with developing the complete program for the building, generating three concept plans for the new building, and then refining those three concepts down to one single preliminary design. The Committee will play an integral role in assisting with the development and refinement of the design concepts.

The group discussed the need for large, public

meetings to occur at key points throughout the A&E process. In the timeline handout, two public meetings are proposed: the first would occur at the end of the Preliminary Design phase and the second would occur when Construction Documents were complete. A suggestion was made to provide for one additional public meeting at the end of the Design Development phase, when drawings are 35% complete.

Carol Ann Perovshek and Pam Everett, both of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources, engaged members of the Committee in an open brainstorming session to flush out issues and questions. The list of the ideas and concerns put forward by the Committee includes:

1. Investigate potential sources of outside funding such as other departments, grants, retail leases.
2. Provide information on the potential for retail uses along the Columbia Pike frontage of the new building.
3. Determine the number of spaces that will be needed at the facility. Will there be shared parking?
4. If Arlington Mill Drive were to be vacated, what would be involved in this process?
5. Take advantage of learning from Langston Brown facility – such as siting of the building, LEED aspects, etc.
6. 7. Many educational buildings are obsolete before they are even built – consider allowing for wireless and other "atypical" technologies at the A&E stage.
8. The orientation of the new building needs to consider the sun, the site, the mass of the building in relationship to its environs, etc.
9. The relationship between the plaza, Four Mile Run waterway, and the Columbia Pike streetscape is extremely important.
10. None of the concepts in the 2002 Community Process Report show performance

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

- space in the building. Why not?
11. Figuring out a way to "deal" with the steep slope down to Four Mile Run will be critical in order to create a connection between the community center, the water, the trail, and park.
 12. The building and construction processes should be as ecologically friendly as possible.
 13. Explore the use of modular or manufactured units to save money and create flexibility.
 14. Concern that everyday users of the facility will be able to find spaces, especially if the parking is shared with community.
 15. Concern about being able to provide safe parking areas.
 16. Consider orienting the building and its adjacent spaces toward the bridge over Columbia Pike.
 17. APS has concerns over safety of the interior. They need to know who is in their portion of the building.
 18. Can the design create "area zones" that can be shut down/closed off when not in use.
 19. Public Art: How will the AMCC interface with Art in the Park, the larger Columbia Pike art initiative, etc? How will public art be integrated into the AMCC?



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We welcome you to join us for our
March events:



Purim Carnival 2005
Games! Crafts! Prizes! Food! Fun!
Sunday, March 13 2:30 pm

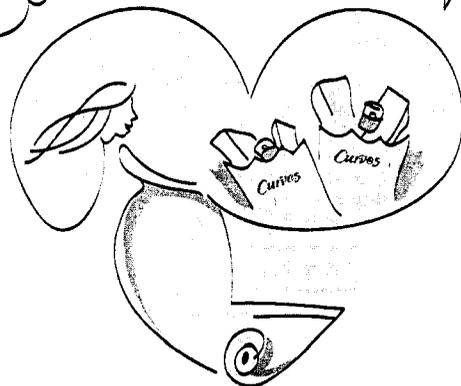
Open House – Sunday March 13
9:30 am in the Lobby

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7 T H A N N U A L F O O D D R I V E

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Announcements

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Recycle: If you have inkjet and laser printer cartridges that you would like to recycle, please drop them off at Annette Osso's house, 4401 4th. St. South (just leave them in the front entranceway). I will send them on to a recycling/reuse company. The non-profit organization I work for will receive a small donation for each re-usable cartridge. You can also pick up mailing envelopes to use in the future for recycling your inkjet cartridges.

The Potomac River Watershed: An Interactive Forum: Wednesday, March 9, 7 to 9:30 p.m. Organized in conjunction with the ACE annual meeting. NRECA, 4301 Wilson Blvd. Learn about issues facing the Potomac River. The evening will include ACE Board of Director elections and announcements about upcoming volunteer events. Free with refreshments and door prizes. More information: 703-228-6427 or office@arlingtonenvironment.org.

BARBERSHOP HARMONY - The Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus, chapter quartets and guest quartet "Smart Alex" invite you hear them pay musical honors to the ladies. They will present "HERE'S TO THE LADIES" at 2:15 and 8:15 PM, Saturday, March 19 at Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre. Tickets at the door: \$12/\$10 afternoon and \$15/\$12 evening. For tickets and info: 703-521-9331 or e-mail bsbass@aol.com.



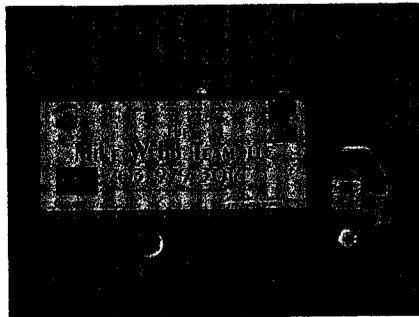
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* Some restrictions may apply.

Notes from the Columbia Pike Implementation Team meeting

Taken Wednesday, January 5, 2005.

Street Space Cross-Section Drawings

Tom Greenfield led a discussion on the plan and section drawings showing the Columbia Pike street space adopted by the Board in February 2004. The draft of the drawings had been provided to CPIT in June 2004. Richard Tucker had hoped to have CPIT give final approval to these drawings so they could be included in the update of the Columbia Pike Initiative Plan that he is preparing. As CPIT was not ready to give a final sign-off, it does not appear that he will be able to include them in the update.

There was discussion on the width of the gutter pan at intersections. Richard Hartman stated that he thought the gutter pan width was to be reduced to one foot only in places where it was necessary to achieve a 60-foot crossing distance. Most CPIT members said they thought the gutter pan width was to be reduced to one foot at all intersection crossings. CPIT agreed to support one-foot gutter pans at all intersections if it was part of the County board approval. (Subsequent research showed that the reduced gutter pan width at all intersections was included in the Board's approval.)

Tom Greenfield asked that any additional comments be put on the list serve. CPIT will finalize its comments on the midblock dimensions at the next meeting. The details of intersection design will be discussed after the 'Intersections 101' presentation by staff at the February or March meeting.

West End Streetscape & Undergrounding Project

Bill Roberts showed the engineering consultant's rendering for the undergrounding/streetscape/turn-lane project between Wakefield Street and Four Mile Run Drive. Linda LeDuc said she would like to see the left turn lane extended to Buchanan Street. Randy Bartlett said the Barcroft neighborhood would need to see a study of the traffic impacts before they would accept that. Bill Roberts said that the County will be doing additional studies

of this intersection.

CPIT members liked the sidewalk paving treatment shown on the illustrations: smooth concrete with narrow brick banding along the sides and around the tree pits. They recommended using actual brick rather than pavers.

Bill Roberts said the initial work on the project would consist of doing the utility undergrounding. CPIT will have additional opportunities to comment on the other details.

Form Based Code Changes

Richard Tucker passed out copies of the County Board report on the request to advertise the Form Based Code changes. He has been working with the County Attorney on the language about the streetscape and he asked CPIT members to review the language and see if it does what they want. He also asked for comments on language regarding railings (with signage) around sidewalk cafes. Tom Greenfield asked CPIT members to put comments on the list serve. The Form Based Code changes go to the Planning Commission January 31 and the County Board February 12.



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That also means completing deferred maintenance. Make repairs to fix or replace broken items and systems. Use your cash to put the home and its components in good working order by replacing missing roof shingles and broken or cracked windows. Repair driveway cracks and straighten leaning fences. Make sure doors, gates, lights, plumbing fixtures and other items are all working properly. Beyond the cosmetic touches and functional upgrades, the best home improvements that help net sellers' full market value include kitchen and bath remodels and only those alterations and additions that bring your home in line with the others in the neighborhood.

Too often home improvements are random, uneven upgrades. If you leave one of your bathrooms in its original 1950s style, but remodel the other, or if you landscape the front yard, but leave the backyard in its natural weed-infested state, most buyers will notice what's left to be done, rather than credit you for completed work. Consistency pays off!

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