



January 2009

Barcroft News

Vol 106, Issue 5

President's Report

by Heidi Wicker

As the holidays come to a close, the lights continue to twinkle merrily in Barcroft, and we are looking forward to a stellar New Year!

At our next community meeting, on **Thursday, January 8 at 7:30pm** at the Community House (800 S. Buchanan), we are going to focus the agenda on the happenings up and down Columbia Pike. And, please bring your ideas for "New Year resolutions" for the BSCL—we would love your input on what you would like the BSCL to focus its efforts on in 2009.

We will discuss the latest plans for the Bob & Edith's site, realignment of the intersection of Buchanan and Columbia Pike, and farther afield, the status of the buildings going up at the former Giant and Safeway sites, and new streetscape initiatives already underway.

We will also discuss the status of the County's housing study regarding

Columbia Pike, planned for 2009 to help the County determine what types of housing stock should be available up and down the Pike in the long-term and how to encourage developers to achieve the community's goals in that regard. Bring your questions and comments about the Pike!

Many thanks to *Barbara Swart* for spearheading the planning of our annual holiday party, which was a rousing success as usual. A special thanks goes out to our wonderful musicians and other volunteers who helped spread the holiday cheer!

Our next social event will be the **Spaghetti Dinner, on January 25 from 5-7 PM at the Barcroft Community House**. Cost is \$6/person. Take-out and vegetarian options are available. Includes salad and bread, so thank you to all who bring a dessert to share!!

Best wishes for a happy New Year!



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Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

Teenage Babysitter - Week nights and weekends:
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Babysitter: Red Cross certified ninth grader available for neighborhood babysitting. Call Abby at 703-892-1090.

Rebekah's Pet Care (walking, feeding, sitting) 703-521-8756.

Yard Work: Teenager available for raking leaves and other yard work. Call Thomas at 703-979-5838

Babysitting: Brother and sister, ages 14 and 15, can babysit in Barcroft, nights and weekends. Call Thomas or Allison at 703-979-5838.

New baby at your house? Announce it here in the Barcroft News! Contact **Kathy Kerr** 703-892-6458 editor@bscl.org

WANTED: Stories and ideas for the Barcroft News
 Contact **Kathy Kerr 703-892-6458** or email kathykerr@gmail.com.

What's Going On In Barcroft??

ALL THE LATEST NEWS is available when you join the Barcroft chat group and news email lists!

Go to: www.bscl.org



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IT'S NEVER TOO LATE

To Become a BSCL Member

Check the Current Membership List at www.BSCL.org.

If your name isn't there, you can print the Membership Form, and
send it in with your dues, just \$3 for individuals or \$6 for a couple.

If you can, send along a contribution to the **Community House Fund**.
It will definitely be appreciated – the exterior desperately needs painting.

The membership form is available at: www.BSCL.org

Letter to the Editor—1903

Did you know the Barcroft News dates back as far as 1903? This letter and commentary appeared in the July 5th, 1903 issue. To see more back issues of the illustrious Barcroft News, visit: www.bscl.org

A PAT ON THE BACK

Brunswick, Ga.

June 25, 1903

Editor Barcroft News:

I have to thank you for the second number of your dear little cracker jack of a paper. It is very neatly gotten up and clearly typed--an acorn, as it were, destined to become an oak. Barcroft will blossom out into a village in the near future--as soon as the bridge across the Potomac is completed--and then the people of Washington will find out what a healthy place is within reach of the city, that there malaria and "sketers" are unknown and that the pure water from the Blue Ridge mountains is curative of any kidney or liver complaints.

The electric cars will soon "skite" across the landscape and slap one down into the city in twenty minutes, or maybe the Southern railway will wake up and realize that the Bluemont division is as good

paying a branch as any on their whole system and perhaps worth a better passenger service, and they will then not use it as a dumping ground for antiquated locomotives and stock in general. In your capacity as journalist you can do a whole heap of giving pointers.

I want to come back to Barcroft.

Yours truly,
E.H. Klemroth

We wish to heartily thank our esteemed fellow-citizen, and earnestly hope and believe that the acorn has been planted in fertile soil. As a place of suburban residence Barcroft and its immediate vicinity have many attractions, and they would be more generally taken advantage of but for the inconveniences of travel. We believe the policy of the Southern to be short-sighted--that the increased business resulting would within a very short time amply repay considerable outlay for betterment of service.





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IN THE SCHOOLS

Wakefield High School

The District Orchestra Concert will be held at Wakefield HS at 3 pm on Saturday, January 17. It is free and open to the public.

Eleven Wakefield students were selected for the competitive District Choir including three Barcrofters: *Sarah Hunter, Adam Hunter and Daniel Edwards.*



Donate Your Holiday "Trash"

Your holiday packaging and other reusable materials can be donated to Taylor Elementary's 3rd Annual "Trash-to-Treasure" Drive Saturday, January 10th, from 10 am to noon.

You can drop off bubble wrap, styrofoam blocks, packing peanuts, department store shopping bags, shoe boxes, gift bows, the front of used holiday cards, new holiday cards, gift bags, and wrapping paper.

Also accepted will be clean wide-mouth yogurt containers, plastic lids, bottle caps, plastic bags without holes, yarn, ink jet printer cartridges, "used but not abused" shoes, batteries (all but car) and some electronics such as mobile phones, laptop computers, digital cameras, digital video recorders, portable DVD players, MP3 Players, X-Boxes,

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IN THE SCHOOLS

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Taylor Elementary is located at 2600 N. Stuart St. Arlington VA 22207.

For more information contact reuseyourtrash@gmail.com

AROUND TOWN

Farmer's Market
is closed until May 3.

New Restaurants

Two interesting new restaurants are coming at the location of the former Arlington Hardware store space near Columbia Pike and S. Walter Reed.

The group behind Irish-owned [McGinty's Public House](#) in Silver Spring will open "P. Brennan's Irish Pub." The popular Westover [Lost Dog Café](#) will soon have a South Arlington branch as well.

More Construction

At the former Bob and Edith's site at Columbia Pike and S. Buchanan St, there will be a 4 story property to include ground floor retail, 63 residential units, and underground parking.

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AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Thanks to everyone who participated in the Barcroft Holiday Program. **Dan Junker** served as the MC and, er, stand-up comedian. Neighbors enjoyed the opportunity to sing favorites along with the Barcroft Holiday band.

Band members included: **Julie Gorka**, piano, **Michael Nazaretz**, accordion, **Randy Swart** mandolin, **Jake Wigfield-Gorka**, electric bass, **Walt Robinson**, recorder, **Kathy Kerr**, fiddle; **Barbara Swart**, banjo; **Steve Wilson**, flute. **The Cackley Family Singers** sang "Green Grow The Rushes, Oh." **The Harold Family** offered their annual interpretation of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas." Even Santa was impressed by all of the holiday cheer and handed out candy canes to one and all! Thanks to **Barbara Swart** for coordinating the whole thing.

Following the program, it was time to sample the goodies on the treats table. Several people said "Make sure you try these!" and pointed to some delicious frosted bars. The baker, **Anna Peterson**, was located and she kindly agreed to share the recipe.

Anna says "I love pumpkin so I usually try any recipe I find that looks interesting. I like this one because you can take it anywhere."

Harvest Pumpkin Brownies

1 can (16 oz) pumpkin
4 eggs
3/4 c vegetable oil
2 t vanilla
2 c flour
2 c sugar
1 T pumpkin pie spice
2 t cinnamon
2 t baking powder
1 t baking soda
1/2 t salt

Pour all ingredients in a bowl and mix, pour mixture in greased jelly roll pan and bake at 350 deg. for 20-25 min.

Frosting:

6 T butter or margerine
3 oz cream cheese
1 t vanilla
1 t milk
1/8 t salt
1 1/2- 2 c confectioner's sugar

Enjoy!

MEET THE PETERSONS

Scott and Anna Peterson have lived in the neighborhood for about 11 years. They have four children at various grade levels so they are involved at Barcroft, Kenmore and Wakefield. The Petersons

DON'T MISS THE
Annual Barcroft Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, January 25
 5:00 to 7:00 PM
 At the Barcroft Community House
 \$6/ person

Featuring Eric Harold's Secret Sauce
and
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 Thank you for bringing a dessert to share.

If you are able to volunteer,
 email Heidi Wicker heidi@bscl.org.

are very happy with the neighborhood schools, especially Wakefield High School. Anna says "Wakefield is the undiscovered jewel in Arlington." She is especially impressed with how personalized the program is. For example, 9th graders are divided into three "houses" so students and staff can really get to know each other. She is also impressed by how helpful the counseling staff is and by how much they genuinely care about each student.

Anna works part time in a preschool. Scott is an Architect and Planner for Metro. He has also designed numerous additions in

the neighborhood, including eight houses on 4th St. S between S. Taylor and S. Wakefield streets. His 4th Street clients joke that the street should be renamed for him. His goal is to make every addition and renovation project more livable on the inside and more beautiful on the outside, while maintaining the character of the neighborhood.

The Petersons are regulars at all the Barcroft Community events. Thank you especially to Scott for his many years expertly flipping the burgers and dogs on the grill at the annual BSCL 4th of July Parade. ☺

Free Concert

The **IBIS Chamber Music Society** announces a free chamber music concert at the Arlington Unitarian Universalist Church on Rte 50 on Sunday, January 25 at 4 pm.

IBIS is based in Arlington's Lyon Park and is composed of members of the Kennedy Center Orchestra, the National Symphony and the Boston Pops.

The January program features Russian works for piano and strings.

This is a great opportunity to enjoy fine music-making for free and to introduce your older kids to great music, too.

For more information please visit www.ibischambermusic.org or call (703)517-7263.

Naturalist Training Available

The Virginia Cooperative Extension sponsored Arlington Regional Master Naturalist (ARMN) chapter of Virginia Master Naturalist program is now accepting applications for Spring Basic Training. ARMN helps train volunteers to provide education, citizen science and outreach to conserve and manage natural resources and public lands.

The Basic Training course includes classes and field trips on entomology, herpetology, ornithology, astronomy, wetland class, botany, dendrology, mammalogy, aquatic ecology, invasives, land use urban ecology, geology, soils, forest ecology, biogeography, weather/climate, interpretation, and citizen science.

The Spring Basic Training course will begin on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 and

continue weekly through June from 7-10 pm, at Long Branch Nature Center.

Day-long field trips to various local natural areas will be from approximately 9 am to 3 pm on the following days: March 21, April 18, May 2, and May 16.

The program fee is \$150 and includes all books and field guides.

For more details on the training, visit <http://www.armn.org> or call 703 228 6423.





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Chesterbrook Montessori School now accepting student applications for the New Year.

Valentine's Day Babysitting will be offered, contact church office

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CREATE SPACE: The more "space" it appears you have, the higher the price you're likely to get. Eliminate excess furniture. Rent a storage unit for the few months it may take to sell your home. **De-clutter.** Cluttered rooms don't show well to buyers. **MAXIMIZE AND NEUTRALIZE:** After cleaning, it's time to paint (neutral or earth tone color works best). A fresh paint job will go a long way to attracting buyers, making it easier for them to imagine their stuff in your house if they're not distracted by wild colors or patterns.

ALL SYSTEMS GO: Get qualified contractors to service your HVAC mechanical systems, repair plumbing leaks, correct any electrical switches or outlets that aren't working, etc. Fix minor problems

so they don't become major ones. Get a roof and flashing "tune up" from a licensed roofing company **OUTSIDE CHECK:** Do a little work to freshen up the exterior. Replace broken windows, repair rotted trim, cutback trees that are too close to the house and make sure your landscaping looks neat.

Need advice on where to begin? Contact us for our *70 Point Checklist for Selling Your Home*, and/or our *Home Preparation Guide*.

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