



BARCROFT NEWS

October, 1988

OCTOBER 6 MEETING: COUNTY BOND ISSUES PRO AND CON

Our October meeting will feature a discussion of the six separate bond issues the County is asking you to judge on the November ballot. You will have to decide whether or not to vote for bonds for school repairs, a new jail, the first phase of a waste water treatment program, neighborhood conservation projects, streets and highways, and parks. The total of all six bond issues is \$69 million. If all six pass, your taxes would rise by some small percentage in coming years to repay the funds borrowed with the bonds.

At our October 6 meeting we will have brief presentations on each bond issue. In some cases the speaker will be a Barcroft resident. Please volunteer to speak for or against a bond issue if you are keenly interested in one. (We already have a volunteer to tell you why you should support the school bond issue.) Call Randy Swart at 521-2080 if you can speak on a bond issue. If we can not find a Barcrofter, we will rely on speakers from elsewhere in the County. There will be handouts with detailed information if you want to pursue the subjects further. We hope to be able by then to tell you exactly what that "small percentage" of tax increase to repay each bond issue would mean to you. In short, the meeting will attempt to provide all the info you need to make an informed decision on your vote.

CANDIDATES' NIGHT WILL BE COMBINED WITH THE WAYCROFT-WOODLAWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION AT GLEBE SCHOOL ON OCTOBER 11.

This year the BSCL will combine its Candidates' Night with the Waycroft-Woodlawn Civic Association, a neighborhood to the north of Glebe Road and just beyond I-66. The Glebe School is at 1770 N. Glebe Road. The meeting will start at 8 PM.

Waycroft-Woodlawn President Tom Howarth and Vice President Bobbie Schanzenbach are pleased to have Barcrofters join them. They expect to have John Milliken and his challenger for the County Board, Larry Packet. In addition, Robert Weinberg, who is challenging Congressman Frank Wolf for the 10th District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, will probably be there. This is your best chance to see the County Board candidates close up and ask them pointed questions. You will also have another opportunity to hear about the bond issues.

Combined candidates' nights make it easier for candidates to appear before civic groups during the busy campaign season. In addition, some candidates are not available on our regular meeting night this year, so we are grateful to the Waycroft-Woodlawn folks for their cooperation.

See you there on October 11.



BARCROFT WILL HAVE A 4TH OF JULY PARADE!

At our September meeting Anne Noll, a former BSCL President and civic activist who is currently President of the League of Women Voters, made a motion to create a committee to plan a Barcroft 4th of July Parade for next year. Anne noted that the parade would be a means of involving Barcroft's young people in the neighborhood's activities, and might involve other activities besides a parade. The motion was unanimously carried, and Anne agreed to chair the committee. If you would like to be involved in the planning for the parade, please call her at 892-6710.

MEMBERSHIP: PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES

The Barcroft School and Civic League has a September to September membership year. So fall is the time for everyone to join for the 1988-89 year. Dues are only \$2 per person, or \$4 for a couple. Please send in your dues with the coupon on the back cover. You can also join at any meeting of the BSCL. And you are welcome at any meeting whether or not you ever send in your dues. We need your support to keep the Barcroft neighborhood spirit healthy. Where else can you spend \$2 and get more than that for it! If you have not joined, please tear out this article and place it where it will remind you to send your dues in soon.

**NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN:
DRAFTING IS UNDER WAY**

A drafting committee chaired by Laurie Kelsch is now putting together the first draft of the Barcroft Neighborhood Conservation Plan, working from the input prepared by the various committees and the input your gave on your Barcroft questionnaire. The committee hopes to produce a first draft before the December BSCL meeting. Laurie is also our delegate to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Group, and she will be at the October meeting to report on developments in that group as well as the status of the draft of our plan.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL OF BARCROFT SCHOOL

Barcroft School opened in September for its 63rd year of service to the community. With almost 400 lively children and a dedicated staff of over 40 to serve them, it is a happy, productive place. As the new principal, I am excited about the beginning of the school year!

If you stroll by the school on your evening walk you may notice our three new portable classrooms. These temporary structures are serving one third grade and two 5th grade classes. The three new classrooms bring our total of portable classrooms to five.

Students are already planning several special activities with their teachers to extend classroom learning. The 6th grades will all be going on an overnight trip to the Arlington Outdoor Education Laboratory, where they will study nature, astronomy and other science-related topics in the outdoors. Primary children will visit farms to extend their science and social studies curriculum, too. The week of September 12 was Hispanic Heritage Week, and we were all involved in activities to recognize it as a special week.

Volunteers are always needed in schools. Children need extra help practicing math skills or reading. They love to be read to by an adult friend. Books need to be shelved in the library. Adults in the community have wonderful skills or experiences to share with children. Many parents of Barcroft students both work and are not readily available during the school day. If you are retired, work at home or are available during the school day and wish to volunteer, please call me at 358-5838.

Barcroft School has long been an important part of this community. Please join us, by volunteering or just by visiting, in our efforts to care for and educate the community's children.

Ellen Kahan, Ph.D.
Principal



ABSENTEE VOTING HAS BECOME EASIER

Any registered voter who will be out of town on Election Day, November 8, can now pick up a ballot at the Arlington County Office of Voter Registration and vote immediately. You must pick up the ballot in person. Students, military and those who are ill may continue to apply by mail.

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SEPTEMBER MEETING HEARS ABOUT STATE DEPARTMENT PLANS FOR ARLINGTON HALL

At the BSCL's September meeting two representatives from the Department of State presented their current plans for the conversion of Arlington Hall to the Foreign Service Institute when the Army leaves in October of 1989.

Mr. Bill Camp, Associate Director of FSI, noted that the Department still plans to raze most of the buildings on the site and replace them with new low-rise buildings. Mr. Camp said that demolition of the old buildings will be handled by companies who will control the release of asbestos and other pollutants into Barcroft's air when the old buildings are destroyed. State expects to occupy the site in 1992, and Mr. Camp does not think that there will be any funding delays in the tight budget days ahead.

The State Department is still looking at the piece of Arlington Hall located within Barcroft, on the west side of George Mason Drive just above 4th Street. Barcroft had proposed a passive park for this space, and State still plans for it to be operated by Arlington County, although there is inevitably talk of locating their own facilities of one type or another there. (The latest proposal was a day care center for students' children.) State is now planning to secure the FSI campus with unobtrusive fencing and security guards. There will be a bicycle path on the southern perimeter connecting to the existing pedestrian underpass under George Mason, permitting a link to the Second Street South Bike Route and to Thomas Jefferson Community Center from Barcroft. State thinks that children who now cross Arlington Hall to school at St. Thomas Moore will be permitted to continue that access.

The National Guard will also occupy a part of the Arlington Hall site. Pat Roach, who is keeping in touch with State as their plans change, is also attempting to find out more about the Guard's planning.

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**ARLINGTON TO CELEBRATE OPENING OF NEW
COURTHOUSE COMPLEX ON OCTOBER 15
THE NEW PARKING LOT IS ALREADY OPEN**

The County's new courthouse offices are ready in Courthouse Plaza, across from old Courthouse and directly above the Court House Metro stop. Grand opening ceremonies are planned for October 15, starting with a 5K Fun Run at 9AM (registration begins at 8AM), and to continue with speeches, food, music and historical displays. Arlington citizens are invited to attend.

The underground parking lot for the new complex has been open since August, easing the congested parking situation around the Courthouse. The garage has 82 two-hour metered parking spaces which are free of charge from 5PM to 8AM, on holidays and on weekends. The entrance is at 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Bicycle parking is planned but not yet in place.

For more information, call Jean Berg in the County's Citizen Information Office at 358-3266.

LAWN SHEEP MAKE MORE INROADS!

A resident of 4th Street South has installed four small lawn sheep, the first case of multiple lawn sheep to be encountered as this popular pet sweeps through the neighborhood.

**BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE
OFFICERS FOR 1988-89**

- PresidentPat Roach 920-8131
- Vice President...Randy Swart 521-2080
- Treasurer.....Ira Belcher
- Corres. Secy....Laurie Kelsch
- Record. Secy....Donna Anderson
- Board Members....Phyllis Kinsey
- Bill Peine
- Susan Christopher
- Howard Mumford

WANT ADS

WANTED: Large capacity washing machine. Working or non-working. Call Kathy 892-6458

WANTED: Reliable babysitter for 13 month old boy. Weekend, evenings and an occasional afternoon. Call Faylinda at 979-8849.

WANTED: Name and telephone number of individual within Buchanan and 9th Street S. vicinity willing to babysit 5-month old female for a few hours, on occasion, as needed. Contact Linda or Richard, evenings at 685-0176.



NOTABLE PEOPLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD

New neighbors, babies, grandchildren weddings, Bar Mitzvahs, anecdotes, anniversaries, talents, memories? Help Kathy Kerr keep up-to-date with what's happening in Barcroft. Give her a call at 892-6458.

WANT A JOB? SIGN MANAGER WANTED

The BSCL needs a person to arrange the hanging and taking down each month of the black and white signs we use to remind us all of our meetings. Please call Randy Swart at 521-2080 if you are interested. We are hoping to see a new face for this job!



OCTOBER EVENTS

Saturdays Farmer's Market. At the Courthouse, 1400 N. Courthouse Rd. 7 AM-Noon. Veggies, baked goods, herbs, Halloween pumpkins.

Oct 6 BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30 PM. County Bond Issues. Come and hear about the \$69 million in bonds the County will ask you to approve or reject in November. For info please call Pat Roach or Sue Sarcone at 920-8131.

Tuesday Joint Candidates Night with Waycroft-Woodlawn Civic Assn. 11th Glebe School, 1770 N. Glebe Road. 8PM. Info 521-2080.

Saturday Arlington County Board Meeting. 9 AM at the Courthouse. 1st & 15th Watch it on Arlington cable TV. Info 558-2261.

Saturday Arlington County Courthouse Opening. Celebrate the opening 15th of the new Courthouse complex above Court House Metro station with a fun run, food, music, official speeches and historic displays. 9AM-3PM. Info 358-3266.

Saturday Barcroft School Yard Sale. Sell your junk or come for the 15th fun and games. See Kathy's article on p.7. Info 521-3821.

Monday Book Discussion Group - 100 Years of Solitude by Gabriel 24th Garcia-Marquez. Library, 1015 N. Quincy 7:30PM. 521-2080.

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**A MOTHER'S FIRST IMPRESSIONS
OF BARCROFT SCHOOL**

School started this year with some authentic "school-like" cool weather. With great trepidation and maternal anxiety, I relinquished my eldest child to the Arlington Public School system. And I am pleased to announce that Allen has pronounced his first week at Barcroft school as "FUN". He is in the morning kindergarten with Mrs. Maloney.

My next public school project will be to attend my first PTA meeting, if I can just figure out when it is!

Bill and Susan Peine on S. Wakefield St. serve on the Barcroft PTA as Co-Vice Presidents. This will be the second year they have held this position. The PTA decided to continue with the same PTA officers as last year with hopes that it would help ease the transition for our new Principal, Dr. Ellen Kahan. Bill and Susan have a son, Nathan, in 2nd grade.

Susan says she had rather hoped that at least one of Barcroft's five (count them) portable classrooms would have been located out front as a reminder to voters to vote in favor of the bond referendum coming up this November. Barcroft had 2 small portable rooms last year with 3 new double-sided rooms arriving for this fall. These classrooms are not attached to the school and do not have restrooms. This is a problem whenever there is bad weather. Little Barcroft school certainly is stretched to the max--and beyond--this year with over 420 students--probably at least 100 more than should fit there. The "music room" is on the stage in the multi-purpose room as every square inch of space is utilized. Susan says that there is talk of putting an addition on the school but the wiring, heating and air conditioning are outdated. Perhaps it would be better to gut the building and start again. But there is a lot of history in that school.



Even though the space is cramped, spirits are high at Barcroft. Everyone is enjoying getting to know Dr. Kahan and she seems to be making herself readily available to parents, teachers and students alike. Barcroft neighbors also had a chance to meet her when she came to the September BSCL meeting, and she has written an article elsewhere in this issue of the News.

BARCROFT SCHOOL'S ANNUAL YARD SALE

COME ONE COME ALL on Saturday October 15 to the annual Barcroft School Fall Yardsale featuring games, a PTA bakesale and lots of junk. If you would like to sell your own stuff, spaces will be available for \$10. If you'd like to rent a table to go with your space, that will be \$10 more. The Barcroft PTA also would be ever so grateful for your donations of sellable items. For more information, contact Susan Peine at 521-3821.



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ANNUAL BARCROFT SCHOOL YARD SALE -- OCTOBER 15.
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BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE
800 South Buchanan Street
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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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c/o Kathryn Villegas
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