

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 90, No. 4

December 1992

DECEMBER MEETING: Annual Holiday Program

The whole family is invited to a holiday program and Christmas carol sing-along with the famous Barcroft Christmas Band at 7:30 PM on Thursday, December 3, at the Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan. Everyone in Barcroft is welcome; you do not have to be a member. Bring a neighbor, a friend, your kids; bring some cookies too. This is the Barcroft School and Civic League's traditional holiday program. It comes early in the month and provides a fine opening for this joyous season. Santa is likely to appear, and the adults are fond of saying that this program is great for the kids. This is one meeting where we don't ask for volunteers for community projects or conduct any BSCL business—and one of the best to just meet the folks in your neighborhood. Come and join your neighbors in expressing the good spirits of the season!



Barcroft Voted!

The biggest surprise of this election was that Barcroft precinct (which in addition to Barcroft includes the part of Arlington Forest south of Arlington Blvd.) turned out only 34 more voters for the Presidential race (1,506) than it did in 1988. Turnout for the County as a whole increased from 74,305 to 82,097. But 84% of us voted in 1988, so we equaled the County-wide turnout this year because we were much higher last time. We turned out a higher percentage than many other neighborhoods, including Ashton Heights, Arlington Forest, Lyon Park, and Rock Spring.

As always, the Barcroft vote for every candidate was within one or two percentage points of the Countywide results. Ours is still a typical Arlington neighborhood. More voters say they vote for the candidate here than for the party, but in recent years Democrats have won every race.

The Clinton vote in Barcroft was 56%, compared with 53% for Dukakis in 1988. The Bush vote was 35%, compared with 47% for him in 1988. Nearly one in ten Barcrofters voted for Perot, who pulled 9%. It appears that Bush lost dissatisfied Barcrofters to both Perot

Continued on page 2

Christmas Service Luncheon December 17

The BSCL will hold its annual luncheon for the public service people who serve our neighborhood on Thursday, December 17. The luncheon will honor the people who bring us fire fighting, police protection, parks maintenance, refuse collection, mail, parcel delivery, library, crossing guard, educational, and other public services throughout the year. You can suggest people who should be on the list of invitees if you are afraid we might miss a particularly helpful service person.

As in past years, we need both volunteers to help with the luncheon and food donations. Not everyone can help during the day on Thursday, but you can cook the night before if you want to pitch in or even buy something to donate. Please call Talmadge Williams at 920-7006 or Susan Christopher at 892-6265 if you can help. This has been a very popular event with the service people, who are seldom thanked for anything!

Barcroft Vote *Continued from page 1*

and Clinton, with about three-fourths of them choosing Perot.

Congressman Moran's reelection was supported by 59% in Barcroft, with 37% voting for McLarrow, even though he did not show up for our Candidate's Night, and 3% for West, who would prefer a 45 if he ever has to tote a gun.

Jim Hunter was reelected to the County Board with 67% of Barcroft's votes, 1% above the County as a whole and a two-to-one margin over Winslow. This was Barcroft's highest approval rating for a County Board member since Ellen Bozman won with 69% in 1989.

Barcroft approved the County bond issues by wide margins, including bonds for Metro (79%), Schools (76%), Higher Education (69%), Parks (69%), Streets and Highways (74%), and Sewage Treatment (82%). Again, these percentages were all within a point or two of the Countywide totals.

Even if your candidates did not win, your neighborhood did. People who vote are always respected.

Barcroft News Staff

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Deadline for submissions: 10th of the month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers for 1992-1993

<i>President</i>	Larry Goldschmidt, 521-3746
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<i>Transportation</i>	Could be you
<i>Crime Resistance</i>	Could be you
<i>Neighborhood Conservation</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953

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BSCL Petitions County to Close Hi Cue

The Board and officers of the BSCL sent a letter to the Arlington County Board on November 18, petitioning the County to revoke the business license of Hi Cue Billiards at George Mason Dr. and Columbia Pike. The letter was a response to the latest murder at Hi Cue, along with continuing reports of assault, theft, public drunkenness, and urination in public at the shopping center.

The BSCL letter outlined our unsuccessful efforts over the past two years to work with the shopping center owners and Hi Cue's management itself to tighten up security there. It also cited the help we requested and received from the Arlington County Police. The letter noted recent news reports of arrests of the owners of Hi Cue for gambling operations and concluded that the business showed "a continuing pattern of illegal activity" that required revocation of its business license.

At press time the County Board expected to meet soon in executive session to consider this matter. As always, you can register your views by calling the County Board office at 358-3130 and leaving a brief message.

Pike Festival

The Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization will hold a Holiday Festival on Saturday, December 5. The Festival will include music, games, food, crafts, merchandise, services, and business displays. Booths are available for crafts people. The festival will be located at Columbia Pike and Edgewood Street and will run from 11 AM to 4 PM. For details call Kathy Dalgosh at 521-2667.

BSCL Adopts a Park

Arlington County has announced a new program called "Adopt-A-Park," under which an organization or individual can "adopt" a park area, taking a special interest in keeping it free of litter and doing some gardening. Beyond cutting the County's maintenance costs, the program gets the community more involved in the park and more concerned over its appearance.

The program seems designed for the BSCL, since we have been involved in the rehabilitation of the park at Four Mile Run and Columbia Pike for about three years. Our initial clearing effort has permitted the County to mow the area, and this year our Neighborhood Conservation project provided funds to place a decorative fence along the sidewalk and do some preliminary landscaping. The Woman's Club of Arlington is ready to contribute some landscaping effort there as well, although the County insists that any flowers or shrubs planted must be nonmaintenance items.

At the November meeting, the BSCL voted to participate in the new program by adopting the park at Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run. We expect that the main duties involved will be litter collection and periodic pruning of shrubs and vines.

We expect to announce two Saturdays each year for that activity. In the meantime, we hope individual Barcrofters will pitch in by taking an old plastic grocery bag down the hill and filling it with litter. Be sure it's daytime, and do not get out of sight of the bicycle trail if you are alone. Better yet, take a neighbor along. We will be concentrating on the grassy area from Columbia Pike to 9th St.

We have been proud of the progress in rehabilitating this park. Keeping it clean will help establish the right atmosphere there and reclaim the park for public use.

Arlington Housing Corp.

The November meeting of the BSCL featured a speaker from Arlington Housing Corporation, who informed us of the programs AHC provides for the community. In general, AHC promotes the availability of affordable housing in Arlington. For apartments, this usually involves purchasing a run-down building with the help of government grants and loans. The building is rehabilitated and rented to low-income tenants. For single-family homes, AHC helps low-income homeowners rehabilitate their homes through loans and direct assistance. Repayment can be over a long period or deferred until the home is eventually sold. Many of the program's beneficiaries are seniors on fixed incomes.

AHC also helps with barrier removal for low-income handicapped people. This may be as simple as building a wheelchair ramp to the front porch, or it may involve more extensive renovations. There are special programs for some neighborhoods, like an external weatherization program in Columbia Heights West (up the hill behind the Safeway on Columbia Pike, extending to Carlin Springs Road) and a minority home ownership program in Nauck.

AHC believes that its program helps maintain the diversity of our community. There is always a need for service workers in the commu-

nity to do the jobs requiring less skill and paying lower wages. Those workers need housing nearby, since they are unable to afford the cost of long-distance commuting. The apartment house program improves the appearance of the run-down properties it acquires, and AHC is careful in tenant management and maintenance. The results are apartments that do not look like low-income properties and a better situation for the neighborhood than when the building was under for-profit ownership.

AHC is headquartered in South Arlington at 2300 9th St. S. Their staff is available at 486-0626 to answer questions about their programs.

A Belated Observation

The entrance to the W&OD Regional Park at Columbia Pike is so attractive and such an improvement. I like the rail fence and the way the grassy areas are mowed. Many thanks to those who did all the work to make this area so beautiful and inviting.

A Proud Barcroft Neighbor

Barcroft Christmas Band To Practice

If you get this in time, you can come and practice with the Barcroft Christmas Band for the big Christmas program in December. Our practice is on Sunday, November 29, at 7 PM at Randy and Barbara Swart's house, 4611 7th St. S. Our intrepid Christmas program organizer, Kathy Kerr, will fill you in on details at 892-6458. You can still play with the Christmas band without coming to practice—just show up with your instrument or your voice on the first Thursday in December.

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Neighborhood Conservation Projects Progressing

The survey stakes you may have noticed around the old VEPCO substation on the curve where Pershing becomes Buchanan are the beginnings of the County implementation of our Neighborhood Conservation Plan project to add a sidewalk around the curve and control the erosion on that side of the street. The erosion control is proving somewhat more involved than the County had first estimated, so Public Works funds will be added to the NCP funding to complete the project. You can expect to see actual construction there in the spring.

We have two more projects in the works for consideration at the December funding session of the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee and will have more to report on them in January. The next funding session for new projects will be in June. We need to work up some new projects, so if you are interested in curb and gutter work or sidewalks on your street, need additional streetlights, or have some other refinements of our neighborhood in mind, please call our Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee representative, David Michaelson, at 553-3953. We had 42 potential projects listed in our Neighborhood Conservation Plan, and David can supply you with a copy of the list with their current status.



Leaf Collection

By the time you read this, the second leaf collection sweep should be about two weeks away, since our first one was on November 14. For a report on when the next sweep is coming, you can call the Leaf Hotline number on the door hanger the County left (358-6565), but it doesn't seem to work evenings or weekends. Since the sweeps are west to east, watch or listen for signs of the trucks in Arlington Forest to know when to whisk your leaves out to the curb. Or just compost them in a pile in your back yard. Or mow them. Or you can get free bags for them at Long Branch Nature Center or the Lubber Run Center.



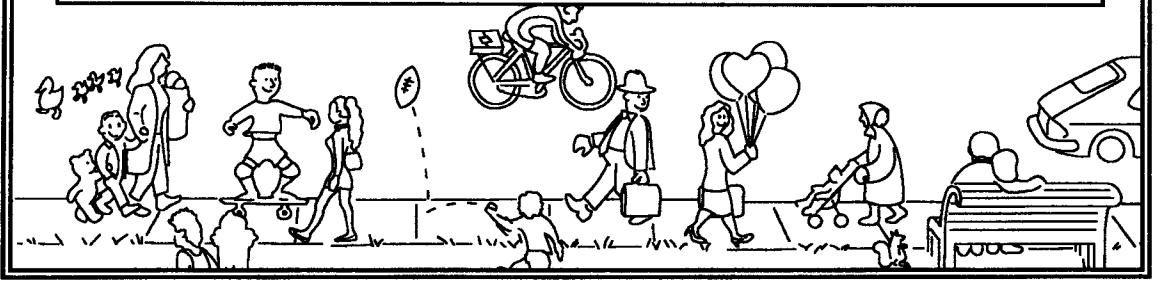
Your All-American Neighborhood Restaurant

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Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Lisa and Tom Dowdell, the proud parents of Samantha, born July 10, 1992. The Dowdells have lived in Barcroft for about three years. Lisa is enjoying being a mother at home, having given up her job in public relations. Tom is a health care attorney. Samantha is the Dowdell's first child; however, she has a "noisy" little Yorkie dog named Josie to entertain her. Lisa says that most of her neighbors know Josie and hopefully think of her with affection.



What a delightful surprise to open up the *Washington Post* on Nov. 13 (page G3) and find a huge, beautiful picture of Barcrofters Faylinda Kodis and her daughter Avery, commemorating a very special day for their family. Avery became a U.S. citizen!

Avery, now age 2½, was adopted as an infant from Korea as was her brother, Maxwell, age 5. Faylinda says that for the naturalization process to begin, the adoption decree must be final. In Virginia, this takes at least six months. The naturalization process takes another year, with an additional four months to work with immigration.

On Thursday, Nov. 12, 1992, 31 children, from toddlers to teens, became U.S. citizens in a special ceremony that took place at Layton Elementary School in Fairfax at 9:15 AM. Some of the children from the school took part in the

ceremony by dressing in their native clothing and singing. In a last-minute decision, Avery attended the ceremony dressed in her "hanbok"—a colorful Korean outfit.

Faylinda and husband Richard Beach say that when Max was naturalized, they went to the immigration office and had to wait in lines for about five hours. By contrast, the lovely ceremony for Avery did justice to such an extra special day.

Faylinda, please note, the editor of the *Barcroft News*, unlike the editor of the *Washington Post*, can spell your name correctly!




I join with the Barcroft Neighborhood Kodis-Beach Fan Club in expressing our great sorrow that this family will be moving to New Jersey early next year. We'll miss you all, but we also wish you the best!



Frazzled over your holiday shopping? How can you ever get it done if you have to take the kids along? This will not be a problem if you let the Girl Scouts babysit! At two locations, Junior Girl Scouts (and their leaders) will provide safe, fun activities and simple snacks for \$2.50 per child for the first hour and \$2 for each additional hour. Reservations are required.

The Girl Scouts have experience in this project and have found it to be a great fundraiser, helping them take very special trips, such as to Savannah, GA, to the Girl Scout Headquarters.

December Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Civic Federation Mtg. , 7:45 PM, Arlington Hospital	2	3 BSCL , 7:30 PM, Community House. Call 521-3746 for info.	4	5 Swingin' Thru the Decades , 7-9 PM, Our Savior Lutheran, 9th & S. Taylor; music, silent auction, door prizes
6	7	8	9	10	11	12 Messiah Sing , 5 PM, 1st Presbyterian Ch. of Arl.; FREE; food donations for Arl. Homeless Shelters requested
13	14	15	16	17	18 Cub Scout Pack 648 , Arlington Forest U. Meth. Ch. Call 979-6379 for info.	19
20 HANUKKAH 	21	22	23	24	25 CHRISTMAS 	26
27	28	29	30	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE 		

On Dec. 5 and 12, Troop 1431 will be babysitting from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at the West-over Preschool at Washington Blvd. and Patrick Henry Dr. Call Amy at 536-7390 for reservations. On Dec. 12 and 19, Troop 396, under the leadership of Barcrofters Natasha Lord and Janet Kyle, will care for your children from 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM at Arlington United Methodist Church at S. Glebe Rd. and 8th St. S. Call Stacy at 486-0019 or Liesa at 892-2443 for reservations.



Don't forget, you can recycle your batteries at any Arlington Fire Station. If you find you can't get over there, Key Elementary School is also recycling batteries. A number of Barcroft children, including my own, are students at Key and can take your used batteries with them to school. Call Kathy 892-6458 for more information.

Speed Trap on 3rd Street

Yes, Barcroft, there is a Santa Claus. He dressed in a blue police uniform over the summer and ran a radar unit on 3rd St. S. between Abingdon and Wakefield. We only heard about it this fall. We make a point of thanking our police protectors for placing speed traps in and around the neighborhood, since this is the best way to control cut-through speeding and make that turn from George Mason onto 4th St. possible without being rear-ended. Can we assume that there are no objections to speed traps in the neighborhood? If you have strong views on speeding and speed traps, join our Transportation Committee by calling Larry Goldschmidt at 521-3746.

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Barcroft Exchange

DRESSER Unfinished, six drawers, \$150. Please call 892-2421.

GARAGE WANTED Two-car garage needed to rent for an airplane construction project expected to last two to three years. Please call John Schroeder at 979-8625.

STUFF FOR SALE Quasar 5# portable b/w TV, AC power but no batteries. Canon Sure Shot 35-mm camera. Steel computer table, 4 ft. Folding banquet table, 5 ft. Wilson Maureen Connelly series tennis racket, wood, nylon strung. Royal manual typewriter. Regina light-weight upright vacuum cleaner with accessories. Call Virginia. Day-time: 528-6600; evenings: 920-4353.

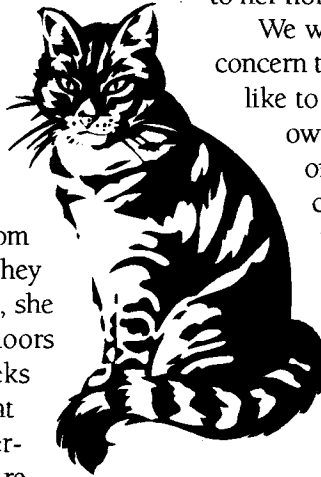


Handicapped Parking Hotline

Did somebody without a handicap in the world just park a new Porsche in the handicapped space and go bounding into a glitzy store? Remind them of their civic responsibilities by calling the Arlington Handicapped Parking Violation hotline at 358-7141. The ticket they receive will cost them \$125. The space must be marked with an above-ground sign.

Letter to the Editor

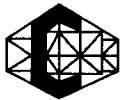
We just wanted to write and express our thanks to all those Barcrofters who called us with possible sightings of our lost cat. As many of you probably saw, we had lost a light grey indoor cat from 5th St. S. in early October. We received several phone calls about possible sightings, as well as calls from people just wanting to let us know they would look for her. As it turns out, she was found locked in a shed four doors down about two and one-half weeks after getting lost. She had lost weight and was quite dehydrated but otherwise in good shape. We're happy to re-



port that she is gaining weight well and is back to her normal happy self.

We were really impressed with all of the concern that our neighbors showed. We'd also like to let the neighbors on Abingdon who own the dark grey cat know they have one smooth operator. One night we received calls from two different people within 30 minutes. Both had taken the same cat in and fed it, then called to tell us they'd found our cat. The next morning yet another person called to tell us the same thing. Perhaps this will explain those few extra pounds he weighs!

Ken and Shauna Leinbach



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Ten Ways to Be a Good Neighbor

These tips from Arlington County appeared first in *Nauck's News and Views*. We've added some.

1. Store your trash can behind the front line of your house. Bring it to the curb and back to its storage area within a day of pickup. Call 358-6570 to arrange free special pickup when you have more than the 10-bag limit on extra trash.
2. Use outdoor enclosures to store nonhousehold items such as materials waiting to be recycled or discarded furniture. Sheds larger than 150 square feet require a building permit. Whatever the size, shed placement must meet zoning requirements for side and rear yard setback. Call the Zoning Office at 358-3883 for exact measurements. If you put household scraps in your compost pile, make sure you have the pile in a rat-proof enclosure.
3. Keep your grass cut to a reasonable length to avoid health and safety hazards. Mow at reasonable hours, when everybody is awake.
4. Cut back bushes, trees, and hedges hanging over the sidewalk or roadway to avoid endangering pedestrians. If you live on a corner lot, please pay special attention to clearing the sightlines for cars or bicycles coming to the intersection.
5. Park any unlicensed vehicles behind the front line of your house. You are permitted by County regulations to keep only one unlicensed vehicle. Junk vehicles—inoperable ones—must be in an enclosed structure. Better yet, call the Community Inspectors at 358-3232 and they will arrange for the car to be picked up and recycled.
6. Park or house commercial vehicles properly. County regulations permit one commercial vehicle to be parked on residential property if it is behind the back line of the house and its load capacity is less than one ton.
7. Park travel trailers, boat trailers, and recreational vehicles behind the front line of your house.
8. Maintain your pet and keep your yard from becoming a health hazard by cleaning up after your puppy. Carry a pooper-scooper when you walk your pet and you will be surprised at how much cheerier the greetings are from your neighbors.
9. Maintain the appearance of your home by keeping up with painting and repairs.
10. Be sensitive to water flow from your property onto your neighbors' when you make landscaping changes or downspout repairs. Downspout extensions of two to four feet from your foundation are a good idea, but don't aim them at your neighbor's yard. Mulch piles and new landscaping can change the grade enough to redirect water-flow to your neighbors, causing soil erosion.



Barcroft Crime Report

On November 7 at 3 AM, a person was shot and killed at Hi Cue Billiard Parlor, George Mason Dr. and Columbia Pike. This is the second murder at Hi Cue. Arlington police have arrested five people.

When our Crime Resistance Committee was active, its members discussed Hi Cue with the shopping center's owner, noting that we disapproved of the late hours the establishment is open and had heard rumors that the first murder was motivated by an argument over a gambling debt. We also informed the owner that Hi Cue is not the type of neighborhood business we prefer. For a time the Arlington County Police parked their patrol cars in the center's lot while they filled out their nightly reports, which helped establish a police presence in the area.

Perhaps it is time for stronger measures. If you want to help get the Crime Resistance Committee going again, call Larry Goldschmidt at 521-3746. Some of its activities were frustratingly ineffective, but it was our best way to demonstrate the neighborhood's concern about the decline of security along Columbia Pike.

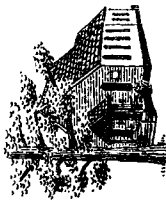
The Falls Church man whose body was found in Glencarlyn Park on November 4 did not die of foul play, although the cause of death has still not been announced.

This information was not carried in the *Washington Post*, but it did appear in the *Arlington Courier*. If you read the *Courier* or the *Journal* and would like to help us keep up, please clip anything you see in either paper that would interest other Barcrofters and drop it off or send it to Randy Swart at 4611 7th St. S., 22204.

This month's crime report is for October. It repeats many of the incidents reported last month, but with more information.

- 10/3 300 S. Pershing Dr. VCR stolen from home
900 S. Buchanan Drunk broke apartment window
- 10/5 700 S. George Mason Dr. County trash can stolen from curb side
Unit block of Pershing Dr. Robbery
- 10/6 900 S. George Mason Dr. Car window smashed, nothing stolen
900 S. Buchanan Items stolen from car
900 S. Buchanan Car paint scratched by vandals
- 10/11 900 S. George Mason Dr. Car window smashed, nothing stolen
900 S. George Mason Dr. Coins stolen from arcade game
900 S. Taylor Car window smashed, nothing stolen
900 S. George Mason Dr. Laundry burglarized
900 S. George Mason Dr. Car windows broken
- 10/12 900 S. George Mason Dr. Car tire and rim stolen
4800 Columbia Pike Drinking in public
900 S. Buchanan Victim stabbed, hospitalized in stable condition. Suspect not located
- 10/14 900 S. Buchanan Drunk in public
- 1015 4600 Columbia Pike Drunk in public
- 10/18 900 S. Wakefield Roommate stole items
900 S. George Mason Dr. Car radio stolen
900 S. George Mason Dr. Suspect had concealed knife
900 S. George Mason Dr. Trespassing
- 10/19 900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
- 10/20 900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
900 S. Buchanan Car radio stolen
- 10/21 900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
900 S. Buchanan Car radio stolen
- 10/22 900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
- 10/24 4800 Columbia Pike Vandalism—window smashed
- 10/27 900 S. George Mason Dr. Shoplifting
- 10/31 900 S. George Mason Dr. Car radio stolen

We are indebted to Detective Bob McFarland of the Arlington County Police for providing this information.



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