



BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 91, No. 2

October 1993

OCTOBER MEETING: Candidates Night

The October meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League will be our traditional Candidates Night gala. Save Thursday, October 7, to meet incumbent Delegate Karen Darner (a Barcrofter) and her three opponents for Virginia's 49th District seat. The other featured race is for Arlington County Board, where incumbent Ellen Bozman is running for a fifth term with several challengers. This is a full night, so we'll go straight to the candidates promptly at 7:30. We limit the candidates' stump-speech time and restrict the questions to Barcroft residents, so you'll be able to ask your question directly! The meeting will be at the Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Street.

Still Available: Ad Manager Position

As we noted last month, we need an Advertising Manager to replace the retiring Virginia Reinecke. Be the envy of your neighbors with an active neighborhood volunteer job! It involves contacting regular advertisers to confirm that they want to continue, sending them the

bills, and finding about one new advertiser a month to keep things rolling. Call Virginia Reinecke at 528-6600 for more info on what is involved, or call Randy Swart at 521-2080 to volunteer. This opportunity may not last much longer—at least that's what we're hoping. But we need your call.

Future of Education: September's Meeting

The focus of September's BSCL meeting was a discussion of the Future Planning Committee's report on the future of education in Arlington. The report presents several proposed courses of action, many of which involve changes in the mix of neighborhood and alternative schools. Miriam Hughey-Guy, the new principal of Barcroft Elementary School, represented the County. Dawn Phillips represented Friends of Neighborhood Schools, which is a grass-roots group. Ms. Hughey-Guy described how and why the structure of Arlington's public schools is being reviewed. She said the main factor behind the plan was the need to accommodate growth in the school population. Ms.

Continued on page 2

Burglaries in Arlington Forest

Here is a very interesting tip from the police. We are repeating their description, complete with ethnic origin.

The Arlington County Police report that the Arlington Forest neighborhood to our west and north is being plagued by burglaries.

Since August 19 there have been at least five burglaries and one attempted burglary in the Arlington Forest area. A number of the incidents have been close to Lubber Run Park. They have occurred during daylight hours. Entry has been obtained by smashing rear doors and breaking windows. In four cases nothing was taken. In the other cases stereo equipment, a television, and money were taken. The suspect in the case is described as follows:

Hispanic Male
5'7" tall
150-160 pounds
Approximately 30 years old
Shoulder-length black hair

Anyone with information about this subject or these cases is asked to call Detective Roger Estes at 358-4174.

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Education *(Continued from page 1)*

Phillips stated that she and her group had several concerns over the report, especially that existing neighborhood schools might be changed to alternative schools.

This is another County-managed effort with the stated goal of involving the community in the decision-making process. Unfortunately, several citizens have publicly expressed their belief that the County has already decided what to do and is using the process to prepare the community for a predetermined course of action.

Barcroft News Staff

Editor Sara Leigh Merrey, 521-0527
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Advertising Manager Virginia Reinecke, 528-6600
Neighborhood News Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
Contributions Editor Randy Swart, 521-2080
Mailing Aileen Woods & Paul Metzler

Deadline for submissions: **1st** (ads) or **10th** (editorial material) of month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers for 1993-1994

President Scott Allard, 521-0825
Vice President Dave Voorhees, 979-8287
Treasurer Jim Kerr, 892-6458
Recording Secy. Margaret Davis, 892-6742
Corresponding Secretary Pennie Kinsey, 892-5962
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Hospitality Could be you
Transportation Could be you
Crime Resistance Chris Monek, 920-1287
Neighborhood Conservation David Michaelson, 553-3953

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Margaret Kirk Departs Barcroft

by Cathy Goldschmidt

On August 30 Barcroft bid farewell to long-time resident Margaret Kirk. She was so fond of the area, however, that she only moved across the highway to Culpepper Gardens.

Margaret moved here from Georgetown in 1935 with her husband, John, and one-year-old Joan—when our block of 4th St. was a dirt road with 10 houses. Later three sons were born and a second story was added to the house.

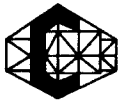
All of the children attended Barcroft School when there was only one class for each grade. Joan and John went to Washington-Lee High School (with Shirley MacLaine and Warren Beatty), at that time Arlington's only high

school. Twins Ronald and Donald were in Wakefield's first graduating class.

In the thirties and forties Arlington was an outer suburb. The Kirks raised chickens and grew and canned their own vegetables. John took his sons to the woods east of Taylor St. to hunt rabbits and squirrels. Where cars now rumble on George Mason Dr., there was a footpath to the girl's school at Arlington Hall. Our newer homes occupy land that the Kirks remember as gardens and cornfields.

John died in 1981, but some of us remember his talent for growing things. He started from cuttings with many different kinds of azaleas and sold lots of juicy tomatoes, at two pounds for a dollar, from his carport.

Margaret's departure leaves only three families who have lived on our block for more than 50 years. The Kirks are a living part of Barcroft history.



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Fall Real Estate Roundup

In mid-September, the following homes were for sale around Barcroft. Asking prices are noted if the agent or owner returned our call. By the time you read this, some may already have gone to the highest bidder.

- 🔧 Six build-to-order lots at S. Taylor and 4th St. The white home on the corner will be demolished, and six new ones will be built. There is no opportunity for neighborhood comment on this by-right development in accordance with existing zoning.
- 🔧 A brick colonial with swimming pool at 133 S. Abingdon. Is this Barcroft's only swimming pool?
- 🔧 Two brick townhouses on Arlington Boulevard (4600 block). Priced at \$289,900 and \$319,500. The higher one has 2800 square feet of living space and two sheds.
- 🔧 A much-renovated brick colonial at 4400 1st St., priced at \$335,000.
- 🔧 Howard Mumford's brick colonial at 4411 1st Pl., \$220,900. Howard was active in the BSCL for many years, was a member of the Board of Directors, and recently moved to a retirement community near Williamsburg.
- 🔧 A brick townhouse on Pershing Ct.
- 🔧 A shingle house at 4645 3rd St.
- 🔧 Two new houses to be built by Kirkbride Construction at 4416 and 4420 8th St. They will be frame farmhouse-style homes with three or four bedrooms, priced "in the upper \$300,000s" and ready before the end of the year. Contrary to a rumor spread by the *Barcroft News*, Dee and Michael are still living here and building houses in Barcroft.
- 🔧 Three new houses to be built by Ken Sylvestri on 8th St. between Wakefield and Buchanan on the former O'Hara homestead. (The old house, built by B.F. Perrow

around the turn of the century, was demolished in a single day in September.) The new homes will be four-bedroom cedar-shingle Victorians with porches and columns in the front, priced at \$399,000, and ready early next year.

- 🔧 A brick contemporary next to the Community House at 4801 8th Rd., \$169,900. We're losing Craig Crutchfield and Carina Olsson.
- 🔧 Bill and Sue Peine's brick colonial at 824 S. Wakefield, \$245,000. Bill and Sue were active in the neighborhood, and he was president of the BSCL in the mid-1980s. We will miss them.
- 🔧 Chris Monek's brick colonial at 806 S. Stafford, priced at \$393,900. We will miss Chris. Unfortunately, the Monek's need more space.

Continued on page 8

DISCOVER RENTING

The leaves
of autumn will
be falling soon.
Be ready by
renting one
of our leaf
blowers.



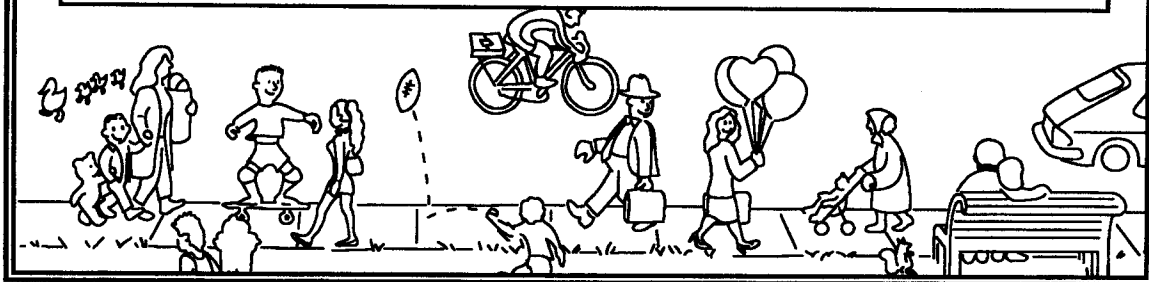
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Vienna
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Arlington
243-2122

Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Marge Miller and Peter Fontaine on S. Abingdon, who became parents on July 22, with the birth of Allison Laurel. The Miller/Fontaines moved to Barcroft one year ago. Both of them work at the Congressional Budget Office, although Marge is currently treasuring her maternity leave.

Marge and Peter have done quite a bit of work sprucing up their new home. Peter has a reputation up and down the street for being a true gardenaholic. Last spring he was seen slaving away on many an evening—even after dark! Marge reports that, oddly, they haven't been able to do much of anything since July 22!



More congratulations, to former *Barcroft News* publishers Phil and Alicia Cackley, proud parents of Ana Emilia Puente Cackley, born August 31. Ana has a big brother, Danny, age 5 and a kindergartner, and big sister, Cecilia, age 8 and a third grader. Both attend Key Elementary School in the Spanish Immersion program.

Phil teaches English as a Second Language at the Wilson School through the Arlington Employment Education Program. Alicia is enjoying her maternity leave from the General Accounting Office.



Harriet Williams thought it was a bit unusual that her daughter, Ashby, would have a field trip on the second day of school. Two second-grade

classes from Barcroft along with children from all over the metropolitan area traveled to the Library of Congress in honor of Reading Literacy Day and the 10th Anniversary of the PBS television program *Reading Rainbow*. Ashby was very excited about going because the program's star and host, LeVar Burton, was to be present.

She returned from school that day with two episodes of *Reading Rainbow* on a videotape, a butterfly pencil, and an excellent children's book she had been given. Ashby commented that "some people" read them stories and it was a lot of fun.

The next day, Harriet noticed an article about the event in the paper. Some of the participants had been Sen. Carol Mosely Braun, Attorney General Janet Reno, and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Upon further questioning, Ashby did admit that yes, the person reading to her was a justice.

First President Bush visited Barcroft and now this. Barcroft Elementary is an exciting place to be!



Farewell to the little guard house at the end of S. Taylor St. It burned to the ground on September 16 around dinnertime. A number of neighbors witnessed the fire.

Once used by Arlington Hall, the guard house has been empty for a few years now. Rumors abound that a vagrant man may have been living in the house and that neighbors had complained about him. Fourth St. neighbors David

October Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
SATURDAYS IN OCTOBER. ARLINGTON FARMER'S MARKET. Courthouse. Best veggies, apples, flowers, honey, bread, more! 10/2 FALL PLANT ID HIKE. Long Branch Nature Center, 2 PM. Reser- vations: 358-6535.					1	2 Columbia Pike Artist Studios Open House, 11 AM-4 PM, 932 S. Walter Reed Dr.
3 Glencarlyn History Walk, Long Branch Nature Center 1:30 PM. Reser- vations: 358-6535.	4	5 Civic Federation Mtg., 7:45 PM, Arlington Hospital.	6 Trees! for grades 1 and 2. Long Branch Nature Center, 2:30 PM. Call 358-6536 for info.	7 BSCL, 7:30 PM, Community House. Call 521-3746 for info.	8	9
10	11 COLUMBUS DAY	12	13	14	15	16 Heritage Walk: Chain Bridge, 9:45 AM, Potomac Overlook; call 528-5406 for info.
17	18	19	20	21 Arlington Reunion brown bag history lunch. Library. Call 358-5966 for info.	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31  HALLOWEEN						

Permut and Drew Auby report that there was another fire there this summer, perhaps started by some teenagers with firecrackers. This is interesting, since none of these events have been reported in the *Barcroft News* Crime Report. BSCL Crime Resistance Committee Chairman Chris Monek says he heard rumors about the vagrant. As yet he has been unable to obtain any information from the police, but he is still pursuing it.

Firemen, calmly dousing the flames, refused to speculate about the cause of the blaze. It was uncertain whether there was live electrical power connected to the guard house. Had the vagrant managed to tap into the power line?

Watch in next month's issue for an update regarding the "Mystery of the Guard House Inferno." Do you have any facts? Call Kathy Kerr at 892-6458.

Real Estate *(Continued from page 5)*

- 🏠 A home at 4421 9th St.
- 🏠 A two-bedroom townhouse at 961 S. Taylor. Hot tub, sauna, \$179,000.

We don't emphasize real estate reporting in the *Barcroft News* because we are more interested in the people who put down roots here and give the neighborhood its character. But if you know someone who would make a good neighbor and is looking for a home in Arlington, show them this article. We need good replacements for Howard Mumford, the Peines, and Chris Monek!





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2421 Columbia Pike, South Arlington

Crime Resistance Committee Report

by *Chris Monek*

In September I reported to the BSCL meeting on the busy summer activities of the Crime Resistance Committee. The Committee and BSCL President Scott Allard met in early July and maintained continuous contact by phone and fax throughout the summer. We prepared a letter that Scott sent to Arlington County Circuit Court Judge William T. Newman for his consideration in the July sentencing of the Hi-Cue Billiard owners and operators on gambling and related violations at the establishment. The letter related the community's concerns and its efforts to seek constructive solutions to the ongoing pattern of problems at Hi-Cue. The letter asked the court "to impose a sentence on the defendants which is designed to have a constructive impact on the relationship between the defendant-owners and the community. It is the desire of the community that all business establishments be operated in a 'good neighbor' fashion." On July 16 the defendants were each sentenced to serve 60 days and pay a \$10,000 fine. While the sentences are on appeal the Committee will continue to monitor developments. Copies of the BSCL letter are available from Scott Allard or me (920-1287).

The Committee met in August to make plans for fall activities. These include meeting with the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO) to address the large problems along our end of Columbia Pike and to establish a working relationship with Corporal Ed Chapman, who has been named as the neighborhood's primary contact with the Arlington County Police and who will be at our November meeting to meet members of the community.

Joint BSCL–Sierra Club Park Cleanup October 16

Last fall the BSCL voted to participate in Arlington County's Adopt-A-Park Program by helping keep the area north of Columbia Pike and the W&OD Bike Trail clean. About three summers ago we did some major brush and tree clearing there with the support of Arlington County Parks and the Arlington Police. There have been several subsequent cleanups as well as related efforts such as moving the recycling center to the south side of Columbia Pike.

If you've noticed the trash in the area and have wished something would be done, here's your chance! The BSCL's next cleanup of the area north of Columbia Pike at the W&OD Bike Trail is scheduled for 9–11 AM, October 16. Gloves and heavy shoes are advised.

The Sierra Club will also be conducting a cleanup in the Four Mile Run streambed between the Bike Trail and the Safeway at the same time, so this is a chance to meet Sierra Club locals and/or walk the streambed with a bunch of other concerned people. Hope to see you there!

Parade Appreciation

We hope we didn't leave out the Parade Monitors last month. They were Jim Casey, Jill Herndon (escort for the grand marshal), Larry Oresky, and David Oresky. David was also named chief executive gopher for the parade. Vinnie Millin was our able judging monitor. Finale music at the end of the parade emanated from the Oresky BoomBoxMobile courtesy of Tony Sponsellar and Sharon Oresky. Anne Noll lent her incomparable bull horn. Thanks to all of you.

Barcroft Babysitters

Erin Barksdale, 14 years old, 979-7665

My Chau, S. 7th St., 521-9344

Stacy Kyle, 13 years old, 7th grade, S. 6th St.,
American Red Cross Babysitting Certification,
486-0019

Terri Lahlou, 28 years old, S. 4th St., 979-9565
(home), 527-8484 (work)

Liza Lord, 13 years old, American Red Cross Baby-
sitting course, 892-2443

Sasha Lord, 11 years old, Mother's Helper—will
entertain children while mother is at home,
892-2443

Anne Roningen, 13 years old, S. 9th St., 521-1451

Erin Shaw, 12 years old, 7th grade, S. 8th St., 920-
5934

Attention Babysitters: Do we need to update your listing? Contact Sara Leigh Merrey, 521-0527, if you want anything changed or wish to have your name dropped.

Tell Them You Saw It in The Barcroft News

Whenever you patronize the businesses that advertise in the newsletter, please be sure to tell them you saw their ad. They need to know that it pays to advertise in the *Barcroft News*.

Dr. Michael L. Gittleson

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Barcroft Crime Report

This month's crime report is for incidents in August. Highlights include a drug bust on August 27 and another incident at Hi-Cue Billiards on August 6. Addresses show the block where the incident occurred, not the individual house number.

To report crimes or criminals, Arlington County Police urge you to call them on 911 or their non-emergency number (for suspicious things), 588-2222.

- 8/3 4200 S. 4th. Annoying phone calls.
4700 S. 9th. Car stolen.
- 8/5 4600 Columbia Pike. Left gas station without paying.
4600 Columbia Pike. Left gas station without paying.
- 8/6 900 S. George Mason Dr. Frequent customer of the billiard hall drove pickup truck into a window after being asked to leave.
900 S. Buchanan. License tags stolen.
- 8/7 800 S. George Mason Dr. Car window smashed.
4700 Columbia Pike. Purse stolen. Possible suspects.
4300 Columbia Pike. Car stolen.
- 8/9 4300 Columbia Pike. Boat trailer stolen.
- 8/10 4300 Columbia Pike. Car stolen.
4300 Columbia Pike. Car stolen.
500 S. Wakefield. Car window smashed by bottle.
400 S. George Mason Dr. Car windshield broken.
4800 Columbia Pike. Victim received three phone calls at work from an ex-friend.
- 8/12 4500 S. 4th. Egg thrown at car.
- 8/13 4300 Columbia Pike. Money stolen from car.
- 8/14 900 S. Buchanan. Arson. Car burned.

900 S. Buchanan. Car stolen.
900 S. Wakefield. Attempted car radio theft.

900 S. Buchanan. Inspection sticker removed from car window.

4600 S. 2nd. Car speakers stolen.

8/20 900 S. Buchanan. Suspect took pizza without paying.

8/21 4800 Columbia Pike. Trespassing. Disorderly suspect is barred from property.

8/23 4400 Arlington Blvd. Theft from construction site trailer.

100 S. George Mason Dr. Theft from construction site trailer.

8/26 900 S. George Mason Dr. Theft from store safe.

8/27 900 S. Wakefield. Narcotics. A search warrant of the listed residence resulted in the seizure of a large quantity of cocaine base and one Ruger 22-cal revolver.

4600 S. 3rd. Burglary. Lock punched out on rear door of house.

8/29 900 S. George Mason Dr. Car windshield damaged.

8/30 4800 Columbia Pike. Wallet stolen from purse.



Barcroft Exchange

DAY CARE NEEDED: For two infants in private home: four-month-old beginning in November and three-month-old beginning in January. Please call 892-9345.

FOR SALE: Gray high-backed desk chair, \$50; stereo cabinet, \$40; bicycle wind trainer, \$50; drafting stool w/back, \$30; battery-operated baby swing, \$10; port-a-crib/playpen, very good condition, \$50. Call 521-7674; please leave message.

FOR SALE: Storm door, white, self-storing, 32" x 80", \$60. Call 521-0823.

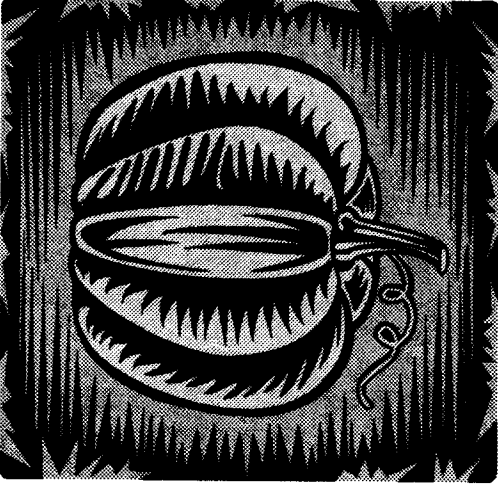


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CALLING ALL BABYSITTERS

As a service to Barcroft parents, the Barcroft News runs a list of teenagers in the neighborhood who are willing to babysit. Please send you name, phone number, hourly rate (if you want), and any other information you think would be helpful to Sara Leigh Merrey, 4669 4th St. S. You can also drop it through the mail slot in the door. We will list your name until you ask us to remove it.