



BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 91, No. 9

May 1994

MAY MEETING: NOVA Planning Commission Speaker

Our speaker for the May meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League will be Ken Billingsley of Information and Demographic Services of the Northern Virginia District Planning Commission. Mr. Billingsley, the author of numerous articles about the demographic changes in Northern Virginia during his 15 years at the Planning Commission, will speak to us on the changes that have occurred over the past two decades in Arlington County. In addition, he will provide some statistical handouts about our Barcroft community and make some comments about Barcroft. The meeting is on Thursday, May 5, at 7:30 PM in the Community House at 800 S. Buchanan Street.

PARENTAL ALERT!

Arlington police have asked all parents not to leave children alone in cars in parking lots. In an incident alleged to have taken place in the parking lot of the Unitarian Cooperative Pre-school, a man approached two children and tried to get them to open the locked car doors while the parent was away briefly. Luckily the children did not open the doors.

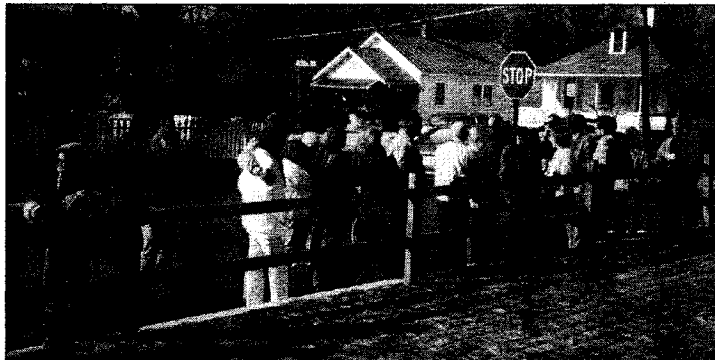
According to witnesses, the man was driving a Ford Fiesta or Escort, a Toyota, or possibly a Chevrolet Camaro. He was a black man around 5'6"-5'8", 20-30 years old, wearing a green and black shirt with stripes.

If you see such a person, get his license number, report it to the police at 558-2222, and give the case number 940405-027.

McKinney Memorial Service

by Scott Allard

A neighborhood service was held in memory of Marvon McKinney the morning of Saturday, April 9, at 4th and Wakefield Streets. About 20 Barcrofters, as well as several others, met at 9 AM to "say their piece" about Marvon McKinney. Several individuals spoke about Mr. McKinney's character or told of how Mr. McKinney had helped them. Several people spoke of his exemplary behavior in World War II. Of course, many memories pertained to Mr. McKinney's gardening style and the wonderful results he achieved.



Meeting on "Marvon's Gardens" May 12

Due to concerns over the fate of Marvon McKinney's property, the BSCL has formed a committee to represent the community's interests. Many people have commented on the activities of developers who have gone from one lot to another in Barcroft filling in every available square foot. (And in at least one case we know about, filling in more than was allowed.) Especially in view of Mr. McKinney's untiring efforts to enrich his soil, development of the property would be especially troubling to many who knew him. A committee meeting will be held on May 12 at 7:30 PM at the Community House to discuss possibilities such as trying to persuade the county to buy the land for a park or community garden. To join the committee or ask about the property, call Dave Voorhees at 979-8287.

Barcroft News Staff

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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
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Neighborhood Conservation	David Michaelson, 553-3953
Building and Grounds	Dennis Bennett (bldg), 892-6467 Scott Brintzer (grnd), 892-0308

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Mari Jeanne Williams — An Appreciation

by Barbara Swart

Those of us who knew Mari Jeanne Williams were saddened by her death due to cancer last month at age 47. She lived with her husband, Dick, on S. Taylor St. for many years. As most people who read the extensive obituary in the *Washington Post* already know, she was a person of impressive accomplishments. What the *Post* left out was that she was also a person of warmth, character, and intelligence.

I first met Mari Jeanne, not in the neighborhood, but at the Friends of the Library Book Discussion Group. The group has been active almost a decade and Mari Jeanne was one of the early members. It quickly became evident that she was one of the most widely read members of the group. Her interest and knowledge of Russian authors led us to read Gogol, Tolstoy, and Dostoyevsky, among others. She would have enjoyed our recent discussion of Chekhov's short stories, which the group just completed.

Mari Jeanne's interests were so numerous and varied it is impossible to list them all. Her enthusiasms made her a true Renaissance woman. Where to start? Besides her love for literature, there was listening to music (Mozart and opera were favorites), travel (Russia and northern Europe were specialties), outdoor camping trips and Sierra Club work trips, history (she had a master's degree in history), canoeing, cross-country skiing, gardening, poetry, photography, art (colored-pencil sketches were her forte), cooking (she created new vegetarian dishes), and her cats (treated as if they were her children). She loved each new activity and worked determinedly to do each well.

What makes this all the more impressive, much of Mari Jeanne's time was spent helping

others less fortunate than herself. She was the D.C. Advocate of the Year in 1984. She took law courses so that she could assist lawyers in representing the mentally retarded. She had a teaching degree, was a gifted teacher, and taught in area schools. She taught in a private school that gave special help to the learning disabled, taught English as a second language, and helped autistic children.

For many years, no one outside of her immediate family knew that Mari Jeanne had recurrent bouts with cancer. She was determined that nothing was going to slow her down or prevent her from enjoying life. She signed on to one Sierra Club outing shortly after one of her operations and came through with difficulty — but came through nonetheless.

Mari Jeanne's greatest love was for her husband, Dick, and her many family members. We know they miss her. We do too.



Park and stream cleanup on March 12, 1994, the weekend before Four-Mile-Run Trout Season opened

Stream Cleanup for Opening of Trout Season

by Scott Allard

Four Mile Run and surrounding parkland were cleaned up on March 12 in preparation for the opening day of the Four Mile Run trout season on March 19. The cleanup was thorough, which we hope pleased the fish, the fishermen, as well as the park-going segment of the general public.

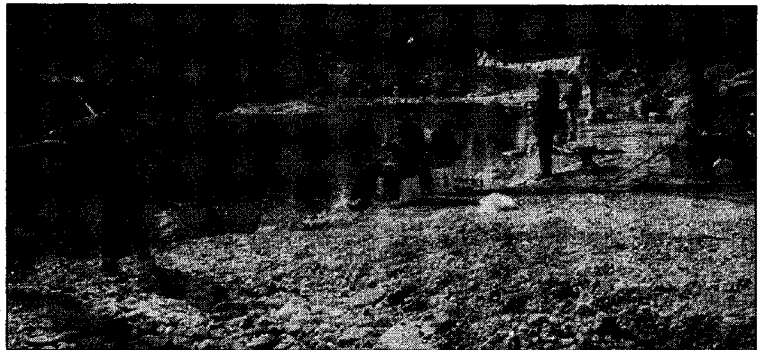
Sponsors of this year's cleanup included Arlington County, Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment, and the Sierra Club. Several other civic and educational groups participated, as did several Barcrofters and other individuals. Semi-organized packs of Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and an especially active group called the Jaguars roamed freely throughout the park and stream valley.

The people who usually meet in our part of the park to drink and hang out retreated to the back lawn of the Buchanan Gardens apartments, where they calmly sat, drank their beer, and watched as dozens of people covered the park area below.

A major cleanup ensued, and most areas were covered several times by different people. This ad hoc procedure seemed to let everyone fill up their bags with their "favorite" trash items. I specialized in beer cans, beer bottles, and Thunderbird Wine bottles. Others specialized in rusty garbage (best found in the creek), cigarette butts, items of clothing, or some other loose category.

The cleanup stretched from the George Mason Drive bridge over Four Mile Run all the way up to the Falls Church line. North-going groups went north until they met with south-going groups, ensuring a complete sweep.

The opening day of trout season was a beautiful early-spring day. Although this author's Power Bait was not successful, several 12- to 14-inch trout were caught just upstream of the Columbia Pike bridge.



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Barcroft Community House Will Mark Centennial in 2008

The Barcroft Community House will mark its centennial in the year 2008. Several suggestions have been put forth for a special celebration and/or setting goals for a renovation of the Community House. President Scott Allard was recently contacted by the county about the possibility of nominating the community house for designation as a historical property. If approved, this could open up potential funding sources for renovations. Pat Roach mentioned at a BSCL meeting that the BSCL could set up a corporation for tax-deductible fund raising for maintenance of the building. The only requirement would be completion of the legal forms for a Virginia nonprofit incorporation.

The year 2008 seems a long way away, but it's not too early to be thinking of ideas for a special celebration. It would also be a perfect time for the historically minded to write up a history of the Barcroft community. There are still people living in the neighborhood who remember it "when." Anyone with any brainstorm or bright ideas should call Scott Allard at 521-0825.

4th of July Parade

The 7th Annual (can anyone remember when the first one was?) 4th of July Parade will be held again this year on July 4 at 11:00 AM, starting at the Community House. As anyone who has attended the parade in the past can tell you, it's a really fun community event. It's also a great way for people to come out and meet those neighbors they don't already know.

To make things easier, registration will be dispensed with this year. Just come in costume, or with a float, or with a decorated bike or trike, and join the parade. We will follow the same route as in previous years — a short four blocks around the neighborhood. After the parade there will be kids' games, free hot dogs, coleslaw, drinks, and watermelon. Everyone is encouraged to bring pot luck desserts to augment the hot dogs.

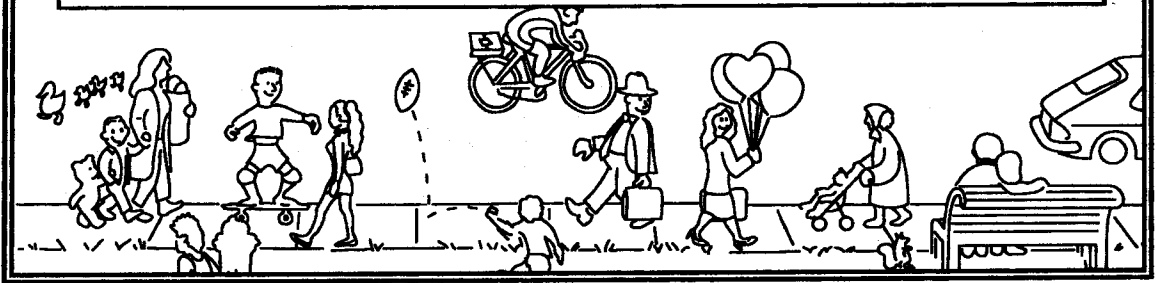
As usual, help is still needed to pull everything together. As of this writing, we still need parade monitors, a PA system, someone to run the kids' games, and someone to pull the Barcroft marching band together. (Are you out there Jack or Tom?) After the parade, people who play guitars, banjos, whatever, are encouraged to provide some grass-roots entertainment. This is a completely do-it-yourself parade — anything goes! (Well, *almost* anything.)

If you can lend a hand, or a PA system, or anything else we may not have thought of, please call Kathy Kerr at 892-6458.

Barcroft Neighborline Now Records

A new answering machine for the Barcroft School and Civic League has replaced the old (and not very reliable) machine on the Neighborline. Unlike the former machine, the new one has the capability to record messages. After President Scott Allard's recitation of upcoming events, you can record a message. If you have any comments, questions, or concerns, or just want someone in the BSCL to get back to you about a neighborhood issue, call the neighborline on 521-1116 and leave a message.

Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr



Congratulations to Alexandra (Alex) Trinkoff and Jeff Schor of 5th St. S., who are delighted with Kyra Becky, born July 26, 1993.

Alex is an attorney serving as the interim director of the legal office at George Washington University Medical Center. Jeff is a resident pediatrician at Children's Hospital. Both are big movie buffs but have found that having a baby in the family makes it hard to get out or even to

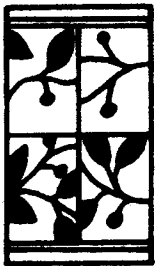
watch a rented video! They both love hiking and outdoor activities.

Alex enjoys swimming and is also working on getting a running routine going. She has been seen on the street pushing Kyra in a baby jogger (one of those funny-looking strollers with three bicycle wheels) but realizes she'll likely never be able to keep up with Jeff.

Being a native New Yorker, Jeff is training for the New York marathon coming up this fall. He enjoys collecting sports paraphernalia—for any sport. He also loves to play **all** sports as well.

Jeff is always looking for a partner for, say, tennis, basketball, you name it! Alex would like to find a walking partner for the early morning. They can be reached at 892-9345.

Reading is one hobby Alex hasn't had to give up. She especially enjoys science fiction and fantasy. She recommends the *Dragon Token* series by Melanie Rawn.



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GARDENING CONSULTATION

Potluck Dinner

A Potluck dinner will be held in the Community House on May 15 at 5 PM for all BSCL active committees and officers and their families. This will be a non-work function where everyone can enjoy themselves and not worry about problems, deadlines, developers, etc. Imagine that!

May Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 MAY DAY	2	3	4	5 BSCL Meeting, 7:30 PM, 800 S. Buchanan. Call 521-0825 for info.	6	7 Col. Pike Artist Studios Open House, 11 AM-4 PM, 932 S. Walter Reed Dr.
8 MOTHER'S DAY	9	10 Civic Federa- tion Mtg., 7:45 PM, Arlington Hospital. PTA, 7 PM, Barcroft School	11	12 MEETING ON "MARVON'S GARDENS", 7:30 PM, 800 S. Buchanan.	13	14 ALL THINGS CONSIDERED, 10 AM-noon, Long Branch, adults only, 358-6535 for reservations.
15 SHAVUOT <i>Begins at Sundown</i> BSCL POTLUCK, 5:00 PM, 800 S. Buchanan.	16	17 WONDER- FUL WETLANDS, grades 4-5, 3:45-5 PM, Long Branch, 358-6535 for reservations.	18	19 BSCL WORK MORNING, 9 AM-Noon, 800 S. Buchanan.	20 EVENING STROLL, 7-8:30 PM, ages 10+, Long Branch, 358-5435 for reservations.	21 ARMED FORCES DAY
22	23	24 BUGS AND BLOOMERS, 1-3 PM, adults, Long Branch, 358-6535 for reservations.	25	26	27	28
29	30 MEMORIAL DAY	31	5/8 MOTHERS' DAY AT THE MOVIES, kids & dads, 2-3:30 PM, Long Branch Nature Center. 5/8 "BEST OF BROADWAY," Arlington Metropolitan Chorus, 3:00 PM, Gunston Center, 836-4822. 5/10 WARBLER WALK, 9:00-11:30 AM, Long Branch Nature Center, 358-6535 Resv. 5/15 "BALLSTON POPS '94", Arlington Symphony, 8:00 PM, 528-1817. 5/15 TASTE OF ARLINGTON, Noon-4 PM, Shirlington, 979-3663. 5/19 & 5/26 LAND USE COURSE, Call 358-3371. 5/20, 21, 27, 28 "OKLAHOMA," 8:00 PM, Gunston Arts Center. 5/21 ARLINGTON FOREST YARD SALE, 8:00 AM-4 PM, 892-5938.			

Barcroft-Arlington Forest Path Update

After the last issue of the *Barcroft News*, new information came to light. The original developer of the Arlington Forest subdivision included a right of way for the path, which was not recorded by the county. The owner of the property intends to see that the county records get changed to reflect the original right of way.

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Second Barcroft Community House Work Morning Scheduled

The second Barcroft Community House "Work Morning" will be held from 9 AM to 12 noon on Saturday, May 19. The first workday focused on fixing neglect, so we plan to move on to improvements this time. The focus will be electrical repairs, updates, and improvements. If you would like to help, call Dennis Bennett (building) at 892-6467 and/or Scott Brinitzer (grounds) at 892-0308 to volunteer or make suggestions.

Barcroft Babysitters

Erin Barksdale, 14 years old, 979-7665

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

Nhu Dang, S. Buchanan St., 685-8831

Kathy Kerr, licensed family day care provider, part time only, 892-6458

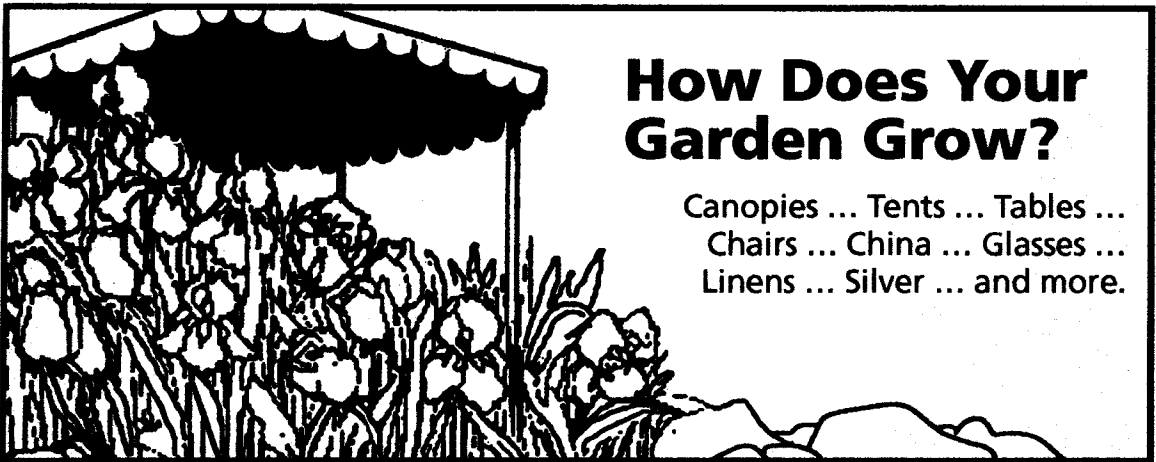
Stacy Kyle, 14 years old, 8th grade, S. 6th St., American Red Cross Babysitting Certification, 486-0019

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

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

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

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



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Roger Cornell, Linda Titolo Play Area Gigs

Our talented Barcroft duo, Roger Cornell and Linda Titolo, continue to develop their unique brand of Celtic/Irish/Scottish/English/Welsh/international music. They now both play harp and hammered dulcimer. Roger also plays guitar. And they are about to add the concertina to the list.

Many of you may have seen publicity for their ongoing gigs at Border's Books. They also play regularly for private weddings, receptions, Christmas parties, church services, and nursing homes. They have done shows for area cable TV channels and were the prime movers and shakers of our very own Barcroft coffee house (which we all still miss).

One of the things that Roger and Linda have noticed is that performing takes an incred-

ible amount of time. There's preparation of new material, travel, performing, and setting up and breaking down the stage equipment. With Roger's full-time job at PRC, time is at a premium.

Although one gets the impression that they would enjoy making music full time, Linda thinks their choice of music limits their options as professional musicians. They have done some recording and need to go back into the studio to produce more recordings. They have started composing and would like to record their own music in the future. Right now they are building their reputation to increase their concert work. Next time you go by Woodstock Street, listen closely for the sounds of Linda and Roger's music.



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Barcroft Crime Report

Crime Report

You may be wondering where our crime report has gone. Perhaps there have been no crimes in the neighborhood for the last couple of months? Wouldn't that be nice? No, the reason is that our police contact, Kelly Lichtenberg, is currently on leave due to the birth of her baby. Congratulations, Kelly! We are still trying to get the statistics but have been unsuccessful so far. We will revive the column as soon as we can get a contact to stand in for Kelly until she comes back.

To report crimes or criminals, Arlington County police urge you to call them on 911 or at their non-emergency number, 538-2222. To join the BSCL's Crime Resistance Committee, call Chris Monek at 920-1287.

Barcroft Exchange

MARVON MCKINNEY'S ESTATE SALE: May 6, 7, 8; 9 AM-5 PM; 4515 4th St. S.

FOR SALE: Upright freezer, runs well, \$25; twin sofa bed, \$15; queen sofa bed, \$25 (good condition). Call Jack at 979-1947.

MOVING SALE: Lots of household and garden items, including furniture. Call for list of things for sale. Ask for Richard or Josette at 920-4536.

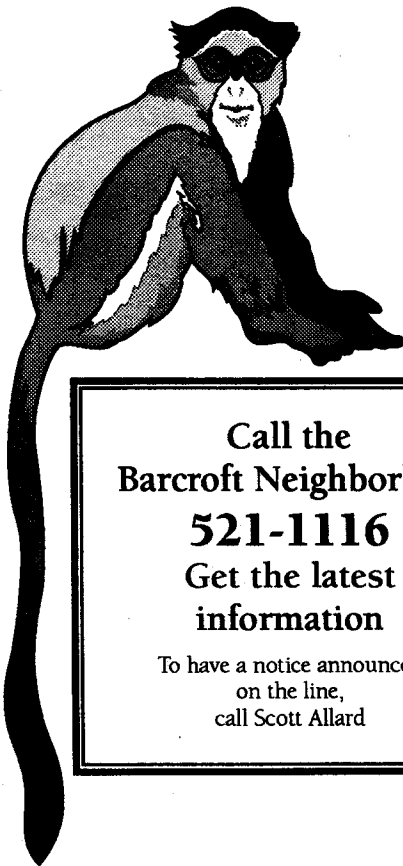
ESTATE SALE: Saturday, June 18, 9 AM-3 PM; furniture, pictures, lamps, household goods, clothing, miscellaneous; 914 S. Taylor; 892-6277.

WANTED: Interested in weekday tennis player at Barcroft Park. Intermediate recreational player. Please call Jo Ellen at 553-8356.

PAST TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING! Need more room in those closets? Who doesn't? Your unused stuff is someone else's find. If you haven't used it, worn it, or played with it in a year, chances are it's a candidate for removal. Call Barbara Swart at 521-2080 to place your ad. Regular ads are free to any Barcrofter. Commercial ads for a business are \$10.



Where's Waldo?



**Call the
Barcroft Neighborline
521-1116
Get the latest
information**

To have a notice announced
on the line,
call Scott Allard

Got an Item for the *Barcroft News*?

We know there are lots of closet writers out there who would like to share their opinions, tips, and knowledge with the neighborhood. The problem is, to whom do you send what? Here-with, the list:

- ✍ **Letters to the editor:**
Sara Leigh Merrey, 4669 4th St. S.
- ✍ **Articles, notices of events, etc.:**
Barbara Swart, 4611 7th St. S.
- ✍ **Barcroft Exchange ads:**
Barbara Swart, 4611 7th St. S.

Now that you know *where* to send your material, you probably want to know *how* we want it? Basically, in any format you want to use. You can write it neatly by hand, type it on a typewriter, copy it onto your DOS or Mac diskette (either 5¼" or 3½"; high, low, or double density), or send it over the modem (call first).

We really do welcome unsolicited material. If you have an idea you'd like to discuss first, call Barbara or Sara Leigh.



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