



# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 96, No 5

January 1999

## **January Meeting: Focus on Route 50 Crossing and Columbia Pike Traffic**

Traffic will again be the topic of this month's meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League. But the focus this time will be on the dangerous Route 50 crossing at Henderson Road, along with a discussion of ways to encourage motorists to use George Mason Drive instead of cutting through the neighborhood.

The county at one time planned to close the Henderson Road crossing, but that plan is apparently not on the books anymore. Still, some in the neighborhood wonder what can be done to make the crossing safer, given the frequent -- and sometimes deadly -- accidents there. Addressing these and other questions will be Sherrell Crow, a Virginia Department of Transportation

official. Mr. Crow is a former county employee so is familiar with the neighborhood. Crow hopes to do a quick survey of traffic at George Mason and Columbia Pike before the meeting.

All are encouraged to come with questions and suggestions. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m., on Thursday, January 7 -- the first Thursday of the month, as always. See you there.

## **Trav Fick Bites his Nails in Impatience**

The traffic committee reported the BCSL support for the traffic measures approved at the November 5 BSCL meeting to Jeff Sikes, our contact and planner at Public Works. Mr. Sikes advised us to wait for the process guidelines to be established by the County Traffic Calming Committee. Yikes! Setting up the process may take a year! (The nails that Trav bites, for your

information, are the masonry type. His dentist does not approve.) To calm Trav, BCSL Traffic Committee Chairperson Elaine Squeri joined the Civic Federation Transportation Committee to network and to learn what it will take to effect traffic changes.

Meanwhile, since November 5, Barcrofters have phoned in or written additional comments about traffic in our neighborhood. One asked that neighbors check their properties and cut back shrubbery that obstructs access to roads like Wakefield and Buchanan, particularly at 7th and Buchanan and 9th at Wakefield. Several others called about the dangerous intersection of Henderson and Route 50. At the Civic Federation on December 1, this issue was raised as well and Randy Swart, President of the Federation, clarified that the scope of the Traffic Calming Committee is neighborhood streets only; this huge task has already taken two years of intensive work to create the plan and final report which was just approved. Therefore a request was voted by the delegates to ask the County to set up a separate review committee on large streets like Route 50 and other major thoroughfares as well as to review the street classifications in the County as outlined in the Master Transportation Plan of 1986. In conclusion, our hopes for quieting traffic are not isolated but are reflected in many other associations' concerns and are integral to the overall County traffic system.

The Traffic Committee will meet on January 5, Tuesday, to develop interim

approaches to slowing traffic through our neighborhood. Remember that our meetings are open - 7:30 PM at 216 S. Abingdon - and we not only welcome but need new members who can work with us, for example, to implement an education campaign. Trav Fick says "Be There."

## Dues Reminder

To date, BSCL Membership for 1998-99 stands at 236 households (396 adult members). This is significantly lower than prior years, and definitely not a majority of Barcroft residents.

So, if you put off sending in your dues and no longer know where the form may be, we are enclosing it again in this issue. Of course, if you are new to the neighborhood, now is a good time to join.

If you aren't sure about your status, call Peg Lefebvre, the Membership Secretary, at 521-0184. She can quickly tell if you have renewed or not.

Dues are \$3 per adult (\$6 per couple). Use the enclosed insert and mail your dues or drop them off at the home of the Membership Secretary (address on the form). If you prefer, you can bring them to the next BSCL meeting.

Membership shows interest in Barcroft, and only members vote on important neighborhood issues. Further, the larger our membership base, the easier it is to represent the neighborhood in dealings with county or other officials.

**WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!**

## **Bake Sale Success**

Many thanks to all of you whom helped make the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Barcroft Craft Fair and Bake Sale a success. The event raised \$258 for the Community House renovation fund. Thanks to those who contributed the great baked goods (whoever made the chocolate ecstasy cookies, could you give Barbara Vierow the recipe?) and those who came to support the effort by purchasing crafts and goodies!

## **A Watershed Event: New Park Being Planned.**

Using a grant from the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment (ACE) has begun conceptual planning for a new park to be located at the intersection of the W&OD trail and Columbia Pike (the upper bike path adjacent to the laundromat). The preliminary concept for the park is educational, providing information about the history of Four Mile Run and the impacts of urban development on the creek and the Chesapeake Bay. ACE is considering constructing a turn-around loop for the upper bike path at the intersection with Columbia Pike, and providing interpretive signs to educate trail users about environmental stewardship and the importance of healthy local streams.

The more long-range concepts for the park are starting to be developed. ACE feels it is critically important to involve the neighborhood groups, including BSCL and

our neighbors in Columbia Heights West. As this site is within the Barcroft neighborhood boundaries, we can be instrumental in providing funding for the project through an NCAC grant. Therefore, BSCL needs to provide our vision for the project area. Some of the preliminary elements being considered for the park include: benches, art work, environmentally-friendly landscaping, a mini soccer field, water fountains, creek overlooks, lighting, etc. ACE would like to include multi-cultural elements to attract more citizens from the diverse population living nearby. Security and a transient population currently utilizing the park are also topics of discussion.

If you have any ideas for the park, or want to be involved in the planning process, you can call T.J. Murphy at 486-174 for more information. Look for updates at BSCL monthly meetings.

## **In Memoriam**

Carroll N. LeTellier Jr., 41, a partner and business manager of Scott Brinitzer Design & Associates, a landscape and architectural firm, died of a heart attack Dec. 17 at Vencor Hospital. Carroll worked at the firm and had lived in Arlington for the last 10 years. Carroll was the life partner of Scott R. Brinitzer, and a most highly valued member of our community. Contributions to Carroll's memory may be made to Barcroft School and Civic League, 812 S. George Mason Dr., Arlington VA 22204.

# Barcroft Community

All events in the BCSL C

| Sunday                                | Monday                                  | Tuesday  | Wednesday         | Thursday                  |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
|                                       |   |  |                   |                           |
| 3                                     | 4                                       | 5<br><i>Traffic Meeting, 7:30<br/>p.m. 216 S. Abingdon</i><br>Yoga 6:30 p.m. | 6<br>Yoga 7 p.m.  | 7<br>BCSL Meeting<br>p.m. |
| 10<br>BCSL Spaghetti Dinner<br>5 p.m. | 11<br>Hunter's Cub Scouts 7 –<br>8 p.m. | 12<br>Yoga 6:30 p.m.   | 13<br>Yoga 7 p.m. | 14                        |
| 17                                    | 18<br>Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.             | 19<br>Yoga 6:30 p.m.   | 20<br>Yoga 7 p.m. | 21                        |
| 24                                    | 25<br>Cub Scouts 7 – 8 p.m.             | 26<br>Yoga 6:30 p.m.   | 27<br>Yoga 7 p.m. | 28                        |

# Calendar: January 1999

Community House unless in *Italics*

|        | Friday  | Saturday |
|--------|---|----------|
|        | 1<br>HAPPY NEW YEAR!  | 2        |
| g 7:30 | 8<br>Play Group 9:30 – 11:30<br>a.m.<br>Cub Scouts, 8 p.m.    | 9        |
|        | 15<br>Play Group 9:30 –<br>11:30 a.m.<br>Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m. | 16       |
|        | 22<br>Play Group 9:30 –<br>11:30 a.m.<br>Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m. | 23       |
|        | 29<br>Play Group 9:30 –<br>11:30 a.m.<br>Cub Scouts 7 –8 p.m. | 30       |

**Want to Dance, Eat  
Birthday Cake, or Toast the  
Wedding Couple?**

**You can do these things, and  
more, on a budget, at the  
Barcroft Community House**



**Large space, small rental fee;  
Sparkling new kitchen & restroom**

**Call Tom at 979-8366**

**Special Low Rates for BSCL  
Members!**

# Crime Report

The following crimes were reported in November, 1998.

November 3. 900 Block S. Buchanan. Burglary.

November 9. 4400 Block Arlington Blvd. Larceny from vehicle.

November 17. 4800 S. Columbia Pike. Assault.

November 22. 200 Block S. Taylor. Three subjects arrested for possession of marijuana.

## County Identifies Possible Historic Districts

The County's Historic Preservation Office reports that a consultant has recently completed a survey of historic resources, and that the survey identified four areas that might be eligible as historic districts, including a section of Barcroft. We have not yet read the report to see what section that might be, but copies are available by calling the Historic Preservation Office at 228-3830 or in the Virginia Room of the Central Library.

The County currently has designated 28 Local Historic Districts, including our Barcroft Community House and a large section of Maywood neighborhood. Although the designation offers some protection for a neighborhood, it does involve having every external modification of any significance (painting the shutters a new color or adding a porch, for example) approved after detailed scrutiny by the Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board. The Board must issue a Certificate

of Appropriateness before the homeowner can undertake the modification.

## Bird Food

This recipe for Drumlin Farm Bird Pudding will give our Barcroft birds a treat for the new year. Ingredients: 1 pound of lard, 1 cup hot water, 2 cups oatmeal, 1 cup flour, 4 cups wild birdseed. Instructions: Soften the lard in a large pan over low heat. Add other ingredients and mix well. Place in birdfeeder and watch the birds flock!

### Barcroft News Staff

|                          |                               |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>Editors</i>           | Mark and Lisa Rom 486-2983    |
| <i>Publisher/Mailing</i> | Jane Duffy 892-6015           |
| <i>Advertising Mgr.</i>  | <i>We need your help!</i>     |
| <i>Neighborhood News</i> | Kathy Kerr, 892-6458          |
| <i>Contributions Ed.</i> | <i>More fun than flubber!</i> |

**Deadlines:** 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material) day of the month preceding the issue month.

### BSCCL Officers for 1998-1999

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| <i>President</i>         | David Michaelson, 553-3953                            |
| <i>Vice President</i>    | Mark Wigfield, 979-0339                               |
| <i>Recording Secy.</i>   | Maria Corey 486-2060                                  |
| <i>Treasurer</i>         | Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184                               |
| <i>Corres. Secy.</i>     | Bill Huddleston 920-2011                              |
| <i>Membership Secy.</i>  | Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184                                |
| <i>Board Members</i>     | Scott Brinitzer, Jim Kerr<br>Tom Palance, Randy Swart |
| <i>Community House</i>   |   |
| <i>Facility Mgr.</i>     | Tom Palance 979-8366                                  |
| <i>Restoration</i>       | Jim Kerr, 892-6458                                    |
| <i>Fundraising</i>       | Bill Huddleston 920-2011                              |
| <i>Landscaping</i>       | Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308                             |
| <i>Crime Resistance</i>  | <i>Help keep us safe!</i>                             |
| <i>Neigh. Conserv.</i>   | David Michaelson, 553-3953                            |
| <i>Signs Manager</i>     | Jack Turner   |
| <i>Traffic Committee</i> | Elaine Squeri 920-7014                                |
| <i>Parade</i>            | Andrew Hunter 979-8247                                |

The *Barcroft News* is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company.

# It's Spaghetti Time!

by Tom Palance

On Sunday, January 10th at 5pm the BSCL will be holding it's famous spaghetti supper, featuring delicious spaghetti sauce from an old family recipe. Savory sausage, crisp Italian salad, warm bread are also available, and there will be plenty to drink. The evening will include live musical entertainment and dessert. We are encouraging the whole family to join us for this exciting event. Tom Palance will need volunteers to help prepare, serve, cleanup, and also to donate your favorite dessert . If you are interested in helping with the supper or baking a cake (or both!), call Tom at 979-8366. Tickets may be limited due to space, so they will be on sale in advance. Please call Tom for reservations by Friday, January 8th. The cost is only \$6 for adults, \$4 for kids 6-12 years old and under 6 years old will be free. If you can't stay and eat at the Community House take out will be available, all you have to do is call 521-1116 between 5 and 7 p.m. and your dinner will be ready for pick up with in minutes! The proceeds will help support the Community House renovation fund. Come eat all you can, meet the neighbors, and join in on the fun. Bon Appetit!

## Donations of sewing materials

Have sewing supplies you won't use but don't want to throw away? The sewing class in Arlington's Bilingual Outreach Program is in need of trims, bias tapes,

elastics, and pieces of fabric - even small ones! The Greenbrier Learning Center is looking for working sewing machines to use with sewing classes, also. Please contact Ginger Geoffrey at (703) 243-7181 if you can help with donations.

## Barcroft Community Friday Playgroup

Do your children want to share their new Christmas toys with their friends? Well, maybe not. But perhaps you want a chance to share Christmas stories with your friends while your children play. If so, then come to the Community House any Friday morning in January from 9:30 - 11:30 for a playgroup. All parents and children welcome.



SCOTT  
DESIGNS

LANDSCAPE DESIGN  
& INSTALLATION

4708 s. 8th st. arlington, va 22204-1403  
(703)692-0266

GARDENING CONSULTATION

# Events January Events January Events

## Special Events

January 5, Tuesday ⇒ **Traffic Committee Meeting**, 7:30 p.m., 216 S. Abingdon.

January 7, Thursday ⇒ **BSCL Meeting** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Once again, we calm the traffic.

January 10, Sunday ⇒ **Spaghetti Dinner**, 5:00 p.m., Barcroft Community House. Call Tom at 979-8366 for reservations or information.

## Regular Events

January 8, 15, 22, 29 ⇒ **Play Group**, Barcroft Community House, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

January 5, 12, 19, 26 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 6:30 p.m.

January 6, 13, 20, 27 ⇒ **Hatha Yoga**, Barcroft Community House, 7 p.m.

# Happy New Year!

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Barcroft School and Civic League  
800 South Buchanan Street  
Arlington, VA 22204