



BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 97, No 2

October 1999

October Meeting: The Space Camp Through the Eyes of Children

Aerospace educator and Arlington Heights resident Lisette Clemons will present a lecture and slide show on the Huntsville Alabama Space Camp 'through the eyes of the children' who attended, and how it changed their lives. Ms. Clemons was recently 'discovered' by one of our Barcrofters. She has given dynamic presentations around the country to all-school assemblies and to groups such as ours. She has led groups of students and a group of Teachers of the Year, to the Space Camp. This should be great--for those with children, those who know children, or those who have been children. Light refreshments will be served.

Thursday, October 7, 7:30 - 9:00 p.m.
Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan St. All are welcome!

BSCL "No Sweat" Fundraiser Underway

The BSCL has launched its "no sweat" fundraiser to pay for the cost of installing a new wood floor in our historic community house at 800 S. Buchanan St. It's a "no sweat" fundraiser because it doesn't require much from you, either in time or money.

A \$20 donation from even half of the neighborhood's 800 households would raise \$8000, more than enough to install a new wood floor in the house. Donations from all 800 households would mean we'd have money left over to continue with renovation plans, which include a ramp for the handicapped, and restoring the walls and ceiling and making other needed improvements.

Replacing the dingy, worn-out floor with a new wood floor will make a dramatic improvement in the appearance of the house. It'll make it a great place for (continued next page)

No Sweat (continued)

neighborhood events, or for your own private parties. And it means we'll be able to charge outside groups more to use the house. These rentals are critical since they essentially pay the bills at the house. Plus, the restored house will add even more charm and character to the neighborhood - and your property values.

If you haven't sent in your tax-deductible donation, please do so today. The address: Barcroft Community House fund

C/O Treasurer, BSCL
812 S. George Mason Drive
Arlington VA 22204

If you would like to rent the house, call the Barcroft neighborline at 521-1116 and leave a message.

Bring Your ID to the Polls

Arlington voters will be required to show identification at the polls this year. The county says this is a special "pilot project" meant to preserve integrity of the election process. The county says it will also save you time by making it easier for election officers to find your name. Acceptable forms of identification include voter identification cards, drivers license or DMV ID card, a Social Security card, or any pre-printed ID with name and photo, or name and address or name and signature (except for credit cards.) Voters who have none of the above will still be able to vote by signing a statement.

Neighborhood Day Beautification at Barcroft School

Every fall the Barcroft PTA organizes an outdoor beautification day at the school, and Barcroft neighbors are especially invited to participate. Projects include schoolyard cleanup, planting flowers, and mulching gardens. Please bring (and label) garden tools! Come for an hour or for the whole time. PIZZA SERVED, at noon, for volunteers. For more information, call Annette Osso, 553-3953 or Suzy Foster, 920-3439).

Barcroft News Staff

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

BSCL Officers for 1998-1999

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<i>Traffic Committee</i>	Elaine Squeri 920-7014
<i>Parade</i>	Andrew Hunter 979-8247
<i>Columbia Pike</i>	Barbara Clemens

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

Bike, and Bike Safely

The Operations Division of the Arlington County Police Department is currently conducting a bicycle helmet enforcement campaign to coincide with the new school year. Arlington County Code requires that all bicycle riders age 14 and younger wear approved bicycle helmets. Here are some other important bicycle safety tips you can share with your children:

- 1) Please obey all applicable traffic regulations, signs, signals, and markings.
- 2) Please obey all local ordinances pertaining to bicycles (that means wear those helmets! :)
- 3) Keep right and drive with traffic, not against it. Always ride in a single file when riding with friends or family.
- 4) Watch out for drain grates, soft shoulders and other road surface hazards.
- 5) Watch out for car doors opening or for cars pulling into traffic.
- 6) Do not carry passengers or packages that interfere with your vision or control.
- 7) Never hitch a ride on a truck or other vehicle.
- 8) Be extremely careful at intersections, especially when making a left turn.
- 9) Use hand signals to indicate turning or stopping.
- 10) Protect yourself at night with the required reflectors and lights and wear bright colored clothing.
- 11) Drive a safe bike. Have it inspected to insure good mechanical condition.
And lastly....
- 12) Drive your bike defensively; watch out for the other riders on the road.

Parents please make sure that you also stress to your children the importance of locking up their bikes to a bike rack or any other immovable object. You may protect your child's bike by engraving the letters "VA" followed by your Virginia Driver's License on the frame of the bicycle. You can borrow an engraver at no charge from the Arlington County Police Department or from any Arlington County Public Library. You may also register your bicycle with the Police Department for a 50 cent fee. These methods make it easier for us to identify a bicycle in the event that it is stolen.

We hope that by you sharing these tips with your children it will encourage them to think about safety when you are not with them.

Program on Youth Violence

The Unitarian Universalist Church is holding a five-part series exploring youth violence. The first forum will be moderated by Arlington County Board member Jay Fiset, and takes place in the church sanctuary, 4444 Arlington Blvd., on Sunday, October 3rd from 4 until 6 p.m. Panelists include Edward Flynn, Arlington County Chief of Police; Glen Caroline of the National Rifle Association; Mark Pertschuk of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence; Susan Lewis of the Recording Industry Association of America; and Suzanne Stutman from George Washington University School of Public Health.

Friday Night Board Games at the Community House

Friday, October 15, (drop in anytime between) 7:00 -10:00 p.m., Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St.,

This is the first of what we'd like to have as kind of regular thing: low-key, drop-in board games night at the Barcroft Community House. For anyone of any age (bring your friends, too) who enjoys backgammon, scrabble, cards, Parcheesi, checkers, chess, etc., whatever your interest. We don't have a stock of games at the community house, so bring one or two that you'd like to play or that you can share -- but come anyway even if you don't have one. Snacks available for a small donation. Call Marie Korn, 521-8069, for more information.

Columbia Pike Candidates' Night

Wednesday, October 27, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., Arlington Mill Center, 4975 Columbia Pike (just west of S. Four Mile Run -- plentiful parking).

This event is just 6 days before election day! Sponsored by the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization and local civic association. Don't miss this candidates' night for Columbia Pike area residents! The schedule is as follows, and emphasizes local races. Candidates listed alphabetically.

7:30 - 8:00 Candidates for State Senate and House of Delegates will make brief statements. There will not be time for questions.

State Senate candidates: 30th district, C. W. Levi Levy, Patricia 'Patsy' Ticer; (Barcroft's) 31st district, Scott C. Tate, Mary Margaret Whipple; 32nd district, Whitney Adams, Janet D. Howell.

House of Delegates candidates: 47th district, Robert Brink, S. John Massoud; 48th district, Jim Almand, Robert A. Metry, Jr.; (Barcroft's) 49th district, L. Karen Darner.

8:00 - 8:30 Candidates for 1 Arlington School Board seat will make brief statements and answer questions.

Candidates: Sharon Davis, David Foster.

8:30 - 9:30 Candidates for 2 County Board seats will make brief statements and answer questions.

Candidates: Paul Ferguson, Frances Finta, Mike Lane, and Charles Monroe.

Arrive at 7:00 to get campaign material and visit with your neighbors.

For more information: contact 703-892-2776.

Barbershop Tonight (A Cabaret)

The Arlingtones give a concert on Saturday, October 30 at the NRECA Bldg. 4301 Wilson Blvd, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 527-6195.

TRAV FICK is on the Road!

Trav is riding the learning curve.- He had hoped Barcroft traffic could be slowed or diminished with a few stop signs or humps but he had quite an awakening. He is now reporting temporarily (one year, two? Argh!) from a different traffic location: the Arlington County Neighborhood Traffic-Calming SubCommittee, affectionately shortened to SubCom. He is learning more than he ever expected, from initials to dozens of traffic management approaches to a surprising number of other neighborhoods (eight, so far) with traffic issues to resolve. Of course everyone wants help NOW and doesn't want to be ...patient!

Our Traffic Committee in Barcroft is on hold until the SubCom completes its work. Here is the story. You probably remember that in 1996 the County established the AD HOC Committee on NTC: Neighborhood Traffic Calming. Randy Swart served on that committee during its nearly three-year effort to wrestle with RTM: Residential Traffic Management. How can the County help reduce speeding and cut-through traffic in our residential neighborhoods? This is not new - Arlingtonians have addressed this issue since the 1960's and in 1984 a comprehensive plan was devised. But things have changed in 15 years. The Ad Hoc Committee's excellent report and recommendations were nearly all accepted in December 1998 by the County Board. In May this year the NTC SubCom was

appointed to follow through. Here are its issues:

1. What are the criteria and measures for applying NTC (remember? Neighborhood Traffic Calming) approaches?
2. How will a neighborhood evaluate its traffic concerns and bring them to the County?
3. What neighborhoods will be helped and how will approaches be funded?
4. How can Arlingtonians be informed about RTM?

Trav is impatiently learning and will share patiently the news through this newsletter. Meanwhile, if you have any questions, give him a call. He can be reached at 920-7014 daytime - he's on the road most evenings!

Barcroft Exchange

For Sale: computer table/desk Width 24, length 48, height 26. \$125.00 includes swivel chair. Call Priscilla at 486-0814

For your Special Event: the Barcroft Community House



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

Call Tom at 521-1111

Coming Down the Pike

by Alake Hinton

At our September 2nd BSCL meeting, we had the pleasure of welcoming Conchita Mitchell, Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO). CPRO is a non-profit organization dedicated to creating a cleaner, safer, more competitive and vibrant Columbia Pike community. Conchita talked about the economic development in store for the area and the community discussions CPRO will host. Its goal is to reach a community consensus of a vision for the future of The Pike. The Arlington County Board has made planning for Columbia Pike's future a top priority, and County funding has been provided to hire 3 professional-level staff members dedicated primarily to its revitalization.

Throughout the Fall, CPRO will invite community members to attend 'Dialogue Days' to share information about the planning process and to hear specific ideas about ways the community should change or stay the same. The next 'Dialogue Day' is scheduled for September 28th at 7:00 p.m. in the First Union Bank Building (951 S. George Mason Dr., Room 204. The elevator only works during banking hours, so if you must use it please attend another time.) Information gathered during the Fall will be compiled into a draft of a Community Report.

The early Spring will be spent reaching a consensus on the Community's wishes and drafting a final report that captures its

desires. This final report will be presented to Arlington County Board staff. This is a unique opportunity for Barcrofters to play an role in the development of The Pike and to affect changes directly that will influence property values and quality of life in our area.

What is the CPRO doing right now? Here are just a few of the projects:

Streetscaping - The Parks Department will take responsibility for the median strips on Walter Reed Drive north and south of Columbia Pike. They will do seasonal plantings. The area around Dinwiddie Street and in front of Columbia Plaza Shopping Center and Arlington Mill Center will be improved with sidewalks, lighting, trees and landscaping. The work is being designed and should be done by the summer of 2000. Utilities will be placed underground, curbs, gutters and sidewalks will be improved, new lights erected and trees planted.

Litter Control - a weekly street sweeping program began July 1st. Each day, a county staff person is assigned to address litter problems and ensure that Columbia Pike is kept clean.

Barcroft Sports Complex - Community members have held several forums with County staff and architects to create a master plan for the park land. Discussions have focused on the number of playing fields and the amenities desired. Plans could be completed by late Fall. Work would begin on changes to the park land in 2002. For more information call Lisa Grandle at 228-3323.

Coming Down (continued)

Walter Reed Community Center - The County 'Vision 2020' plan identified Walter Reed Center as one that could serve as a multifunction center as well as a senior citizen center. The center could provide senior citizen day care as well as other recreational programs geared toward seniors. For more information call Dave Alberts of the Facility Planning Office at 228-4818.

Design of Plaza at Walter Reed, in front of the new Eckerd's drug store at Walter Reed and Columbia Pike. During Phase I, which should be finished soon, pathways will be installed and landscaping installed. Phase II will bring other features designed by an artist assigned to creating a site that reflects the spirit of the community, invites community use and contributes to community pride. For more information call Angela Adams with the Cultural Affairs Department at 228-6953.

Washington Boulevard Overpass - The footprint for the replacement of the overpass has been designed. VDOT and Arlington County are meeting with residents to determine more detailed design features to benefit the community. For more information call Ron Wactor at 228-3691.

To find out more about plans for the revitalization of Columbia Pike or to obtain their newsletter, contact CPRO at 951 South George Mason Drive, Suite 204, Arlington, VA 22204 (703-892-2776 Fax: 892-0358 E-mail: cpropike@aol.com).

Election Officers Needed

Arlington County needs election officers to run the polls on election day. Workers are paid \$85. They must arrive at 5 a.m. to help set up the polling place. Duties throughout the day include processing voters, helping voters to use the voting machines, and tallying results. All officers must attend a two-hour training class. For more information, call 228-3456.

BSCL Volunteers

Alake Hinton has agreed to be our CPRO representative for the next year. Alake lives on in the 4600 block of S. 8th St., has lived in Barcroft for 2 years, and spent 4 years before that working at WETA when it was located just off of 4-Mile Run. She is, in her words, "very familiar with Pike issues and would love to help in some way with its revamping. I have LONG thought that it could be so much more than it is." Alake will be a great representative because of her obvious enthusiasm for what will be a very important organization over the next couple of years. Thanks, Alake!

We are also fortunate to have Harvey Berlin volunteer as the "Third Thursday" representative to CPRO, the working group meant to help CPRO weigh and evaluate all it hears from the community over Pike improvements in the next few months. He's a transportation planner by training, so he's perfect for the job. Harvey moved to Pershing Court recently from the Bailey's Crossroads area. Thanks, Harvey!

October Events October Events October Events

Thursday, October 7 ⇒ **BSCL Meeting**, "Aerospace Education Program," Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan St., 7:30 p.m.

Friday, October 15 ⇒ **Drop-in board games night**, Barcroft Community House, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 23 ⇒ **Fall beautification day**, Barcroft School, 625 South Wakefield St, 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, October 27 ⇒ **Columbia Pike Candidates' Night**, Arlington Mill Center, 4975 Columbia Pike, 7:30 p.m.

October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 ⇒ **Play Group**, local playgrounds TBA (call Michelle Herwig, 920-8110)

Barcroft School and Civic League

800 South Buchanan Street

Arlington, VA 22204

