



# Barcroft News

September 2022

Vol 120, Issue 1

## Be Nice to Your Trees

*By the Plant NOVA Natives Campaign*

On a recent day, driving out of the sun into a wooded community resulted in a temperature drop from 91 to 86 degrees. We all try to stay in the shade in hot weather, competing for the parking spaces under trees.

What we may not realize is that tree-lined neighborhoods are cooler not just because of the shade but because the trees themselves act as air conditioners. The basic concept is that it takes energy to turn a liquid into a gas – we see that when boiling water. When a tree sucks up water

through its roots and releases it as a gas through its leaves, a process known as transpiration, the energy that causes the water to evaporate is absorbed from the surroundings in the form of heat, and the result is a lower air temperature. This principle of physics also

explains why sweating cools our bodies.

Newly planted trees are particularly vulnerable to high heat, so the most basic care needed from us is to provide enough water until they are well established. Seedlings establish quickly, but a



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## Next Meeting:

**Thursday, September 1, 7:30 p.m., On Zoom**

**Topic: Neighborhood Issues and Updates**



Send an email to [zoom@bscl.org](mailto:zoom@bscl.org) to request an invitation to the meeting.



## Barcroft News

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**Next Deadline: September 15, 2022**

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## President's Message

**By Matthew Field**

August is coming to a close, it's time to get back to work! We made it through the summer without any derechos, and I'm happy to report that we were able to put on a full Fourth of July parade this year. Thanks to all who participated, and thank you especially to Heather Meade and Jim Moran for their great work organizing the festivities. It was wonderful to see such community spirit.

Barcroft News may have taken a well-deserved summer respite, but Arlington County and the world kept on, and we have plenty of topics for discussion at our next BSCL meeting on September 1. Of note, a team of dedicated Barcrofters has been assessing a grant opportunity for bioretention projects that could ameliorate stormwater runoff problems in Grandma's Creek and Four Mile Run; our newly appointed chair of the Parks and Environment Committee will present on the work they've done and what it could mean for Barcroft. We'll also likely discuss the county's plans for George Mason Drive (<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Transportation-Projects/S.-George-Mason-Drive-Multimodal-Transportation-Study>) and their potential impacts on Barcroft residents. Board member Eric Parker has been working with our neighbors in Arlington Forest on how to address the path between South Ab-

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# Barcroft Elementary Update

**By Kelly Miller, Barcroft Elementary PTA**

When we last left the Eagles they were soaring off to frolic in the summer weather. As the summer days counted down, the Eagles prepared to trade beach trips and pool days for backpacks and school books.

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## Women's Club Fall Fair

**By Pat Fisher**

The Woman's Club of Arlington will have its annual Fall Fair on Saturday, November 5, 2022, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at our clubhouse at 700 South Buchanan Street. We are currently looking for craft vendors. Contact Maryann Mayhood for vendor information at [maryannmayhood@gmail.com](mailto:maryannmayhood@gmail.com) or Sandy Winger, Club President, for any other information at [the.lost2@hotmail.com](mailto:the.lost2@hotmail.com). We hope to have many raffles to bid on plus excellent shopping from our many craft vendors. ●

## President's Message, continued

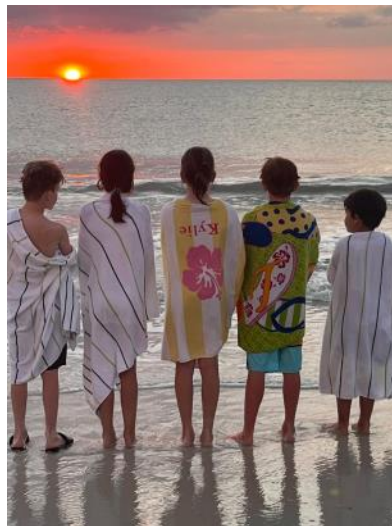
**Continued from page 2**

ingdon Street and South Aberdeen Street that was damaged during one of our summer storms, including the thorny ownership issues involved.

We'll hold the meeting virtually again; look for the Zoom link on the BSCL chat or send an email to [zoom@bscl.org](mailto:zoom@bscl.org) to request an invitation. I'm interested to hear how the community would prefer to hold meetings

Back to School night and the Back to School picnic will help ease the pain of early mornings and math problems.

The Eagles are excited to once again be back in the "nest" with their friends and teachers. Fall will bring parent teacher conferences, recess, and lots of learning and the Barcroft Eagles are here for it! Who knows what great things will come from the Eagles this year so stay tuned... ●



going forward—while virtual meetings provide the greatest ease of access and best safety protocols, there is also value to meeting in person when it is safe to do so. However we hold the meetings, the important part is the participation of the community. With that in mind, I hope to see many of you on September 1. In the meantime, enjoy the last days of summer—and why not extend that vacation into the Fall if you can? ●

## Be Nice To Your Trees, continued

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landscaper-sized tree needs several years for its root to grow out of the planting hole into the surrounding soil. Our torrential summer storms can fool us into thinking we are getting enough rain, but many of them are brief and don't even budge the rain gauge. A young tree with brown leaves is a very sad sight. At the same time, overwatering any plant can be worse than underwatering, by depriving the roots of oxygen, so we need to be careful to follow instructions in that regard and allow the soil to dry out between waterings.

Once a native tree gets established,

though, little if any care may be required for the next twenty years or so. Our oaks and other native trees evolved here and are accustomed to the local soils and our variable temperatures and rainfall, although those 91 degree days are adding to the stress of living in an urban or suburban environment.

Because older trees may start to develop issues, it is wise to have those that are near houses inspected every two years by an independent consulting arborist, meaning one who has no financial incentive to sell tree care services. They can recommend procedures that may prevent a tree from becoming hazardous. Even better, they may be able to provide reassurance, for instance, that a tree that is leaning a little may be quite stable, despite the dire warnings of a marketing rep from a tree company that is eager to keep its crew busy. Always use the services of arborists certified by the ISA (International Society of Arboriculture.)

When future residents are facing temperatures even higher than today's, a five degree lower temperature may make a life or death difference. Consider what hundred degree weather does to the human body when a prolonged blackout shuts down everyone's air conditioning. It pays to take good care of our trees. Find out how on the Plant NOVA Trees website. ●



### Barcroft Community House

Yoga and Stretch Class

Wednesday - 6:30 to 7:45 pm, Oct 5 to Dec 21

Yoga for Osteoporosis – Bone Building

Tuesday - 4 - 5:15, Oct 11 to Nov 8

Info@EDYoga.com or 703-975-3816  
for more details and to enroll

# AutumnFest Features Education, Food and Crafts

Every Fall the Glencarlyn Library Demonstration Garden celebrates the season and nature with plants, crafts, food and education. Held this year on Saturday, September 17, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the family-friendly event provides many activities for all.

Activities include: tasting (free) foods and beverages featuring herbs; visiting the Ball-Sellers House for tours and the Glencarlyn Library for kid's story time at 10:30 a.m.; shopping for native plants, pottery, honey, T-shirts and handcrafted Ukrainian pysanky eggs; and making sachets from dried herbs.

Educational mini-workshops will be

held including: A **Native Plant Walk** at 11 a.m. to learn about native plants for your yard; **Garden Basics** at 12 noon to learn how to plant, test your soil, and choose the right plant; **Invasives** at 1 p.m. to learn how to recognize and remove invasive plants. Fun kids' activities occur all day and you can take home a free native tree sapling.

The Glencarlyn Library Garden is located at 300 South Kensington Street in Arlington. The event is rain or shine. For Information call Alyssa Ford Morel at 703-907-9318 or email: [glencarlynlibrarygarden@gmail.com](mailto:glencarlynlibrarygarden@gmail.com). ●



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# South Arlington Slow Rides and Happy Hours are Back!

**By Balyley Vanderpoel**

Neighbors! Come join us Saturday, September 24 at 4 p.m. for a family-friendly slow ride followed by an outside happy hour at my house in Barcroft. The ride will begin in front of Our Savior Lutheran Church parking lot and end at our driveway at 4307 9th Street South. The route is to be determined. Rides are at a slow pace that everyone can keep up with, and typically conclude within 30 minutes to 45 minutes. We'll leave at 4:10. If you have not attended one of these pre-pandemic, it's a great way to meet neighbors and get some fresh air. Please stay home if you have any symptoms of illness (Covid or not!) including

fever, cough, runny nose, or congestion.

Need a tuneup? No problem! Please let me know ahead of time and I'll be happy to assist with dusting off your bike, pumping the tires, adjusting the brakes, shifters, making sure all the bolts are tight, and your bike is safe to ride.

Can't make the ride but interested in the happy hour? Also no problem. The happy hour will begin right after the ride concludes or about 5 p.m. at the same address above. My family will provide beer, wine, non-alcoholic drinks, and snacks. A small donation (less than \$5) is appreciated but not necessary! •

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# Neighbor to Neighbor Listings

*These listings are free to BSCL members, and run on a space-available basis. The listings run for three issues unless removal, renewal or update is requested. Email listings and renewals to [editor@bscl.org](mailto:editor@bscl.org).*

**Pet Sitting:** Colin and Emmett (4th-5th grades) are happy to pet sit for your cats or other small animals. Sorry, no dog sitting at this time. We have experience with fostering and pet sitting animals. Call (703)474-2691 and ask for Colin and Emmett or email [Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com](mailto:Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com).

**Barcrofter Loki Mulholland Books and Movies:** His complete works available (save shipping costs!) and timely, especially the movies dealing with voting and institutional racism. Several kids books too. Great for gifts. Call and come by: Joan Mulholland, 501 South Taylor Street, 703-979-4719. Pay by cash, check, or Venmo.

**Kyle's Lawn Care:** Mowing, trimming, mulching, gardening and other various lawn maintenance. Call: 571-255-9034 or email: [kylepboll@gmail.com](mailto:kylepboll@gmail.com). •

## Back to School from Our Savior Lutheran School

This year on August 23, we opened our doors for the 70th time in Barcroft. Our school theme this year is "Whatever" based on the Bible verse from Colossians 3:17 – "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through him."

We are excited to welcome new teachers and staff to school this year. Our school is truly blessed to have dedicated, experienced, and loving faculty and staff members who are committed to offering students a strong, traditional academic cur-

riculum that challenges and prepares students for future educational experiences.

We look forward to many activities throughout this new school year. Stay posted for upcoming school news and events. •



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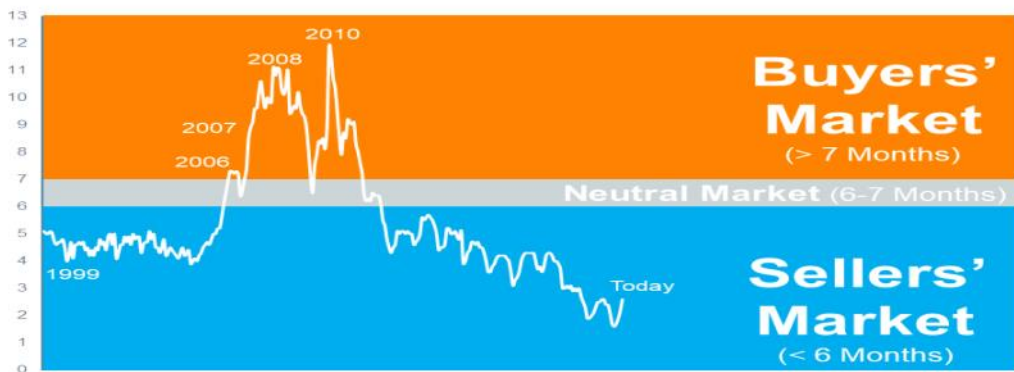




Barcroft School and Civic League  
800 South Buchanan Street  
Arlington, VA 22204

The housing market is in transition. Elevated buyer demand, fueled in part by historically low interest rates, slowed this spring when rates increased, and buyers hit pause on their buying plans. While affordability conditions are more challenging for some folks, the market has gotten more buyer friendly with more homes hitting the market and less frenzy. Buyers will finally get some relief from the stressful pace of the last few years. The best summary is that we'll move from a gangbuster sellers' market to a modest sellers' market.

### Months Inventory of Homes for Sale



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