



November 2023

# Barcroft News

Vol 121, Issue 3

## *Hat's Off* to Retiring Barcroft News Editor

*By Theresa Schweser*

Ten months of the year, this newsletter is delivered to Barcroft residents and represents a group effort by many volunteers in our neighborhood. The key job, however, is of the editor, who gathers articles, ads, and local tidbits to produce a readable and reliable newsletter.

Alyssa Ford Morel turned in her editor's visor with last month's issue, after 10 years volunteering as the newsletter editor. In reflecting upon changes since 2013 (when a dozen eggs cost \$1.93, taking 'selfies' was all the rage, and Disney released the film Frozen), Alyssa noted two recurring concerns in our neighborhood - traffic and the tension between print and online media.

Traffic concerns have been a long-time issue and today Barcrofters are discussing the impact of increased car commuters through our neighborhood streets, speeding and volatile driving, and accidents and property damage. Barcroft News—over the last 10 years

—reflects this as the most recurring topic as so much else has changed.

Tension between printed media and electronic means of communications is a daily challenge for most of us, and at BSCL meetings over the years there have been discussions about our neighborhood only relying on chat lists and other online outlets. But the consensus remains that there is a value to something that is printed, in hand, to peruse at leisure without a device. There are many in our community who are not online and it is important to keep them connected. Alyssa noted that in our modern society, we are used to things being done by others; so much 'just comes to us.' Our printed newsletter is a departure from that norm and Barcroft can take pride in that 10 times a year, all our residents have an opportunity to review information about our community first-hand. (Note: The Barcroft News was first published in 1903!)

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**Next Meeting: Thursday, November 2, 7:30 p.m.**

**Location: Barcroft Community House**

**Topic: Barcroft Elementary School**



## Barcroft News

*Editor:* Jamie Doran  
editor@bscl.org

*Advertising:* Vacant

*Publishers/* Theresa Schweser and  
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publisher@bscl.org

**Next Deadline: November 15, 2023**

## BSCL Officers

*President:* Matthew Field  
president@bscl.org

*Vice President:* Daniel Weir

*Treasurer:* Shaun Ragnauth

*Recording Secy.:* Chris Siple

*Membership Secy.:* Linda Gaines, linda@bscl.org

*Board Members:* Susan Cohen, Cathy Hogan,  
Paula Levin-Alcorn, Eric Parker

## Contacts and Committees

*Community House Rental Manager:*  
Barbara Swart  
barcrofthouserental  
@yahoo.com

*Chat List:* Mark Wigfield

*Web:* Daniel Weir,  
webmaster@bscl.org

*Fundraising:* Chris Ditta

*Landscaping:* Scott Brinitzer, 703-892-0308

*Traffic Committee:* Vacant

*4th of July Parade:* Heather Meade and Jim Moran

*Columbia Pike:* Katja Helbing, Charlie Smirolfo

*Demeter House:* Darlene Mickey

*Parks & Enviro.:* Don Bennett

*Signs:* Doug Mueller

*ArNAC Rep.:* Don Bennett

*ArNAC Alternate:* Deborah Wood

*CDCAC Rep.:* Jennifer Bodie

*Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates:*  
Eric Harold, Christopher Hoh,  
Randy Swart, Deborah Wood

*Alternates:* Gary Mason, Daniel Weir

Visit Us Online: [www.bscl.org](http://www.bscl.org)

## President's Message

**By Matthew Field**

Since I won't be in this job forever, I'll divulge a time-saving secret to whoever might follow me: the archives of the Barcroft News on bscl.org are a great resource if you're looking for previous President's Messages to "inspire" your monthly column. The November 2011 issue, for instance, encourages everyone to attend the November meeting to receive updates on renovations to the Community House. As it so happens, we're in the middle of such renovations right now.

As those who have attended recent BSCL meetings are aware, BSCL received a grant from the Arlington County Historic Preservation Fund to support necessary renovations to the Community House, including replacing the roof and having the exterior repainted. The new roof is on, and the painting will hopefully be completed by the time this issue goes to press.

The neighborhood has changed a lot since the Community House was built in 1908—about the only constant is the state of paving on Columbia Pike. To me, the house serves as a reminder that even as the physical structure of the neighborhood changes, we can maintain the continuity of the community. The house has served as a gathering place for the community, in all its forms, for over 100 years. And so I'm excited to return to the Community House for our monthly BSCL community meeting on November 2 for the first time since the pandemic started.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, we'll also be hosting an open house at the Community

**Continued on page 4**

# Barcroft Elementary Fall Update

*Alice Tewell, Barcroft PTA President*

Happy Fall from Barcroft Elementary School PTA! The PTA showed the teachers and staff our appreciation with cookies and cards on September 18 with more pop up appreciation events coming.

Due to the weather, the Back to School Picnic for families was rescheduled and held on September 29. Families gathered outside to enjoy the great fall weather with a night of music, great food and fun. The PTA also sponsored our annual Chalk for Peace and Garden Workday event with donuts and coffee at the school on September 30.

Upcoming events include:

- Parent/Teacher conferences October 19 and 20
- PTA listening sessions for parents/guardians on Oct 19 9:00-9:45
- Fall picture Day October 23
- Restaurant Fundraiser October 24-Wendy's
- Restaurant Fundraiser October 24-Wendy's (3431 Columbia Pike, 6:30-9:00 pm) , please mention Barcroft
- Outdoor movie night October 27 6:15-8:00 pm where we will be selling new spirit gear sweatshirts!
- Restaurant Fundraiser November 28-Ledo Pizza (1035 S Edgewood St., 11 am-10 pm), please mention Barcroft

You can support the Barcroft PTA by linking your Harris Teeter card ([www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education](http://www.harristeeter.com/together-in-education)). The Harris Teeter Barcroft code is 4238. You need to relink every year.

Follow us on Instagram at @BarcroftEagles and on Facebook at Barcroft Elementary School PTA. You can contact

Barcroft News

barcroftptapresident2024@gmail.com if you would like to support the PTA and have any questions. •

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## Hat's Off, *Continued*

*Continued from page 1*

So, what's next for Alyssa? She is looking forward to sharing stories with The Barcroft News. Alyssa is also a master gardener and volunteers at the Glen Carlin Library Gardens every week in gardening season. She creates and edits videos on gardening and the environment, which you can find at Master Gardeners of Northern Virginia (<https://mgnv.org/>). Alyssa's philosophy: "I believe we can make a huge difference in our environment by starting in our own yard and that's the driving factor in what I do."

We congratulate and give our deepest appreciation to Alyssa for her 10 years of service to Barcroft. Well done!

But wait...there's a wonderful epilogue. Barcrofter Jamie Doran volunteered to serve as the newest editor of The Barcroft News. Jamie and her husband Grant have lived here for three years, and you often see them walking with their two dogs throughout the neighborhood. Welcome, Jamie and we wish you a long and interesting tenure as you take up 'the green visor!'•

# South Arlington Slow Ride

## ***By Bayley Vanderpoel***

South Arlington Slow Ride and After Party Saturday November 18th: The ride will begin in front of Our Savior Lutheran Church and end at our driveway at 4307 9th St South. Please join the South Arlington Slow Riders Facebook Group for the route and more information. Rides are at a slow pace that everyone can keep up with, and typically conclude within 30-45 minutes. We'll leave promptly at 3:10.

Need a tuneup? I have volunteered 10+ years with Vélocity Bike Coop and am experienced ensuring bikes are safe and

ready to ride. Please either contact me ahead of time at bayleyvanderpoel@gmail.com or arrive early. I'll be arriving at 2:30 with my tools and supplies.

Can't make the ride but interested in the after party? The party will begin right after the ride concludes or show up about 4pm at my place mentioned above. My family will provide refreshments and snacks. A small donation is appreciated but not necessary. ●

# Women's Club Craft Fair

## ***By Pat Fisher***

The Woman's Club of Arlington, GFWC, will have its annual Fall Craft Fair on Sat. Nov 4, 2023, at our Club House at 700 S. Buchanan St. Arlington, VA 22204 from 9 am – 3 pm.

At least 20 vendors will be selling items that will make great Christmas presents or for other great gifts all year around.

Raffles and door prizes will be awarded throughout the event. Lunch, coffee, and soda will be available at cost.

Free Admission and plenty of free parking. Proceeds will go toward the many local charities we support plus our Wakefield H.S. yearly scholarship for a graduating senior woman to attend a Virginia college.

For more information contact 703-553-5800 or pat.fisher510@gmail.com or womansclubarlington@gmail.com ●

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## President's Message, *Continued*

### ***Continued from page 2***

House on November 5. So even if you don't want to hear the latest and greatest from BSCL at the meeting, I encourage you to stop by, explore the house, and learn a bit about our community's history. Hope to see you there. ●



# 2023 BSCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

You may check the current roster at <https://www.bscl.org/membership>. If you don't see your name listed please complete the entire form and return with dues to:

Barcroft School & Civic League c/  
o Treasurer  
4812 8th Street South Arlington,  
VA 22204

Check one:  New Member Application  Membership Renewal

Individual Membership (\$ 5.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Couple/Family Membership (\$10.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Tax Deductible Contribution to the  
Community House Conservation Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total (Please make check payable to BSCL) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address (s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to volunteer to help with:

Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled

Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled

Barcroft Players

Food Events (Dinners, Cookouts, etc.)

Distribution (Newsletters, Flyers, etc.)

4th of July Parade and Picnic

Grant Writing

One-Time Efforts (as they arise)

Serve on a Committee — Specify which: \_\_\_\_\_

(Crime Resistance, Parking, Traffic)

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

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## Historic Open House at the Barcroft Community House

The Barcroft School and Civic League will hold an open house at the Barcroft Community House on Sunday, November 5th from 2 to 5pm to exhibit our collection of Barcroft neighborhood histories, photos, documents, and a full collection of the 1903 Barcroft News.

We are celebrating our new roof and exterior painting, supported in part by the Arlington County Historic Preservation Fund.

We will also accept donations of winter coats, hats, gloves, and scarves for winter distribution.

Stop by and join our community in enjoying our neighborhood treasures!

Note: The roofing and painting were supported in part by Arlington County Government through the Historic Preservation Program and received public funds from the Arlington County Historic Preservation Fund. For more information visit: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Plans-Studies/Historic-Preservation/Historic-Preservation-Fund> ●

# 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).*

**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.

**Parent helper:** Please contact me if you want a responsible parent helper! I am really creative, thinking of fun entertaining games for your child and keeping them busy and safe. Ages I am comfortable with are 3 to 6 y/o. I am a rising 5th grader and 10 years old. \$4/hr. Great references upon request, contact Lucy at [eddie3@gmail.com](mailto:eddie3@gmail.com)!

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

**Looking for a babysitter?** Responsible, athletic 14-year old rising freshman is seeking summer babysitting opportunities. Good with kids, and is CPR/First Aid/ Babysitter Training Certified through the Red

Cross. Email [barcroftbabysitter@gmail.com](mailto:barcroftbabysitter@gmail.com) for contact.

**Pet Sitting:** Colin and Emmett (6th-7th grades) are happy to pet sit for your cats or other small animals. We have experience with fostering and pet sitting. Available Thanksgiving and Christmas. Call (703)474-2691 or email [Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com](mailto:Lauren.alyssa@gmail.com).

**Yard Work:** Experienced, hard-working kids (11 and 9) available for jobs, including lawn mowing and weeding, leaf removal and snow shoveling. Text or email Will and Owen at [tdaniel7t8@hotmail.com](mailto:tdaniel7t8@hotmail.com) (dad Todd's email) for an estimate and availability.

**Local Barcroft Honey** for sale. Neighborhood beekeeper. Text Lee at 703-609-2670. ●

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## Arlington Church of the Brethren Fall Festival

*By Carol Olander*

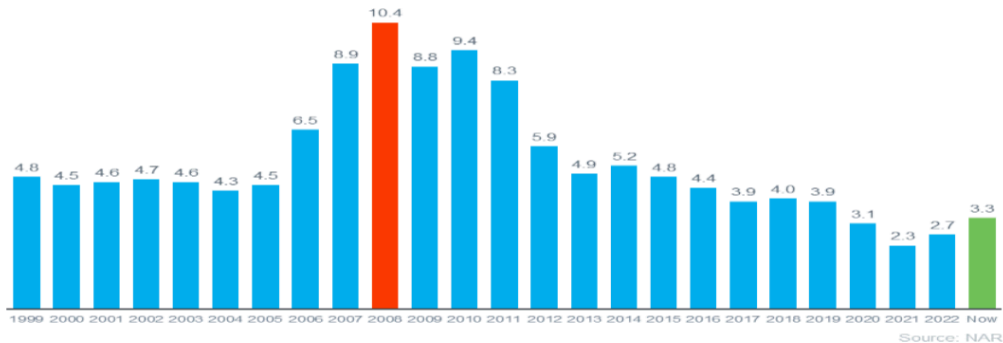
Adorable alpacas and a sweet dwarf goat are waiting for you to pet and feed! Join us and roam about shopping for yourself and others. Relax with a cup of coffee and a sweet treat. Enjoy a welcoming and fun event for all ages, Saturday November 4th at the Arlington Church of the Brethren from 10am - 2pm. ●



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

For the housing market to crash, there would have to be too many houses for sale, but the data doesn't show that happening. While housing supply grew compared to last year, it's still low. The current months' supply is below the norm. The graph below shows this more clearly. If you look at the latest data, compared to 2008, there's only about a third of that available inventory.

### Average Annual Inventory of Homes for Sale Months' Supply of Unsold Existing Homes



If you have questions about the market and when might be the best time to plan for a move, let's connect so you have a professional's advice. Put my 38 years of local market expertise to work for you and those you care about! **Casey O'Neal, Compass Real Estate, 703-217-9090 \*\*\* Free Notary Service for Barcroft Residents\*\*\***