

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

Arizona bound!

Dick & Peg wanted a realtor who could listen and be responsive to their needs at their own pace, not wanting to be pressured to make a quick decision. They were long time owners in Northern Virginia looking to retire in Arizona to be closer to their family.

After they hired Casey to represent them, Dick & Peg received lots of good advice from Casey's team on preparing their home for the market and answers to numerous questions about the selling process. It had been 30 years since they had bought their home and were apprehensive about the numerous tasks involved with selling. They felt comfortable once they understood the steps involved with the many facets of selling a home in the current market. After several weeks they were ready to activate the listing.

Once the home was listed Dick and Peg were happy with the amount of traffic from agents and buyers. The home sold two weeks later at full price.

There were various home inspection items that needed to be cured. Casey and his team were able to recommend contractors to

help with the repairs. Once the home was under contract, Dick & Peg went house hunting in Arizona to find a home. Casey had referred them to an experienced realtor in the areas in Arizona that they desired.

Forty five days later a satisfactory settlement occurred on Dick & Peg's home, and two weeks later they closed on their new home in Arizona.

PS. If you or someone you know could benefit from expert buyer or seller representation, please call or email us for advice!

The Casey O'Neal Team RE/MAX Horizons www.HomeSaleAdvisor.com www.caseyoneal.com 703-824-4800

Curious about what is currently for sale?

Visit our web sites....Do your own personal search and preview ALL active listings! Get FREE reports and information on the selling & buying process and mortgages.

There are more homes for sale right now than in prior months, which means more choices for buyers!



Barcroft News

December 2002 Vol 100, Issue 4

Don't Miss Barcroft's Annual Spaghetti Supper!

On Sunday, January 19th from 5 to 7PM, the BSCL will hold it's 9th annual Italian dinner featuring delicious homemade spaghetti, warm bread, crisp Italian salad, drinks, and other treats. The evening will include musical entertainment by Julie Gorka and her Italian band. This winter is extra cold so we encourage your whole family to come in to the Community House, warm up from the winter chill and enjoy all the food you can eat for \$6 per adult and \$4 for kids 6-12. All proceeds beyond expenses will go toward the Community house fund.

We really need help this year so give Tom a call. If you can help with set up, serving, cleaning or donating baked goods call 979-8366.

Don't forget to mark this on your calendar. Take out is available, but hopefully we will see you there. Bon Appetit!

Barcroft Snow Blowers Re-forming

The County has provided a snow blower for winter for neighborhood volunteers to clear walkways to bus stops and other important places. It comes with a supply of ice melt.

Volunteer operators need a 15 minute training class. You can also volunteer to get the snow the blower misses or spread snow melt. The first snowblower is at the Swart's house, located on 7th Street around the corner from Barcroft School. We can get another for other parts of the neighborhood if there is interest. (Leeway neighborhood has three.) Email Randy Swart at randy@bscl.org or call 521-2080. Snow's coming!

President's Report

— By Pat Williamson Edwards
Barcroft's annual holiday party was a magical
event this year with the arrival of not only Santa
but SNOW! The Community House glowed with
warm lights inside just as it must have one hundred years before.

Several issues remain on the front burner as we move into the new year. Some neighbors are questioning the choice to install traffic circles along Wakefield Street. We are in conversation with the Traffic Calming staff at the County on other possible options to control speeders. Contact Sue Tenenbaum at anniesgarden@starpower. net to join this working group.

Several letters have been sent to the County Board (posted on our www.bscl.org website) sharing our concerns about the immediate roll out of the form-based code approach to the Columbia Pike Revitalization. We have asked for more information and more time to allow neighbors to plow through the copious documents up for approval. We have asked that a County planning staff member address our questions.

Parks Committee is getting together to discuss the Four Mile Run Interpretive Park and other issues. Contact shelley@bscl.org to participate.

Have a wonderful holiday and we hope to see at the January 2 regular monthly meeting.

Next BSCL Meetings: January 2, 7:30 PM February 6, 7:30 PM Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan PAGE 2 BARCROFT NEWS DECEMBER 2002

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The Barcroft News is printed on recycled paper with vegetable-based ink by the Stanley Adams Printing Company. All phone number are area code 703.

Barcroft Exchange

For Sale: Kids Tricycle, Kettler w/pushbar, great condition \$25. Compact VHS recorder, great condition, needs batt.grax200 JVC,\$60 OBO. Call Tom at 979-8366.

Attention Moms! Need some extra help a couple days a week? Our fabulous nanny, currently working for us 3 days a week, has some free time on the other two days: Mondays & Fridays. As the holidays approach and you find yourself needing some extra time for shopping and errands without the kids, maybe she could lend a hand. Call me and I'll tell you more. Sabrina 486-1519 (AFTER 5:00 PM, please)

Part-time Nanny needed January – July for one toddler. Twenty hours per week desired. Excellent pay. Schedule flexible and negotiable. Please call Heather at 920-9321.

Nanny available - Excellent references. Fluent in English & Spanish. Has own car. Seeking part-time work in Barcroft area, approximately 9:00-5:00 Tuesday-Thursday. Call Maria: 703-379-4845

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Have anything to contribute to the Barcroft News? All submissions are due by the 15th of each month. Contact Christina at 271-0631 or editor@bscl.org Ads are due by the 10th of each month; contact Jim Kerr at Jim@bscl.org

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Yoga for wholeness

This centuries-old system for total health and well-being includes yoga poses, breathing techniques and deep relaxation. The combined effect of these practices is the unblocking and increasing of energy within your body. This helps to relax and focus the mind so that you can experience deep inner peace.

Sheng Zhen Qigong

comes to us from the ancient Chinese culture where flowing, repetitive movements were often used for the improvement of physical, emotional and spiritual health. Sheng Zhen (Unconditional Love) Oigong introduces you to simple, beautiful movements that can be approachable for all levels. The cultivation and circulation of Life Force, (Qi or Chi in Chinese) is one of the results of this practice.

These classes are for all levels. Dress comfortably and bring a blanket.

Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Street, Arlington

Qigong~ from 6:30pm to 7:45pm **Yoga~** from 8:00pm to 9:15pm Tuesdays beginning 1/7/03 for 12 sessions ~ \$120

Register: Send check to Peaceable Dragon, 8562 Gwynedd Way, Springfield, VA 22153 More information: call Nancy or Paul Rischard ~ 703-455-4858 or www.PeaceableDragon. ora

Nancy Rischard, the yoga instructor, has been a life-long dancer who began to practice yoga in 1989. Her yoga journey has brought her into classes with master teachers representing a variety of styles. She is known for her warmth and personal attention to the student. Paul Rischard, the gigong instructor has practiced the, internal arts nearly thirty years and has studied with gigong masters in Asia, Europe, and in the USA. He has a reputation for providing students with a wide variety of learning opportunities that are presented in a creative, joyful manner.

You will love these classes!!!

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Update on Proposed Traffic Circles

— By Sue Tenenbaum tive. Community concern about the traffic circles sign of the circles be proposed for Wakefield St. near Barcroft **Elementary School** appears to be having some effect.

Jeff Sikes, County Traffic Calming Coordinator writes, "If the crossing guards have reservations about the use of circles on Wakefield St. near the school, I believe we should defer to their concerns." He didn't seem dismayed by the neighborhood change of heart on measures proposed for that stretch, acknowledging vides more detailed that the "traffic calming guide does not address circles near schools, and — since the traffic calming pro- copy. gram is relatively new — it is something interested in participatthat we have not dealt with in the past."

Mr. Sikes also reiter- working session ated the county's reluctance to install allway stop signs, explaining why these measures are often inappropriate or ineffec-

He suggests that deput on hold and that County staff meet with interested residents and school officials early next year to work on an alternative plan. If this group can agree on new measures, they would be presented to the Civic Association and Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee. Then 60% of the "affected area" nearest the school needs to approve a petition with the new measures on it.

Mr. Sikes' letter proinformation. It is available on our web page, www.BSCL.org, or by calling 979-0054 for a

Better yet, if you are ing in the traffic calming effort, attend the planned for Thursday, Jan 16, 7:30 PM at the Community House.

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Barcroft Players Meeting

The Barcroft Players will begin to work on their next production. This time we'll be doing our dinner theater close to St. Pat's Day in March.

Our performance will be stories and songs of Irish emigration. We will need actors, musicians, are unable to attend but want to participate in the a director, back stage technicians, cooks – in short show, please call Barbara Swart at 521-2080. everyone. No previous experience is necessary.

All are welcome and we guarantee that you'll have a good time! Because of the sold out response to our first show, we will hold two performances: March 14th & March 21st.

Please join us for our kickoff meeting on January 11th at 2:00 PM at 4611 S. 7th Street. If you

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Water Shock II

— By Sue Tenenbaum

Thank you to all who wrote or e-mailed your concerns about your utility (especially water and sewer) bills. Thanks, also, to those who stopped me on the street to inquire whether my bill was really a million dollars? (\$625. Close enough.)

So--emboldened by the sense that I was not alone--I called Eric Grabowski, Utilities Fund Business Manager for Arlington County (228-7551) who couldn't have been nicer as he explained:

In the past Arlington has simply totted up its water and sewer costs and recovered them using a formula which is certainly old and probably arbitrary (my words, not his). They now meter the water and charge for it, then multiply that amount by about 1.25 and that's your sewer bill

They are aware that a big spike in summer water use does not mean that the water is going down the sewer; they have had this complaint before. Commercial landlords have pointed out that the system unfairly charges those who conserve or re-use water.

However, he said, my call is timely, because the County is even now hiring an outside consultant to evaluate the current billing system. This firm will address the inequities and the consequences of different billing formulas. He expects a report about June 2003 and the County Board to take up the issue shortly thereafter. That will be the time, he said, to make our own concerns known. He warns that no matter what billing formula emerges, the County still has to recover its costs, and so the sum of all charges will be about the same as now. So I muttered some platitudes about the desirability of greater transparency in the system and we both nodded sagely and ended the conversation amicably.

Neighbors who follow such things should look for an announcement of public hearings on utilities billing along about June, and warn the others of us who pale at the thought. In the meantime I am rethinking my economic assumptions: Each summer I justify my generous use of the garden hose as an investment in that huge income source, home grown tomatoes. sold from the front porch Now it seems that those tender morsels will not support the full weight of Arlington's utility infrastructure--at least not at their current price and volume. Ah well.

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