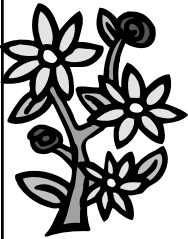


March 2012

Barcroft News

Vol 109, Issue 7

From BSCL President, Pat Williamson



Spring is coming so quickly. Join us on **Thursday, March 1, at 7:30pm**, to enjoy a presentation on indoor seed starting and general **early Spring gardening advice** by Master

Gardeners **Nancy Dowling** and **Henry Staples**. Come with your questions and hopes for this upcoming gardening season.

Of course it is also another great opportunity to visit our beautifully renovated Community House. **Barbara and Randy Swart** and **Wendy Jordan** are still finishing off fine work details. We cannot thank **Jim Kerr** enough for his vision and the time and effort he put in to make this happen. **Chris Ditta's** fundraising talents propelled the realization of the restoration. **Make sure you check in with Chris so that your name is displayed as you wish on the donor plaque which will be installed.** We are all grateful to Commonwealth Restorations for doing a great job and finishing exactly on time so our renters could be back in the house by the promised February 1.

It is time to put forth names to the Nominating Committee for the upcoming May election of officers for the Barcroft School and Civic League. Our long time Treasurer and Membership Secretary -- **Gary and Peg LeFebvre** -- are planning a move and will not be able to continue in their posts. We especially look forward to hearing names of candidates for these two crucial positions. Gary has agreed to provide thorough training on BSCL financials with the person who is elected to this crucial position. I know Peg will turn over records in the meticulous manner she has always kept our membership records in for many year. The Membership Secretary is not an elected job rather is an appointed position.

Hope everyone saw the **great article and photo about the Community House in the February 8 Sun Gazette!** Thanks to Scott McCaffrey for attending our celebration and providing this great story for the local newspaper. We will have a few extra copies at the March 1 meeting if you missed it! You can also visit www.bscl.org for a link to the article.

Barcroft News Staff

Editor & Neighborhood News Publisher / Mailing Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
 editor@bscl.org
 Linda Webb
 linda@bscl.org
 703-969-6373

Advertising Mgr. Jim Kerr, 892-6458
 Jim@bscl.org

News Deadline: 15th day of the month preceding the issue month.

BSCL Officers

President Pat Williamson
 PWilliamson@weta.org

Vice President Jason Kiker
 Jason@bscl.org

Recording Secy. Jennifer Lis
 Jennifer@bscl.org

Treasurer Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184
 Gary@bscl.org

Corres. Secy. VACANT

Membership Secy. Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
 Peg@bscl.org

Board Members Jim Kerr, David Peacefull,
 Mike Behringer, Bryant Monroe

Contacts and Committees

Community House Barbara Swart
Rental Mgr. barcrofthouserental@yahoo.com

Restoration Jim Kerr
Fundraising Chris Ditta
Landscaping Scott Brinitzer, 892-0308
Traffic Committee Heidi Wicker
4th of July Parade Andrew Hunter, 979-8247
Columbia Pike Bryant Monroe, 271-0944
 Bryant@bscl.org

Demeter House Darlene Mickey
Crime **vacant**
Parks Elizabeth Kiker
 elizabeth.kiker@gmail.com
 Shirley Gay

Signs David Peacefull
Parking Committee **vacant**
Volunteers **vacant**
 Volunteers@bscl.org
Web Master & NCAC Rep Randy Swart, 521-2080
 randy@bscl.org

Arlington County Civic Federation
Delegates Eric Harold, Randy Swart,
 Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr
Alternates Karen Darner, David Michelson,
 Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.bscl.org

Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

Teen Services to raise funds for People to People trip to Europe summer 2012. For a donation, will scan/print photos or consider other requests. Call Alys 703-801-9877

Lawn Mowing - Spring, Summer and Fall - call Bou or Moussa at 703-521-1953

Mother's Helper —6th grader would love to do any odd jobs you can think of! Rebecca Bean 703-553-4093
 beccab50@gmail.com

Mother's Helper and Pet Sitter - 6th grader, (includes: taking out trash and watering plants) Call Tyler LaPointe at 703-979-1083 or 703-585-8507

Vacation Help—Responsible teen can water plants, bring in the paper and mail, care for pets, mow lawn, handle trash cans, etc. Dylan Vega 703-271-5987 dylanrvega@gmail.com

Alexandra's Babysitting - teen available week nights and weekends. Alexandra @ 703-892-6712

Babysitter - 12th grader available after school and weekends. Please call Jenna at 703-685-1071

Teenage Babysitter - Week nights and weekends: Sarah @ 703-521-8756

Babysitter: Red Cross certified 11th grader available. Call Abby at 703-892-1090

Babysitter --7th grader , Red Cross certified. Petsitting too. Jenny Claire 703-998-5338

Rebekah's Pet Care (walking, feeding, sitting) 703-521-8756.

Yard Work: Teen available for mowing, raking and other yard work. Call Thomas at 703-979-5838

Ongoing Need: Baby items, books, educational toys, household items etc for the Even Start Program at Barcroft School. Call Katie Costar at 703-228-8846 or email: kathleen.costar@apsva.us

Barcroft Playgroup 9:30-11:30am Fri AMs at the Community House. **Jenny Ditta** chrisjenny4@comcast.net or **Jason Kiker** jkiker@gmail.com, or just stop by!

Wanted: Stories and ideas for the Barcroft News. Contact Kathy Kerr 703-892-6458 or email: kathykerr@gmail.com Do you have an interesting neighbor she should interview? Are you interesting yourself?? Is there a new baby at your house?

Are You A Gardner?? We Need You!

Be part of the **Barcroft Garden Tour** and show your garden on **Sunday May 20, 2012**. All gardens are welcome, no matter how humble. Show off your beautiful garden and share your ideas and your green thumb with others.



Let's make this a successful fundraising event for our Community House Restoration Project as well as a fun day strolling our neighborhood, meeting new people, and enjoying the splendors of some of the beautiful and interesting gardens of Barcroft!

We still need a few more gardeners for our *Gardens of Barcroft Tour* !
Please help by participating.

Tickets for the tour will go on sale in April.

To make your garden available for the tour or for more info, contact
Noreen Atkinson [703-979-4868](tel:703-979-4868) or noreenatkinson@verizon.net

Barcroft's favorite bass singer, **Carl Costanzo**, will perform as part of "The Arlingtones Spring Tonic 2012." Celebrate St. Patrick's Day and the wonders of spring as the Arlingtones Barbershop Chorus and Quartets present an a cappella performance in the refreshing barbershop harmony style. Their featured quartet is MAYHEM, 2011 Southern Division gold medalist. 2 PM, Sat., March 17 at the Rosslyn Spectrum, 1611 N. Kent St. Free garage parking. Tickets \$12, Advance \$10, Group rates. Info: 703-521-9331 or visit: www.thearlingtones.com

Learn more about Barcroft

- Visit the BSCL Website for**
- **lots of photos**
 - **all the latest news**
 - **issues of the Barcroft News all the way back to 1903**
 - **plenty of Barcroft history**
 - **BSCL membership info**

And more!

www.bscl.org



703-280-1719
 phughes1967@gmail.com
 www.rebuildwarehouse.org

- ReBuild promotes reuse and recycling of quality used building materials at discounted prices
- Area's largest supplier and installer of reclaimed oak flooring
- Periodic Specials - Complete kitchens, lumber, appliances
- Trains at-risk workers in green collar jobs
- Offers environmental sustainability workshops

A tax deductible community nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization

NINA'S LAUNDRESS

Laundry Service In Your Residence



- Residential Only, Low Rates & Affordable
- Weekly, Biweekly, Monthly, On Call & Occasionally
- Experienced Personnel, Insured and Bonded
- *100% Guarantee

Please Call for Free Estimate
703-229-7209 or 202-716-5854



Residential Remodeling

- Bathrooms
- Kitchens
- Basements
- Additions
- Design/Build

Serving Arlington
 703-534-5930
 www.tcookcompany.com



Weekly, Biweekly,
 Monthly, On Call,
 Move In, Move Out
 Insured & Bonded

Call for a free estimate.
703-229-7209 or 202-716-5854

With **MTO Cleaning Services**, you'll
 always know who's in your home

BOW-HOUSE Pet Care

Cats, Dogs less than 40 lbs.
 Mid-days, Holidays,
 Vacations, Overnights

Accredited
 Bonded & Insured
 Licensed
 References

WWW.BOW-HOUSEPETCARE.com

I'll 'Sit' for your Pet(s) 703.998.3307

Me, Myself, & I will be there personally
 each & every time !!

PETRONA CLEANING SERVICE



We Offer:

- Prompt Professional Services
- Houses, Townhouses, Apartments
- Guaranteed Low Prices
- References

Call Petrona at:
703-753-8287 or 703-209-3766 (cell)



Juliet's Housecleaning Service

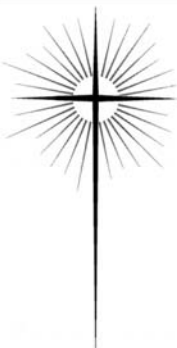
Honest, over 10 years experience
 with Excellent Barcroft area References

LOW RATES!

Weekly, bi-weekly, monthly,
 or one time cleaning available

Call any time - **703-628-3434**
 703-354-3225 or 571-236-3700





Observe Holy Week With Us

Sunday Worship Services

8 am and 10 am

Sunday Christian Education

Adults 9 am - Youth 9:20 am

Book Club:

March 6	7:30 pm	<i>Tipping Point</i> by Malcolm Gladwell
April 3	7:30 pm	<i>The Paris Wife</i> by Paula McLain

All are welcome to all services and activities!

- March 2** Family Happy Hour - movies for kids - social time for adults - snacks - 4 pm
- April 1** Holy Eucharist and Blessing of the Palms - at 8 am and 10 am
- April 5** Loaves & Fishes Meal & Service 6:30 to 8 pm - Bring a can of tuna for AFAC.
- April 6** Good Friday Services at 12 noon and 7 pm
- April 8** Easter Festive Holy Eucharist with children's message 10 am.
Easter Egg Hunt and reception after the service.
- April 13** Family Happy Hour - movies for kids - social time for adults - snacks - 4 pm

St. John's Episcopal Church



415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204 703-671-6834 stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net

Alyssa's Simple Solutions

Helping you save time and get things done

Alyssa Ford Morel (Barcroft Resident)
Domestic Concierge and Professional Organizer

www.alyssassimplesolutions.com
info@alyssassimplesolutions.com
703/907-9318



20 percent discount to Barcroft residents!

Join us on Our Facebook Page

Join our Website Newsletter



Your Neighborhood Local

Great Food
Lunch, Dinner and Brunch

Live Entertainment Nightly

P. Brennan's Irish Pub
2910 Columbia Pike,
Arlington, VA 22204
Tel: (703) 5531090

www.pbrennans.com
www.facebook/pbrennans

What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary

By *Jenny Ditta*

Many thanks to everyone who helped us celebrate another wonderful African-American Heritage Month, including our wonderful Feb. 24 evening celebration. Neighbors are invited to join us for some fun events in March.

February 27 – March 2, P.E. classes will host the annual **Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser**. Participants raise money to benefit the American Heart Association. Neighbors are encouraged to sponsor a student in this worthy “exercise” of civic responsibility!

On March 2, Barcroft will celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday with a **Read-In Day**. Volunteers are asked to read their favorite Dr. Seuss story to our students by contacting Barcroft Reading Specialist, Dora Sue Black, at dstblack@msn.com. Join us as well for a free **ZUMBA Family Fitness Night** on March 2, from 7-8 p.m. in the Gym.

Everyone -- especially families with young children -- is encouraged to join us on March 6 at 6:30 p.m. The PTA will host its annual **Coffee House and Book Exchange**. Drop off any books you don't read anymore, and pick up books new to you! We always have a wonderful selection of children's board books. Enjoy coffee, hot chocolate, and birthday cake as well as we celebrate Dr. Seuss's Birthday with special book readings. That same evening, the PTA will commemorate Arts in the School Month by hosting a special presentation by

Art Teacher and Barcroft resident **Marel Sitron** entitled “Children and Art.” Learn how children acquire and develop art skills, and what parents can do to encourage their budding artists.

The next **Leonardo Learning Day** and the **2nd/3rd Grade Leonardo da Vinci Fair** will be held March 12 -16. Neighbors are welcome to join us.

March 19 – 30, students break for Spring Intersession. Students may take two weeks of morning and afternoon classes, or enjoy a break from school. Finally, wish our two student teams good luck as they participate in the annual Odyssey of the Mind Competition on March 31.

To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft, go to: www.apsva.us/Barcroft

Kenmore Silent Auction

The Kenmore Middle School Silent auction is Fri., March 16 6:30-9 pm. All are invited to enjoy student music and dance performances including the orchestra and jazz band!

Kenmore needs tutors to help students reading and writing and basic math skills. Please contact Donna Budway to volunteer at: donnabudway@aol.com

Wakefield High School News

The four finalists for the Arlington County Vehicle Decal competition were all Wakefield High School Photo students! That means for a 3rd year in a row, a Wakefield student has won the contest. Wakefield photography and art teacher, Jina Davidson, taught the students how to shoot and prepare their photos. Almost 2,000 people cast ballots on the County website.

The winning image will soon become the decal affixed to each of the over 155,000 vehicle registered in Arlington County. All four finalists won \$500 savings bonds.

Congratulations to Wakefield's "It's Academic" team and Mr. O'Donnell for finishing as the Northern Regional Runner-up. Varsity team members won the National District championship, sweeping all seven of its games, including victories over Washington-Lee and Yorktown. They finished second in the Northern Region behind only Thomas Jefferson. The Junior Varsity team not only went undefeated, but never trailed in a game. The Wakefield teams qualified for the VHSL State Competition Feb. 25 at the College of William & Mary!

Our Services:

- Toilets & Sinks Replaced
- Drains & Sewers Cleaned
- Water Heaters
- Faucets
- Sewer & Water Lines Replaced or Repaired
- Sump Pumps Replaced
- Garbage Disposals
- Gas Piping
- And Much, Much More!

"Call My Daddy Today. He Will Take Care Of You, Too!"



All Plumbing, Inc.
703- 525- 7973
www.allplumbing.com



- ✓ Free Phone Estimates & Advice
- ✓ Same Day Service
- ✓ Lowest Minimum Service Charge In Northern VA
- ✓ Calls Always Answered By A Person

\$25 OFF
Drain Cleaning
 All Plumbing, Inc.
 703- 525- 7973
 Cannot be combined with other offers.

\$50 OFF
Installed Water Heater
 All Plumbing, Inc.
 703- 525- 7973
 Cannot be combined with other offers.

\$20 OFF
Any Other Service Call
 All Plumbing, Inc.
 703- 525- 7973
 Cannot be combined with other offers.

\$100 OFF
Whole House Re-piping
 All Plumbing, Inc.
 703- 525- 7973
 Cannot be combined with other offers.



BARCROFT MARKET WATCH

FEBRUARY

Interest rates are still incredibly low, making your next transaction more affordable than ever. Call me today for more information.

RECENT BARCROFT SALES

STATUS	ADDRESS	LIST PRICE	SALES PRICE	BRs	LIVING AREA (sf)*
CONTRACT	8th St S	\$584,900	—	4	2,100
CONTRACT	2nd St S	\$429,000	—	2	950
CONTRACT	5th St S	\$509,900	—	3	1,052
CONTRACT	Buchanan St S	\$585,000	—	4	1,237
CONTRACT	Grge Mason Dr S	\$400,000	—	5	1,326
CONTRACT	3rd St S	\$525,000	—	3	1,665
CONTRACT	3rd St S	\$555,000	—	4	1,448
SOLD	914 Taylor St S	\$549,950	\$527,000	4	1,428

*Information gathered from MRIS and is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. Not to imply that all sales were made by name associate. * Per Tax Records. Not intended to solicit the listings of other brokers.

FOR MORE MARKET INFORMATION, VISIT

ANNE SANTARONE.COM

- Monthly Market Statistics and Analysis
- All Current Listings with Photos and More
- Advanced Tools to Customize Your Search
- Rich Community Content and Statistics



ANNE SANTARONE
Your Barcroft Neighbor, REALTOR®
 703.623.7815
 asantarone@mcnearney.com



Barcroft Easter Egg Hunt

Hop to the Community House!

The beloved **Barcroft Easter Egg Hunt** will take place at the Barcroft Community House at 10 AM Saturday, April 7. There will be a gathering time (bring a breakfast treat to share!) from 10—10:30 AM. Then the Easter egg hunt for kids ages 0 – 4 at 10:30 AM., and then the Easter egg hunt for kids ages 5 and up at 10:45 AM.

All are welcome. The eggs will have toys in them, and then the kids exchange the eggs they found for a (small) bag of candy. It's fun for the whole family, and the whole neighborhood. There's even a rumor that the Easter Bunny will stop by!??



For questions, call **Elizabeth Kiker** at 202-425-0627.

Dues are just \$5 per adult.
Drop off at the Community House
or mail to:

Gary Lefebvre, BSCL Treasurer 812 S. George Mason Dr. Arl 22204

Not sure if you paid this year?

Check the list at:

www.bscl.org/members.htm

There is also a link for the membership form.



עץ חיים

Etz Hayim

Congregation

*We are an inclusive Jewish community—
 welcoming people of different backgrounds and traditions.*

Come Join Us for Shabbat Services!

Fridays beginning at 6:15 pm
 with oneg following

Saturdays from 10:00 am until Noon
 with kiddush following

2920 Arlington Boulevard • Arlington, Virginia 22204 • 703-979-4466 • www.etzhayim.net

Beware of Scammers

Recently a Barcroft email chat list received a message that a neighbor vacationing in Spain was robbed at gunpoint and desperately needed money! Fortunately, most folks knew she was not even out of town.

Another Barcrofter hired a man to do some work. At first the man worked hard and with skill but the neighbor made the mistake of advancing him money. Despite numerous promises, he never returned to complete the work.

If you suspect that you or a neighbor are being scammed, contact the Arlington Police at 703-558-2222

RED FLAGS — Things to look out for:

- Trucks with no business name
- Solicitors without an Arlington County vendors license which is a card that includes a photo ID
- Invoice not pre-printed with business name
- Solicitor stating they are from the utility company but have no vehicle, uniform or credentials
- Asking for full payment before work is done
- Offering a price too good to be true
- Asking for rides to the bank for withdrawals

Other Companies give Free Estimates.



WE PAY YOU \$\$\$

COOK BROS. is **THAT CONFIDENT** that you will like us! No gimmicks, no tricks, no obligation.*

Here's how:

- 1) Go to www.CookBros.org/Barcroft before April 1, 2012
- 2) Request an appointment for a FREE estimate using our quick online form
- 3) Cook Bros. will reply to arrange your FREE in-home appointment
- 4) We will hand you your U.S. \$100 bill when we arrive for your appointment!

COOK BROS - Remodeling Arlington One Home at a Time

* This Special offer applies **ONLY** to additions, pop-tops or whole-house size projects in Arlington. However, as always, we would love to discuss kitchens, baths and basement remodels or ANY type of remodeling project with you too. Please contact us for any type project.



Letter To The Editor — Streetcars Desired?

Dear Editor:

I just read Bryan Steckler's comments [Sun Gazette, January 26, 2012] on the Columbia Pike streetcar being a necessity. He certainly covered a lot of issues, but he is out of touch with reality. Let me take the items one at a time.

"Costs of the streetcar are a bargain compared to money that would be spent on sprawl throughout Arlington." What money would be spent on sprawl throughout Arlington without a streetcar on Columbia Pike? \$0, zero, nada. The savings would be great if we did NOT pursue the trolley system?

"Reduce money spent on road repair." The road repairs will be more expensive because you have to work around the tracks and because more traffic will use the non-railed part of the street. He obviously has not been around streetcars; I have.

"Reducing money spent on constructing and maintaining utilities to the suburbs." You do have to electrify the streetcar route were ever it goes, even in the repair yards where ever they are. Whatever utilities we need are already there on Columbia Pike. I don't think a trolley system will reduce or enhance them.

"Reduce personal transportation expenses." Not a chance in the world unless you make the cost of riding the streetcar FREE which is never going to happen.

"Promote dense development in a way that increased bus service will not." The density issue is not related to streetcars or buses. Arlington has already put in place a density

policy which appears to be the denser the better.

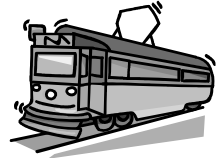
"Streetcar will add needed transit capacity to the Pike."

The capacity of the Pike transport is just fine. We don't need an impediment called streetcars. What happens to the riders when an accident occurs?

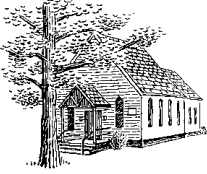
"Aid in pedestrian friendly environment." How will a trolley or a bus will make a difference as far as pedestrians go? Sidewalks for pedestrians and streets for busses, cars, etc.

"Provide other transit options other than automobiles." We do have a lot of busses which seem to meet our needs. They provide flexibility for public transportation riders which trolleys do not. Automobiles will always be there. If people are satisfied with "public" transportation, they would not be driving.

Just for the readers info, I grew up with a streetcar in front of my house. The tracks for that streetcar, and all the others in Chicago, are now buried in the streets. The streetcar tracks are buried in DC and in Philadelphia. Do we know something that these cities didn't? A streetcar in the sky might do a lot more for moving people through Arlington and Fairfax. It would not be impeded by snow, sleet, freezing rain or heavy traffic. It did the trick for Disney Land, Disney World and does the trick in Tokyo. It is monorail, but we could call it Sky Metro.



Bill Nehrke



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

How's the Market?

Our local real market area in most sectors is currently experiencing a low housing inventory with plenty of buyers wanting to take advantage of historically low interest rates.

The momentum from the surge in sales activity from November and December **has created a seller's market in most locations.** Home buyers and investors need a good buyer's agent to help them pilot through the maze of negotiating contracts, inspections, title and finance issues, HOA and condo rules and more.

There was "organic growth" in 2011 while the overall inventory was down 22% compared to housing levels in 2010 and prices were even in December 2011 and 2010. Pending sales in 12/11 were up 13.5% compared to 12/10. Predictions are that the 2012 spring market will be positive and January traffic levels and pending contracts are pointing towards that.

What is a CDPE?

A Certified Distressed Property Expert® has a thorough understanding of complex issues in today's turbulent real estate industry and knowledge of foreclosure avoidance options available to homeowners. CDPEs can provide solutions, specifically short sales, for homeowners facing market hardships.

Homeowners often proceed without much guidance through the often financially and emotionally devastating prospect of foreclosure. Speaking with a well-informed real estate professional is the best course of action for owners in distress. Through comprehensive training and experience, CDPEs have the tools to help homeowners find solutions for their situations and to avoid foreclosure through the efficient execution of a short sale. **I have recently been awarded the CDPE certification and can help anyone you might know who is in a distress.**



Casey O'Neal
Associate Broker
703-824-4196
RE/MAX Allegiance
www.casevoneal.com

FREE Notary Service for Glencarlyn Residents!

For a FREE list of Handyman Specials visit www.novafixuphomes.com

For a FREE list of Bank owned homes visit www.Novabargainhouse.com