

May 2012

# Barcroft News

Vol 109, Issue 9

## **The Gardens of Barcroft Tour Sunday May 20, 2012 12:00-4:00 PM**

**Come join your friends and neighbors on this self-guided tour of some of the prettiest and most interesting gardens in Barcroft.**

**Tickets will be available starting May 1st  
\$10.00 for adults---under age 18 are free, with a ticket holder.  
Tickets will be available at the May 3rd BSCL meeting from 7:30-9:00pm.**

Most of the gardeners will be available during tour hours to answer questions. From 3:00-5:00 PM, ticket-holders and gardeners may enjoy light refreshments at 510 S. Wakefield St.

Three of the gardeners will be selling same-day tickets during tour hours. Please bring exact change:

- **Elaine Squeri** 216 S. Abington St.
- **Keith Fred** 4840 S. 7th St.
- **Noreen Atkinson** 510 S. Wakefield St

We are looking forward to a wonderful afternoon with neighbors as we share gardening ideas and help our Community House Restoration Fund.

### **For ticket information, contact:**

Noreen Atkinson  
noreenatkinson@verizon.net  
703-979-4868



**Barcroft News Staff**

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

**BSCL Officers**

*President* Pat Williamson  
 PWilliamson@weta.org

*Vice President* Jason Kiker  
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*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  
 Fay Cheung

*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

*Signs* Shirley Gay  
*Parking Committee* David Peacefull  
*Volunteers* **vacant**

*Web Master & NCAC Rep* Volunteers@bscl.org  
*NCAC Rep Alternate* Randy Swart, 521-2080  
 randy@bscl.org  
 Elizabeth Rives

**Arlington County Civic Federation**

*Delegates* Eric Harold, Randy Swart,  
 Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr

*Alternates* Karen Darner, David Michelson,  
 Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield

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***Neighbor to Neighbor Ads***

**Free**—Previously owned, 12 glass pane, exterior porch door 82 1/2 by 31 3/4. Call Ron French [703 920 7014](tel:7039207014).

**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 and Babysitter**- 13 year old Red Cross Certified Rebecca Bean [703-553-4093](tel:7035534093) [beccab50@gmail.com](mailto: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 [dylanvega@gmail.com](mailto:dylanvega@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](mailto:kathleen.costar@apsva.us)

**Barcroft Playgroup** 9:30-11:30am Fri AMs at the Community House. **Jenny Ditta** [chrisjenny4@comcast.net](mailto:chrisjenny4@comcast.net) or **Jason Kiker** [jkiker@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:kathykerr@gmail.com) Do you have an interesting neighbor she should interview? Are you interesting yourself?? Is there a new baby at your

## President's Report by Pat Williamson

What a great time was had by all who attended the 2012 Easter Egg Hunt at our Community House! Thanks to all who planned this event and to the those that participated.

At the April meeting **Michael Nazaretz** was elected to fill the Executive Committee position term left vacant when **Dave Peacefull** moved away. Congratulations to Michael and thanks for this commitment. Michael has also joined with the team of **Randy and Barbara Swart, Jim Kerr, Michael Behringer** and others who are working on constantly improving the condition of the Community House and grounds.

The May regular monthly meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Thurs., May 3. We will then be on hiatus until the September 6th meeting begins our new year. Of course we will enjoy the Garden Tour on May 20, the 4th of July Parade and the August 7 National Night Ice Cream Social in between!!

At the May 3 meeting we will say thanks to **Gary and Peg** Lefebvre for their many years of service to BSCL as they move to their new home not too far away. We will hold the election of officers to fill their seats and others. We are still seeking a candidate for the Recording Secretary position. Neighbors who have stepped forward to be candidates for the following leadership spots are:

President -- **Pat Williamson**

Vice President -- **Eric Harold**

Treasurer -- **Jennifer Lis**

Executive Committee Term to end in 2015 --

**Bryant Monroe**

**Fay Cheung** has accepted appointment to position of Membership Coordinator.

We will have a presentation by Jeremy Watson of Arlington County staff on planned improvements to S. George Mason Drive. In 2010, the County Board approved an increase in the vehicle decal fee from \$25 to \$33. Revenue from the twelve dollar increase is dedicated for the design and implementation of transportation improvement projects. Three projects were completed in FY 2010 and three more have been programmed for FY 2012. One of which is. S. George Mason Drive.

The project limits are between Arlington Boulevard and Columbia Pike. Most, if not all the improvements, are aimed at creating a safer environment for pedestrians, transit riders, and bicyclists. The project will relocate the crosswalk at Arlington Boulevard and install new pedestrian ramps. Curb extensions and/or bus nubs are being proposed at the crosswalk in-front of the Army National Guard Center, at the 4<sup>th</sup> St intersection, and at the 6<sup>th</sup> St intersection. A pedestrian signal has also been proposed in front of the Army National Guard Center. Lastly, "sharrows" will be installed on both sides along the entire stretch. "Sharrows" are shared-lane markings painted on the street. The project is funded for design and construction, which is scheduled to begin this summer.

We are hopeful that State Delegate Patrick Hope will stop by the deliver a brief update on this year's session of the legislature.

See you there at the BSCL meeting on May 3 at 7:30 PM

### ***What's Going On In Barcroft??***

**Join the Barcroft chat group and news email lists!**

**Go to:  
www.bscl.org/chatlist.htm**

**Visit the BSCL Website for lots of photos, all the latest news , issues of the Barcroft News all the way back to 1903 and plenty of Barcroft history.**

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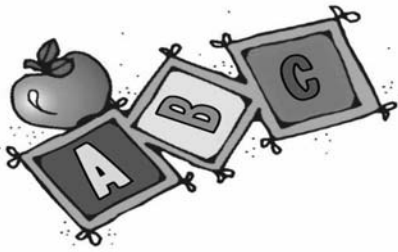
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## What's Happening at Barcroft Elementary

By *Jenny Ditta*

Spring is blooming at Barcroft Elementary, and we have several updates for our neighbors. Thanks to everyone who linked their Harris Teeter card to Barcroft Elementary. This year, we have already purchased 5 SmartBoards for teacher classrooms. Please continue to purchase Harris Teeter brand products between now and May 31. Many thanks to all who supported the Sauca Restaurant "4 Days, 4 PTAs" fundraiser. The grand total raised was \$952, of which Barcroft received \$238. Thank you for supporting the Barcroft, Campbell, Claremont and Randolph PTAs and a delicious neighborhood restaurant!

What would May be without student testing? Students Grades K – 3 will receive **Phonological Awareness and Literacy Screening** (PALS) testing in early May. 2nd graders have additional reading tests. **Virginia Standards of Learning** testing will be held during the last half of May for Grades 3 - 5. Good luck, students!

Additional highlights for May include the annual **Spring Music Concert on May 2 at 2 pm and 7 pm**. Join us to hear the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Chorus, Spanish Chorus, School Band and Orchestra. **Asian/Pacific American Heritage Read-In Day** will be held on **May 4**. The school invites our neighbors to volunteer that day to read stories to our language arts classes. To participate, contact Dora Sue Black at: [dorasue.black@apsva.us](mailto:dorasue.black@apsva.us).

The PTA will observe **Teacher Appreciation Week** and **National Nurses Week** **May 7 – 11** with a variety of events designed to thank our

staff for all that they do for our children.

On **May 11**, the Barcroft staff is scheduled to participate in the **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Hoffman-Boston v. Barcroft Staff Basketball Game**. Go Barcroft! Also this week, the PTA will begin its **2012-2013 School Supply Kit Sale** to be held between **May 10 – June 1**. Interested parents can contact Julie Rotherham to receive an order form at [julielusher@yahoo.com](mailto:julielusher@yahoo.com).

The **Rising Kindergarten Open House** will be **May 16 9:30 am -noon**. Our neighbors are welcome to join us for this informative school tour.

**May 18**, the PTA will host a **Family Fitness "Hoops Night"** from **7-8 pm** with hula hoop and basketball activities for the whole family. **Girls on the Run** will run in the **5K** at the George Mason University campus on **May 20**. Good luck, ladies!

Highlights in June include the **Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month Celebration** on **June 1** from 6-8 pm. All are welcome. And back by popular demand is the **PTA's Farm 2 Table Week** from **June 3 – 9**. All this week during lunchtime, students will have a chance to sample healthy foods prepared on-site by local chefs. More details to follow soon. **June 12**, the school will host an **Academic Night: Social Studies Kids Marketplace**. All are invited. **June 19**, the school will wish our 5<sup>th</sup> graders farewell and good luck during the **Graduation Ceremony**. Finally, the **last day of school** is **June 22**.

*To learn more about What's Happening at Barcroft, go to: [www.apsva.us/Barcroft](http://www.apsva.us/Barcroft)*

## Kenmore Middle School News

## Wakefield High School News

Friends, Romans, Kenmore community, lend me your ears! Five Kenmore students studying Latin recently achieved distinction for the **2012 National Latin Exam**. They competed with over 148,000 students from across the US and 13 foreign countries.



**April 27 through May 5** - Disney's "**Beauty and the Beast**" musical sweeps the stage. Fri and Sat nights at 7 pm with Saturday matinees at 1 pm. Students \$8 / adults \$10.

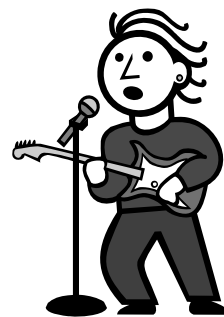
**PTA FLOWERING PLANT SALE May 5.** Items include flowers, herbs and flowering baskets. For details, visit: [www.apsva.us/wakefield/](http://www.apsva.us/wakefield/). We hope many Barcrofters will support this new fundraising event!

## Fundraiser Party!

### Rock on and help raise money for a school in Tanzania!

On Saturday, May 19, local band, Gutterball Kingpins, will headline a fundraising party at the BSCL Community House to build a library at a school for kids with disabilities in Tanzania.

Fronted by Barcroft residents **Rich Jordan and Bill Schroeder**, the band plays an eclectic mix of rocking dance music. The party is from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, and tickets are \$25, payable at the door. Admission includes beer, wine, lemonade and delicious baked treats. Out of respect for our neighbors, the music will stop at 9:00 pm.



A group of local volunteers, including Barcroft's **Paula Levin-Alcorn**, will travel to Tanzania in June to work at the school. The group is being organized by **Susan DuBois**, who founded a small non-profit called Asante Mariamu dedicated to helping children with albinism in Tanzania. The school is home to 215 children with a wide range of disabilities, including 74 with albinism. For more information about the trip and Asante Mariamu, please visit their website at: [www.asante-mariamamu.org](http://www.asante-mariamamu.org)

## Volunteers Needed To Remove Invasive Plants

Join a merry band of volunteers on Saturday, May 5 at 10:30 a.m. , to begin removing invasive English Ivy from Barcroft's section of Glencarlyn Park in the Grandma's Creek ravine. Tentatively, we will work until 1:30 pm or so, but join us for as long as you can.

We will meet at the dead end of S. 5th St., off S. Abingdon where there is a good path into the woods. A great first project would be to rescue Barcroft's ancient tulip poplar from the ivy!

Volunteers should come dressed to protect themselves against poison ivy: long sleeves, long pants, gloves at the very least. Please bring trash bags as well.

A member of Arlington Tree Stewards has promised to join us, so this will be a great learning experience.

Questions? Contact [mark.wigfield@gmail.com](mailto:mark.wigfield@gmail.com).



## Need Chandeliers or a Coat Rack?

Three **historic chandeliers** left over from the Community House renovation need a good Barcroft home. Two are in good shape, but there is a clumsy clamp repairing the third. There is one set of matched globes, but the others are mixed or missing. Those can be replaced from a lamp store or online. All of the chandeliers would need rewiring.

The second item is the **big coat rack**. Photos are on the web page.

Contact Randy Swart ([randy@bscl.org](mailto:randy@bscl.org) or [703-521-2080](tel:703-521-2080)) . It would be wonderful to have the chandeliers stay in Barcroft if possible, since they are pieces of neighborhood history. The coat rack is in back of the Community House, so just pick it up and email Randy if you take it.

## ***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](http://www.bscl.org)**



## News and Notes

**Woman's Club of Arlington Monday, May 7 1:00 pm** - The Mount Vernon Foodways Staff from historic Mount Vernon-George Washington's Home -will give a demonstration on making chocolate. All are welcome.

For questions, contact Pat Fisher [703-751-3442](tel:703-751-3442)

\*\*\*\*\*

The Wakefield Education Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications from Wakefield's Class of 2012. Last year the Wakefield Foundation surpassed the \$1,000,000 mark in scholarships! Please encourage graduating seniors to apply. You can find more information about the Foundation and about donating to this scholarship fund at: [www.wakefieldalumni.org](http://www.wakefieldalumni.org).

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## Farewell to Peggy and Gary Lefebvre

If you have ever gone to any event at the Barcroft Community House, then you have likely met Gary and Peg Lefebvre. For events with admission, they are most often seen near the door greeting everyone with friendly smiles while collecting money. This is handy because Gary has served as the BSCL treasurer since 1998. Two years before that, Peg became the BSCL membership chair and also maintains the database for BSCL donations.

They are moving this fall to The Woodlands retirement community in Fairfax.

Peg was born and raised in Chicago. She got involved with computers in 1960, back when one computer took up an entire room. She worked for the Veterans Administration and moved to Austin Texas when they opened a new computer there. She then moved to Alexandria in 1969 still working for the VA. Her boss, **Gerry Quinlan**, lived here in Barcroft. In 1971, Gerry's wife, **Gloria**, noticed a townhouse near them was for sale on George Mason Dr. and they helped Peg to buy it.

Meanwhile, Gary, via St Paul, MN and Louisiana, was serving in the Navy. He came to the DC area in 1975 and met Peg. In 1978 Gary was posted to Iceland for a year. When he came back, they set a wedding date and were married in 1980 at Holy Trinity Catholic church in Georgetown where they are still active members. They moved into their house at 812 S. George

Mason Drive in 1981.

Gary has served for many years as treasurer for the American Legion here in Arlington and also for the German-American Society (even though it's Peg who is part German, not Gary!)

Gary and Peg have two stepsons, one in Centerville and one in New York, four grandchildren, two in Centerville and two in Alaska and four great grandchildren, all in Alaska.

One of Gary's favorite Barcroft stories goes back to 2004. **Tom Palance** lived here and is a fabulous Navy Band trumpet player. As Tom transformed the Barcroft Marching Band for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, he discovered that Gary used to play the tuba! Back in 1956, Gary was in fact going to audition for the Navy band, but it was just weeks before the end of the GI bill, so he waived his audition. He went to electronics school and found quite a few other musicians who had made the same choice. They formed a band that even did some traveling. But when he transferred to a destroyer, there was no more music. 48 years later, Tom Palance found a tuba and talked Gary into playing for the BSCL parade.

Barcroft will never be the same with Peg and Gary! We all wish them the best as they downsize and move away—but they will be close enough to come back to Barcroft any time!

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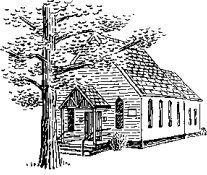
Here's how:

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Barcroft School and Civic League  
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your situation, and make the most profit possible. *Contact me for a FREE copy!*

### **The Market is on the Move!**

Metropolitan Regional Information Systems (MRIS) data shows the DC-area housing market improved over last year:

\*Inventory is down more than 25% (currently representing a three month supply—*the lowest in seven years*)

\*Purchase contracts are up 11%

\*Foreclosures are down 67.2%

\*Average price is up 4.46% overall

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