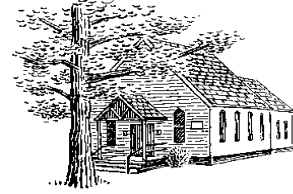


Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, VA 22204



October 2012

Barcroft News

Vol 110, Issue 2

Monthly Happenings: President's Report

By **Pat Williamson**, *BSCL President*

As our new Barcroft School and Civic League regular monthly meeting season begins it is a pleasure to take a few moments to thank some of the many folks who are making it all possible. First on the list is Newsletter Editor, Elizabeth Kiker. What a terrific job!

Linda Webb distributes all the copies of the newsletters to the myriad of wonderful volunteers who hand deliver each issue around the neighborhood.

Our new Treasurer, Jennifer Lis, prepared the annual operating expense plan so that we could vote on it at the September meeting. She will present the building improvements spending plan in October so volunteers Randy Swart and Michael Nazaretz can have the supplies they need to continue their maintenance schedule on Thursdays from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m. At the September meeting Randy put out a call for more folks to join in in this effort.

Thanks to Ken Edwards for putting the many signs up around the neighborhood before each meeting and taking them

down the next day —rain or shine!

New Membership Secretary, Fay Cheung, is pleased with the response for the new year's membership dues and is doing a great job managing the database.

Mark Wigfield moderates our communication lifeline, the neighborhood chat list and Randy Swart is our webmaster for www.bscl.org. Barbara Swart has kept the Community House rentals running so smoothly and making money! So very many neighbors are involved in all the doing of this civic association and provide a great benefit to us all.

We will devote most of our October meeting to the **S. George Mason Dr.** improvement project. County staffer Bill Roberts gave a brief presentation at the last meeting. Neighbors at the meeting had a number of good questions so we asked him to research and report back in October. Changing road widths and adding a pedestrian crossing signal will affect all of us who use the road. Plan to join us on Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m., at the Community House for this important monthly meeting. ●

The 2012 National Housing Market:

When low supply meets high demand, prices eventually rise, and that's happening nationwide. Buyers are gaining confidence in the market and taking advantage of extremely low interest rates to lock in home purchases. Investors have backed off slightly, but they still play a big part in the picture. Here are some numbers comparing July 2012 to July 2011: **Number of homes for sale:** Down 23% **Median single-family home price:** Up 9.6% at \$188,100 (*Arlington's Median was \$512,000*). **Pending Home Sales Index:** Up 12.4%. **First-time buyers:** 34% of transactions, UP 2% in July. **Investors:** 16% of transactions, Down 2% year-to-year in July. **All-cash sales:** 27% of transactions, Down 2% year-to-year in July. **Distressed sales:** 24% of transactions, Down 5% year-to-year in July. (Half were foreclosures and half were short sales.) **30-year fixed mortgage rate:** Approximately 3.50%, DOWN from 4.2% a year ago.

Looking for more space? Consider 506 S. Abingdon St. priced at \$819,000 5 Br, 3.5 baths on wooded ½ acre lot.



Contact me for details!

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www.SettingYourHomePrice.com

Barcroft News

Editor/Advertising: Elizabeth Kiker
202-425-0627
editor@bsclorg

Publisher/Mailing: Linda Webb,
linda@bscl.org
703-969-6373

Next Deadline **Oct. 15th**

BSCL Officers

President Pat Williamson
PWilliamson@weta.org

Vice President Eric Harold
Eric@bscl.org

Treasurer Jennifer Lis
Jennifer@bscl.org

Membership Secy. Fay Cheung,
fay@bscl.org
703-521-0184

Board Members Mike Behringer, Jim
Kerr, Bryant Monroe

Contacts and Committees

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

Restoration: David Michaelson,
Jim Kerr

Fundraising: Chris Ditta
Landscaping: Scott Brinitzer
703-892-0308

Traffic Committee: Heidi Wicker
4th of July Parade: Andrew Hunter
703-979-8247

Columbia Pike: Randy Swart
randy@bscl.org

Demeter House: Darlene Mickey
Parks: Elizabeth Kiker,
Shirley Gay

Signs: David Peacefull
Web/NCAC Rep Randy Swart
703-521-2080

Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates: Eric Harold, Randy
Swart, Pat Williamson, Jim Kerr Alternates: Karen
Darnier, David Michelson, Elaine Squeri, Mark Wigfield
Barcroft News is printed on recycled paper with
vegetable-based ink by Stanley Adams Printing.

Visit Us Online: www.bscl.org

Free Trees

By Judith Richter

Once again, Arlington will be providing free native trees to Arlington residents. This year the selections include the following:

American beech

(Fagus grandifolia)

American holly (Ilex opaca)

Red oak (Quercus rubra)

American basswood (Tilia americana)

Hophornbeam (Ostrya virginiana)

Hornbeam (Carpinus caroliniana)

Sassafras (Sassafras albidum)

Spice bush (Lindera benzoin)

Persimmon (Diospyros virginiana)

You must reserve a tree and pick it up on Saturday, October 13. Please be sure to learn about the tree size and site requirements before making a selection. Register for your tree at www.arlingtonva.us/departments/parksrecreation/scripts/parks/page61495.aspx •





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Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

These ads are free to BSCL members. The listings will be run for three months from the original listing.

Violin Teacher/Math Tutor: High school senior/musician (13 years experience), teaching beginner and intermediate violin. Also tutoring elementary and middle school math. Contact Austin at (571) 244-8102.

Babysitter + Pet-sitter: Mia Field, 15.5 year old Wakefield sophomore, available to sit evenings/weekends. References. 703-946-7188 or mia.e.field@gmail.com

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

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

College-aged Babysitter - holidays and summers: Sarah@703-521-8756

Baby-sitter + Pet-sitter + Vacation Help: 8th grader, Tyler LaPointe, 571-244-7555 or tylerchanlapointe@gmail.com

Babysitter: 8th Grader Rebecca Bean is Red Cross Certified. Call 571-344-4134 or beccab50@gmail.com

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

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

Baby items, books, toys, household items needed for the Even Start Program at Barcroft. Call Jenny Lindenauer at 703-228-8846 or jennifer_lindenauer@apsva.us

Barcroft Community Playgroup 9:30 a.m. •



*We are an inclusive Jewish community—
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Saturdays from 10:00 am until Noon
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Arlington Parks and Recreation Events

Arlington Youth Fitness & Wellness Expo

Saturday, September 29 • 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Discover a plethora of youth-based fitness offerings in our community! The FREE expo at Thomas Jefferson Community Center, is open to all ages and will feature a Parkour demo, sports and fitness demos, inflatable moon bounces and slides, an obstacle course, live performances and more!

Your Retirement, Your Way - Info Fair

Saturday, Sept. 29 • 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Planning for your retirement or looking out for loved ones? Join us at Langston-Brown Community Center for vital and up-to-date information on such topics as retirement communities, fitness, leisure activities, health and wellness and support services. Visit the Senior Center Month page for more information or a complete schedule.

Native Seed Collection

Saturday, October 6 - 10am-12pm

Lubber Run Park - N. Columbus St & 2nd St N

Join Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment to collect acorns and other tree seeds. Collected seeds are sent to state nurseries to be grown into tree seedlings which are distributed back throughout the state. Meet at the Lubber Run Amphitheater. Visit www.growingnative.org for more info. RSVP to volunteer@arlingtonenvironment.org or 703-228-6406.

Bon Air Memorial Celebration

October 6 • 1 p.m.—5 p.m.

Join us at Bon Air Park to celebrate the beautiful Memorial Rose Garden! Enjoy fall roses, docent-led tours, potting stations for your own rose rootings, poetry readings, cookies and lemonade! •

Arlington Forest United Methodist Church

“Where Love Changes People’s Lives through Engaging Worship, Learning Together, and Serving Others”

4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203, 703-525-0961

www.arlingtonforestumc.com and on Facebook

8:30 Casual Worship, Godly Play-Sunday School 10:00 a.m.,

Traditional Worship 11:00 a.m.

Animal Blessing Service at Culpepper Garden, Sat., 10/6, 3 pm



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Who Are the People in Barcroft: The Jordans

By Lisa Piantanida

This is the first of a new series, *Who are the People in Your Neighborhood* in the newsletter. Email lisapiantanida@gmail.com if you'd like to be featured.

Who Is In Your Family?

Rich, Wendy, Miles (9, 4th grade at Barcroft Elm), Macy (6, 1st grade at ATS), Ada (5, pre-K at Mount Olivet).

Where Do You Live?

Wakefield Street South. We have lived in our home since December 2003.



What's a Fun Fact About Your Family?

Our most anticipated day of the year is in March when we host an Oscar party. It is a red-carpet affair with customized movie posters that depict guests in roles from the nominated films and, of course, costumes. Party goers are dressed to the nines as their favorite nominated character with the coveted award for best dressed.

We are also proud Naval Academy

Football season ticket holders. We just returned from a trip to Ireland where we saw Navy's 2012 season opener verses Notre Dame in Dublin.

Additionally: **Rich** has logged more than 200 aircraft carrier take-off and landings and is the drummer of the band Gutterball Kingpin. **Wendy** holds the family high score in Just Dance Wii the Michael Jackson Experience for his song Thriller. **Miles** can recite in any order the 44 Presidents and all 50 capitals of the United States. **Macy** participated in her first triathlon at the age of four and loves to draw and paint. **Ada** learned to do a front flip off of the diving board this summer.

Your Favorite Thing About Barcroft

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt is only second to the 4th of July Parade! The kids would add that their favorite thing about Barcroft is picking ripe raspberries and blueberries with our neighbor from her garden. •

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Barcroft Elementary: Autumn Joy

By Jenny Ditta, Barcroft Elementary Liaison

Autumn is a special time at Barcroft Elementary. By September 27, the students have already completed the first quarter of school, and it's time for a break! Between October 1-12, students may enjoy vacation or take interesting **Fall Intersession** classes that extend their learning experience. Classes this year include Model United Nations and Scratch! Video Game Design.

There are several **upcoming events in October** that we invite our neighbors to attend. On Thursday, **October 18**, Barcroft will celebrate our annual **Hispanic Heritage Night**, between 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. The evening will include educational exhibits, excellent entertainment, and outstanding food.

On Friday, October 26, the PTA will host its annual **Halloween Costume Party and Dance** between 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Join us for an evening of family fun! Come dressed in your favorite costume and enjoy refreshments, crafts, Halloween movies, and your favorite dance tunes playing on our recently-purchased sound system!

The Barcroft PTA will also participate in the local charitable candy drive, **Treats 4 Our Troops**. Between Oct. 26 and Nov 16, neighbors can drop off **candy, surplus Halloween candy, cards, and letters into the orange bin at the Front Office**. Treats 4 Our Troops will send our donations

to U.S. military and to Wounded Warriors. If you prefer to donate cash, your money will be used for shipping expenses. Make sure your excess candy goes to deserving people!

A number of Barcroft students will run in the **Marine Corp Marathon Healthy Kids Fun Run**, to be held at the Pentagon on **Saturday, Oct. 27**. Wish them good luck!

Highlights for November and December 2012 include the **November 6 Election Day Bake Sale**. This election year the stakes are high -- and the food is fabulous! As in the past, the PTA will sell coffee, breakfast items, individually-packaged baked goods such as brownies and cupcakes, and whole items like breads, pies, and cakes.

New this year, we will also sell lunch and dinner items including All-American Hot Dogs and entrees from around the world. **Be sure to vote early, and eat often!**

Nov. 12-16, Barcroft will also host a **Book Fair and Holiday Shop**. Choose from a selection of books and more for everyone on your list. Finally, celebrate a wonderful 2012 at the Clarendon Silver Diner. On **Monday, Dec. 3**, the PTA will host a Silver Diner "Moms, Dads and Grads" Night. All Barcroft families and esteemed alumni are welcome for delicious food and fabulous company!

Learn more about what's up, at www.apsva.us/Page/13363. Like us at: www.facebook.com/BarcroftElementary. •

Bake Sale + Boutique

By Julia Oliver

The Women's Club of Arlington is hosting a bake sale, boutique with hand-made crafts, 2012 White House ornaments and paper-shredding to benefit Wakefield High School's Scholarship Fund

This event, offering something for everyone, will take place on Saturday, October 13, 2012 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The paper shredding will be from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. only. This event will benefit the Woman's Club Scholarship Fund to the Wakefield High School Scholarship Fund.

The event will be held at the Club's parking lot which is at the corner of South 8th St and South Buchanan Street.

The shredding truck will accept all paper, checkbooks and old stubs. They ask that you remove all metal items (3-ring binders, metal-spring clips and staples) before coming. A donation is requested for the paper shredding, which will benefit the scholarship fund. If you have any questions, call 703-553-5800. •

Web Master Shout Out

Randy Swart, volunteer extraordinaire, continues to update the BSCL Web site at www.bscl.org. Tell him thanks next time you see him! •

It's Time to Renew! BSCL

By Fay Cheung, Membership Secretary

For just \$5 per individual or \$10 per family, you can become a member of the best neighborhood in Arlington—the Barcroft School & Civic League. Your dues are effective from Sept. 1 to Aug. 31. There are two easy way to pay. Drop off at the Community House or mail Fay Cheung, Membership Secretary, 618 S Taylor St., Arlington, VA 22204. •

Spooky Douglas Park ...

Come to the *First Annual Douglas Park Haunted Trail of Doom* on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 7p.m. to 9 p.m. This will be in Douglas Park, at the corner of S. 16th and Quincy St. Admission is free, although you are encouraged to bring canned goods to donate to Arlington Food Assistance Center. Thanks to ABC Distributors, our generous sponsor. A less frightening "Children's Area" will be available to younger goblins who aren't yet ready to meet their doom. •

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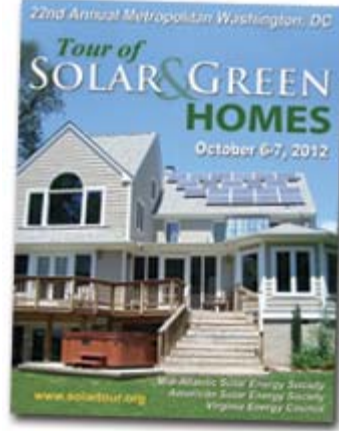
How Is Their Energy Bill \$0?

Well, maybe not \$0! But they are paying a lot less for energy than many of us in Barcroft. The 22nd Annual Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Tour of Solar & Green Homes will be held on October 6 and 7 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This fall, green enthusiasts like you have the opportunity to view 65 energy-efficient homes and buildings throughout D.C., Maryland and Virginia. Several of the homes are in Arlington!

Residents will open their homes and buildings on the tour to showcase a variety of solar design, technology and sustainable living concepts, including solar electric (photovoltaic panels) and solar hot water systems, passive design, radiant heat, energy-efficient appliances, and energy-saving

building construction techniques. Many homeowners also practice energy and water conservation measures, recycle and compost, and drive fuel-efficient or alternative energy vehicles.

Get your passport or Tour Guide for \$5 at MOM's Organic Markets, Bicycle SPACE and the Bike and Roll bike station at Union Station, or download it at solartour.org/download.html. This guide is your admission to the tour. •



Parents: Are You In Need of Some Calming Words?

By Jody Manning

Faith Lutheran Church is offering a free parenting workshop on October 5 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Oct. 6 from 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

The church, located at 3313 Arlington Blvd., will be hosting America's "Calm Parenting" Coach, Kirk Martin, and his son, Casey, for a Calm Parenting Workshop. The event is free and open to the public, and childcare will be available.

This workshop is perfect for teachers and parents of children of all ages.

For more details about the workshop, and to register for free childcare, visit

the church website at www.flcva.org/?p=601.

For more information about Kirk Martin and the Calm Parenting approach, visit www.celebratecalm.com. •

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2012 Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists

In Honor of Mattiwilda Dobbs

The 2012 Vocal Arts Competition for Emerging Artists honors Arlingtonian Mattiwilda Dobbs, an African-American soprano and one of the first Black singers to enjoy a major international career.

Dr. Dobbs broke the glass ceiling at the Metropolitan Opera House when she sang the first romantic lead only 18 months after the legendary Marian Anderson sang there.

Dr. Dobbs went on to be the first African American to perform at La Scala in Milan, Italy. Sponsored by the Opera Guild of Northern Virginia and the Seat Pleasant Chapter of the National Capital Area (MSPNCA) of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc. (NANBPWC) this legacy competition will be held in Arlington, VA for the first time.

For almost 77 years, the NANBPWC has advanced the interests of business and professional women of color. In 1982, the Association introduced its signature vocal arts competition to both honor and recognize earlier African American Singers and to support young black singers who have chosen to pursue careers as professionals in the classical vocal arts.

The public is warmly invited to attend this landmark event on Saturday, Octo-

ber 13, 2012 at 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Walker Chapel United Methodist Church, 4102 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22207.

Jummy Olabanji, from ABC7/WJLA-TV and News Channel 8, will preside as MC. This event is free and open to the public. Donations to support the competition, however, are always welcome.

For more information, contact the Opera Guild at 703-536-7557, send an email to mcdm1@verizon.net or visit us online at www.operaguildnova.org. •

IN-HOME DAY CARE

I am opening my Loving and Nurturing In-home Child Care in early September on Blair Road 22041. It is a small group of 5 kids and I have one spot available.

I have 10 years experience as a Nanny. (I have cared for multiple children in the same family including twins and have cared for babies in a Nanny Share.)

First Aid and CPR Certified, Smoke free and pet free environment, Open from 7am - 6pm. USDA Food Participant. Professional training courses/workshops participant. Excellent references. If interested, email Karee-ma786@hotmail.com or call [571 278 3576](tel:571-278-3576).

When Will the New Park Be Done?

By Elizabeth Kiker

A group of moms, as well as long time park and project volunteers Shirley Wilson Gay and Randy & Barbara Swart, have been working with Arlington County on a park project for the intersection of Four Mile Run trail with Columbia Pike.

The drawings had been approved, the budget signed off on ... and then, construction delays took over. By the time the work was ready to start again, our contact at Arlington County had changed, the construction costs had mounted, and they wanted to shift the proposal into two phases.

The BSCL Park Committee met with Shannon Early of Arlington County last month, and we came away hopeful that the project will continue as it was planned, and all in one phase. To save on construction costs, some benches and tables were subtracted, as was a small portion of the bioswale, but the original plan is in place.

The bike loop for kids to learn how to ride, the sand box, the place for cyclists to rest and enjoy the view — all of this remains. Now — we just have to wait for construction to actually begin. Current estimates say that will happen sometime next fall ... Stay tuned! •

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