



December, 1986



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DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PROGRAM COME AND SING CAROLS WITH THE WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL BAND

The whole family is invited to come to a Christmas carol sing-a-long with the famous Wakefield High band on December 4 at 7:30 PM at the Barcroft Community House, 800 South Buchanan Street. Everyone is welcome. You do not have to be a member. Bring a neighbor, bring a friend, bring your kids, bring some cookies, leave your dog at home!

This is the Barcroft School and Civic League's traditional Christmas program, and even though it falls early in the month it always provides a good occasion to celebrate this joyous season. If you have never heard a full band play in a room as small and "live" as the Community House you are in for a real musical treat.

This is the one meeting of the year where we never ask anyone to volunteer for community projects, and probably the best meeting of the year to just meet the folks at your civic association. Come and join your neighbors in expressing the good spirits of the season!



## SHOULD BARCROFT HAVE A NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN?

(How can a resident of Barcroft who likes this quiet, unassuming residential neighborhood and wants to stay here make sure that unwanted development will not make it unlivable? Here is a prescription for those who would rather stand and fight than move to North Arlington.)

At our November meeting, Helen Hedges, Chair of the Arlington County Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC), presented a program explaining the program, the work of the Committee, and the advantages of having a Neighborhood Conservation Program. The program was established by the County Board in 1964. Eighteen neighborhoods have completed their plans, while another eighteen have them in some stage of progress. Each Neighborhood Conservation Plan serves as a guide for the County Board and County Staff in reviewing proposed changes to the General Land Use Plan and Zoning Map, applications for use permits, site plans and variances, and capital improvement projects in the neighborhood. In addition, the Plans permit neighborhoods to design projects to improve curbs, gutters, sidewalks, park and recreational facilities, traffic management features, street lights and beautification measures. Some of the projects are funded by the County, although adjacent property owners pay for a percentage of the costs of such programs as curbs and gutters. Property owners in Neighborhood Conservation Areas pay only 50% of the assessment rate for nonconservation areas for curb, gutter and sidewalk improvements. These improvements must be requested by a petition of the residents on the block.

The Plan is useful to neighborhoods in preserving the character of their neighborhood against the encroachments of developers who may not care about the impact of their projects.

The first step in establishing a Plan is for the neighborhood to declare its intent, followed by a survey questionnaire to residents. Then the neighborhood surveys its current conditions, including land use, zoning, curb, gutter, sidewalk, drainage problems, street lights, traffic conditions, housing, park and recreational facilities, schools, libraries, and other public facilities. The County Staff helps with the technical side of all this and with the drafting of the Plan, which is subsequently commented on by the NCAC and forwarded to the Board for approval. Funds are then available from the County budget for the approved projects.

Following Mrs. Hedges' interesting talk six members present indicated an interest in working on a committee to examine the prospect of preparing a Plan for Barcroft. They were Ira Belcher, Karen Duff, Tori Floyd, Bill Peine, Susan Sarcone and Barbara Swart. Bill Peine agreed to organize the initial meeting pending selection of a committee chair. By the time you read this the committee will probably be forming up. Come and join it now, or you may find out later that something about Barcroft that you really think is important to preserve was left out. Call Bill Peine at 521-3821.





## Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization (CPRO)

During the week of November 16-22 the CPRO group will meet with the public at various churches to discuss the future of Columbia Pike. The Barcroft session is planned for Our Savior Lutheran Church on Taylor Street, to be held on November 18. CPRO now has an office at 2924 Columbia Pike staffed with volunteers, including Barcroft's Anne Noll. The organization is selling buttons and bumper stickers. Enthusiasm is growing for the effort. Call Anne Noll at 892-6710 or Susan Sarcone at 920-8131 for more information.

### THIS MONTH AT HIDDEN OAKS: ONE LESS TREE, ONE LESS SIGN

The Hidden Oaks partnership called President Belcher about a dead oak tree within the construction site, which the partnership wants to remove. BSCL members confirmed that the tree is dead, and is a hazard. The BSCL Board has sent a letter to the Hidden Oaks developer stating that the tree is indeed dead, but that the partnership will have to contact the County concerning conditions for its removal. Barcroft did not express any opinion on how or why the tree died.

The Hidden Oaks developers have sent the BSCL a plat of the brick sign which they want to erect in from of the townhouses. The members present at the November BSCL meeting examined the plat, and passed a unanimous motion to oppose any signs in front of townhouses in the Barcroft Neighborhood.



#### DUES AND DONT'S

**DUES** for the BSCL run from September to September.

DON'T be shy about cutting out the little coupon on the back of your newsletter and sending it with \$2 per person (\$4 per couple) for your 1986-87 dues year. Kathy Kerr is more than willing to have you sacrifice the part of her article which is on the back of the coupon. (Bad planning--we usually try to run an ad there.)

**DUES** can be sent with your name and address on the back of an envelope or a scrap of shopping bag if you can't bear to cut up your Barcroft News.

**DON'T** forget to congratulate yourself when you send in your **DUES**. It means that Kathryn Villegas will not be calling you up to ask for it. You can both be happy!



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## POPULAR FARMER'S MARKET CLOSES FOR 1986

The last Arlington County Farmer's market for 1986 will be held on Saturday, November 29 at its customary location in the County Courthouse parking lot. Hours are 7 AM to 12 noon.

The Farmer's Market is sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service in Arlington County. It consists of 20 to 30 stands where farmers, beekeepers, and bakers show their wares in a competitive environment. Those who participate bring locally grown produce and home-baked goods from farms, gardens and kitchens in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and West Virginia right to you. There is usually a good selection of vegetables, fruits, smoked meats, honey, eggs, baked goods, herbs, ornamental plants, cider, and cut flowers. The atmosphere is friendly, and it is not unusual to hear those who come to buy vegetables say something like "this really is Arlington to me." It is also not unusual to run into your Barcroft neighbors at the Farmer's Market, and you can swap recommendations on which stalls have the best produce that day.

If you missed the last Saturday this year, fear not, for the Barcroft News will let you know when the markets resume in the spring. Each year that is the last Saturday of April, so for you calendar-markers the first market in 1987 will be on April 25.





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WE RENT THE THINGS YOU NEED





WANT ADS\*\*WANT ADS\*\*WANT ADS\*\*WANT ADS

For Sale: Nothing!! Nobody brought a want ad to the November BSCL meeting for this space. It can't be the price-want ads are free to members, and you can join for just \$2. Please take advantage of your free ad priviledge here. Just scribble your ad on the margin of this page, a piece of shopping bag or any old scrap of paper and bring it to our next meeting on December 4. Some Barcroftian is just waiting to buy something you need to get rid of.

CERTIFIED WATCH REPAIRING DIAMONDS RESET JEWELRY REPAIRS ENGRAVING WERNER JEWELERS Diamonds - Watches - Jewelry - Silverware Christmas gifts for everyone on your list. Columbia Pike Shopping Center BOIS Columbia Pike ARLINGTON, VA 22204

#### BE YOUR OWN ENERGY DETECTIVE

Winter is here, and the Arlington County Extension Center has just the information booklet for you to help you get ready for the chilly winds. It's titled "Be Your Own Energy Detective," and it provides in a few pages the recommended steps to energy savings in your home. The approach begins with reducing air leakage into heated spaces of your home, primarily with calk and weatherstripping. There are good illustrations of spots to check for likely air leaks, and a note that if your house is excessively dry in winter it is a sign that there may be too much heated air leaking out, taking moisture with it. The second recommendation is to look at your heating system and tune it if necessary. Third is reduction of heating time during the day by using automatic thermostats or heating a smaller area. Fourth is a recommendation for storm windows. Finally, the pamphlet provides a guide for adding insulation to your home. Gas and heating oil prices have varied so much over the past few years that the recommendations may be outdated for 1986 prices, but the concept of using only as much insulation as you need to save equal fuel costs is a better approach than just throwing huge amounts of insulation into your house regardless of cost.

The pamphlet is helpful and informative. Copies are available from the Extension Center at 855 N. Edison Street, Arlington 22205, telephone 558-2475. (If you are reading this newsletter before November 29 you can also pick up a copy of the pamphlet at the table manned by the Extension Agent at the Farmer's Market down at the Courthouse. That's the last Farmer's Market for the year.)



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER



- 4 Thurs <u>Barcroft School and Civic League Meeting</u> 7:30 PM Program: Christmas Carols with the Wakefield High Band. Bring the whole family! Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Info 558-2838.
- 6 Sat. Opera Theater of Northern Virginia: The Goose from Cairo by Mozart 7 PM. Thomas Jefferson Community Theatre. Tickets \$6 adults, \$5 others. Info 739-2918.
- 7 Sun. <u>Tree Lighting Ceremony</u>. 5:30 PM Lubber Run Center. Info 558-2671.
- 20 Sat. <u>A Visit With Santa</u>. 11 AM 1 PM. Long Branch Nature Center--just a brisk walk across Four Mile Run from Barcroft. Info 845-7640.
- 22 Mon. <u>Book Discussion Group</u>. Arlington County Library. 8 PM. Book: Lake Wobegon Days by Garrison Keillor, host of "A Prairie Home Companion". Info 524-8622.
- Until <u>Arlington County Leaf Collection</u>. Info on the schedule Dec 30 for your street 558-2321.





## AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD with Kathy Kerr

#### BARCROFT'S MUSICIANS

There is a lot of musical talent in Barcroft. We have some very fine musicians here playing many different instruments and styles of music. The musicians represent all age groups too! Over on Second St. S, John William Granofsky is just over one year old but is destined to be a musician some day with parents like his. His father Alan plays the trumpet in the U.S. Army band and is also known for his banjo picking. John's mother Sharon sings in her church choir and teaches piano lessons. Sharon is learning to play the hammer dulcimer that Alan made for her.

Next door, 6-year-old Michael Evans has music in his genes too. Michael plays the violin as well as piano. He is becoming known in Arlington as a concert performer and will be giving a solo recital in January. Michael's father Harold is a violinist and a conductor presently leading the Concert Soloists of Washington, a chamber music group. Michael's violinist mother, Beth, broke 52 years of tradition by becoming the first woman in the US Army Band. (What is a violin doing in a band? You'll have to ask Beth.) Beth has recently begun exploring other music styles including bluegrass and Appalachian fiddle.

On down the street live **Roger Cornell** and Linda Titolo who at one time made hammer dulcimers as a business. They both play the dulcimer, and Roger also plays some mighty fine mandolin and guitar. Irish, folk and ragtime are the music they like best. They enjoy folk dancing and sound so pretty when they sing together.

Just across the street lives **George Vogt.** That lovely, soft classical piano music emanating from his home may or may not be a record. George is humble about his talent but it sure is a treat to hear him play. He really belts out some fine ragtime!

Next door lives **Randy Swart.** Your life may never be the same if you pass by his house while he is cranking up his bagpipes. Randy used to perform in full regalia with the Washington Scottish Pipe Band, which practiced for many years at Gallaudet College... Happily his wife **Barbara** is able to appreciate the virtues of the bagpipes. She herself is a hot bluegrass banjo picker. She is often accompanied by Randy, on guitar this time (and sometimes the Chinese opera gong). When they sing together the grass in their front yard actually turns blue!

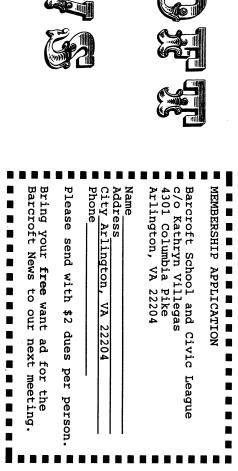
Of course not all Barcroft musicians live on S. Second St...Jim Lande up on S. 1st St. has been playing clarinet since grade school. What style of music does he play? ANYTHING! But he prefers blues and jazz.

Ten-year-old Leora Cohen on S. Wakefield and nine-year-old Nina Millin on S. Pershing both play the cello. They are some of the many neighborhood children taking advantage of the Arlington school music programs. (Nina takes piano lessons from Sharon Granofsky too!)

Michael Nazaretz lives down the street from me here on 4th St.S. He grew up in a Cleveland suburb where accordion lessons were offered door-to-door. When he was in 6th grade the lessons began. By age 13 he was a TV star on the "Style Crest Furniture Polka Variety Hour." Michael plays many styles of music including Russian, Balkan, Croatian, Polish and most recently Russian-Jewish and Klezmer music. He performs with a 6-member band called "Lox and Vodka" at events such as weddings and bar mitzvahs. They recently played at a folk festival in North Carolina.

Me? Well, I've been known to play the fiddle. I played violin in grade school and took up fiddle in college. Presently I play in a 4-member square and contra dance band known as "Tanglefoot." (We specialize in beginners...)

These are only a few of the musicians in Barcroft. There are many more (rumor has it that two members of the National Symphony now reside here!) Roger Cornell is interested in organizing some sort of neighborhood musical get-together, or `Musicalia' as he prefers to call it. If you would like to participate, call him at 892-2421. Perhaps our next BSCL picnic can be graced with neighborhood music!





BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 800 South Buchanan Street Arlington, VA 22204







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