

FEBRUARY, 1987

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN FOR BARCROFT YES OR NO

COME AND VOTE -YOU COUNT!

FEBRUARY 5TH AT 7:30

A NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION PLAN FOR BARCROFT?

How can we make sure that our quiet, convenient Barcroft neighborhood is preserved and improved over coming years? What do we as Barcroft residents want to see happen within and around our neighborhood? We can answer these questions now or let others from outside our neighborhood answer them for us as time goes by.

At the next meeting of the Barcroft School and Civic League on Thursday, February 5, we will consider creating a Neighborhood Conservation Plan for Barcroft. You can be an important part of the decision. Your vote will count.

What Barcroft Could Gain

A Neighborhood Conservation Plan, written by community residents, is Arlington's way for the neighborhood to advise the County on concerns ranging from land use decisions to community improvements. While a Plan does not automatically become County policy, it is a very important document that the County considers first when making recommendations or decisions relating to a neighborhood.

Land Use Policy

Land use decisions are critical to the character of a neighborhood like Barcroft. Do we want to remain in the position of reacting to developers' proposals for new higher-density townhouse development? Or might it make more sense to take the initiative and have on record the type of new development -- or curbs on development -- Barcroft residents want in their neighborhood? With a Neighborhood Conservation Plan adopted, any changes proposed by a developer would immediately be viewed by County decision makers in light of the neighborhoods' clearly stated policy. This does make a difference.

Community Improvements

Do we want better traffic management around and through Barcroft? Left turn signals at Buchanan and Columbia Pike? Four-way stop signs at Wakefield and Pershing? More playgrounds, better access to the Four Mile Run park area, additional street lights, sidewalks? More beautification efforts in Barcroft residential and commercial areas? These are the kinds of improvements that the County funds as small projects under the Neighborhood Conservation Program.

If we decide at the February 5 meeting to draft a Neighborhood Conservation Plan, we would need a lot of volunteer help. Beginning with an inventory of the neighborhood -- housing and yard conditions, street and traffic conditions, public services and facilities, commercial area conditions, we would then identify needs and recommend improvements. Additionally, we would make land use recommendations and identify special problems such as the use of the Arlington Hall site.

The plan would be by our own neighborhood, then approved by the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee, the Planning Commission and the County Board. It would provide a planning document to communicate Barcroft concerns to the County and to developers with a unified voice.

To help or for more information, please contact Patrick Roach, 920-8131 or Bill Peine, 521-3821. Above all, come to the meeting on February 5 -- it may be the most important one for Barcroft this year.

NEWSLETTER STAFF	
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NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION: WHAT OTHER ARLINGTON NEIGHBORHOODS HAVE GAINED

Other Arlington neighborhoods are already benefitting from their plans and getting their pieces of the Neighborhood Conservation pie. Over 170 projects have been funded over the last 22 years in seventeen Arlington neighborhoods through the Neighborhood Conservation Program.

Glen Carlyn, for example, has enjoyed trees planted throughout the neighborhood, new playground equipment at Carlin Hall and many street improvements. To slow speeding traffic, the Arlington Heights plan identified traffic management improvements; a series of nubs along 2nd Street has been constructed.

As a result of the **Ballston-Virginia** Square Neighborhood Conservation Plan, street improvements on N. Stafford St., intersection improvements at N. Lincoln and 14th Streets and street closings at N. Nelson, Quincy and 14th Streets have been implemented. Improvements to Quincy Park and streetscaping at Washington-Lee High School have been accomplished with program funds.

Neighborhood Power

As land values rise and development increases throughout the County, changes to higher density land use are constantly proposed. The Ballston-Virginia Square Plan identified certain amenities, like a neighborhood grocery store that residents wanted to conserve. The County Board weighed these specific neighborhood concerns heavily, and the plans just approved for the FDIC development there will retain the grocery store. The Dominion Hills Civic Association recently was successful in opposing a project they felt was higher and more dense than it should be in their area.

Arlington neighborhoods continually face proposals for change. Those neighborhoods with adopted plans are in a better position to make community improvements, oppose unwanted development and negotiate positive changes to preserve the character of their surroundings.



MALCOLM'S AUTOMOTIVE

At the corner of Wakefield Street and Columbia Pike is Malcolm's Automotive, a longstanding Barcroft business. The car repair business was established by L.J. Malcolm in 1940 at the corner of S. Glebe and 2nd Street.

Currently operated by Ira W. (Bud) Daniels, who has been with the firm 26 years, Malcolm's is known by many Barcroft residents as a close, reliable place to have their cars repaired. Malcolm's employs four mechanics and prides itself on its innovative technology. Constantly updated equipment and employee training sessions give Malcolm's the capacity to take on "cars the other places won't touch", according to Mr. Daniels. His mechanics work on all domestic automobiles and many imported cars.

Mr. Daniels estimates that Malcolm's handles repairs on 50 to 60 cars a week, and added that "the majority of our business is local." He discussed the competitive advantage the franchise car repair businesses have over small individually operated businesses like Malcolm's. While they can offer a lower price at a franchise, he said they do not provide the quality of maintenance his smaller repair firm can offer. Often, he said, cars poorly worked on somewhere else are brought to Malcolm's to be successfully repaired.

With people attempting to cut costs, inexperienced car owners, Mr. Daniels said, add CB radios and do repair work that results in shorted wires and more serious problems that later require professional repair. He remembers a customer who had a friend change his oil filter. The owner purchased the wrong filter and it caused all the oil to drain out, ruining the engine.

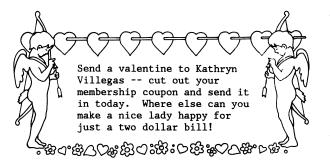
Malcolm's Automotive has a list of neighborhood customers satisfied with their car repair work, and for years Barcroft residents have recognized Malcolm's special beautification efforts. The nicely landscaped and well-maintained facility won an award from the Barcroft School and Civic League in 1977. Local residents and passersby continue to appreciate this extra effort, which reflects the pride so evident in this Barcroft business.

YOU SAY YOU DO YOU EAT RAW FISH? WANT TO WORK ON THE BARCROFT NEWS?

After our last restaurant review we heard that a fair number of people in Barcroft do eat sushi, unlike our unsophisticated critic. We also hear that any number of Barcroft musicians were left out of the earlier article on that subject. Well, here's your chance to improve things!

We have a jolly crew putting together the <u>Barcroft News</u> each month, and it really is fun. We break up the jobs into little pieces to keep it that way. If you want to contribute just an hour a month, for example, we need someone who is free after 8:30 in the morning on the 15th of each month (or the first weekday following) to take the <u>News</u> to the Clarendon Post Office. You would need a car or a very sturdy bicycle, and be able to carry four sacks which weigh from five to twenty pounds each. Call Randy Swart at 521-2080.

Or maybe you want to be a reporter. Well, write an article! Call Sue Sarcone at 920-8131 to volunteer or to get some ideas for articles we need. Karen Duff wants to retire in June as Advertising Manager, so we have an opportunity there too -- more than an hour, that one! Let Karen know at 979-2422.



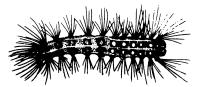


ARLINGTON'S BEST-KEPT SECRETS: THE CLARENDON POST OFFICE

The most convenient post office to Barcroft, on Columbia Pike, is often closed when you want it in the evenings. The central Arlington P.O., however, located at 3118 Washington Boulevard (across from Clarendon where Wilson crosses Washington) is open every weekday until 7 PM Monday through Friday. That means you can get there after work. It handles all services, including the bulk mailing of the Barcroft News.

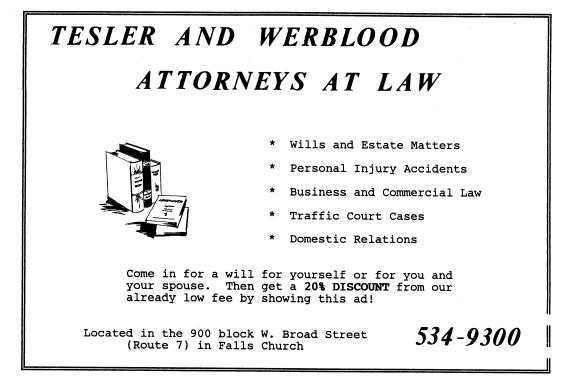
Send your nomination for Arlington's Best-Kept Secrets to the Editor at 4649 Second Street South, Arlington, VA 22204.

NEXT MONTH'S QUESTION: WHAT IS THAT STRANGE STONE WITH A SMALL FENCE AROUND IT LOCATED IN THE MEDIAN STRIP OF S. JEFFERSON STREET, ON THE HILL BETWEEN COLUMBIA PIKE AND ROUTE 7 ?? BLANKO!! No want ads this month. We will probably drop this feature and pick it up again when the yard sale season starts in the spring. If you have a want ad you want to insert --FREE -- just bring it to the next meeting on February 5.



GYPSY MOTHS: FEBRUARY BULLETIN

This month you should try to finish your outside check for the little fuzzy tan mounds about 1 to 2 inches across where the female gypsy moth left her eggs in the fall. They can be found on tree trunks, woodpiles, house eves, fences, just about anywhere. Soak them in chlorox or burn them in your fireplace.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

6,7,13, A	lington Players present Gilbert and Sullivan's
14.20. T	e Mikado at Thomas Jefferson Theater. 8 PM (With one tinee on Feb 15 at 2:30 PM). Info 739-2920.

5 Thurs BARCROFT SCHOOL AND CIVIC LEAGUE 7:30 PM. Program on the Neighborhood Conservation Plan, including a decision by the BSCL on whether Barcroft should adopt a plan. For info please call 920-8131.

 7,14,21 Arlington County Library Winter Films for Children and 28 ages 5 to 9. Saturdays at 2:30 PM, Central Library meeting room, 1015 N. Quincy St. Info 284-8181.

21 Sat Long Branch Nature Center film: Castles of Clay. An award-winning film about the African termite. 2 PM at 22 Sun the Long Branch Nature Center, just an easy walk or bicycle ride from Barcroft. FREE. Call 845-7640.

If YOU see a pothole, report it!

POTHOLE PATROL

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Arlington County Department of Public Works crews have hundreds of miles of pavement to patrol, so they appreciate calls from alert citizens. Your call can be turned into action by providing a specific street address or precise intersection. We'll repair potholes within 48 hours in dry weather (asphalt cannot be poured in wet weather).

Thank you for calling The Patchline!

County Roads: 558-2551 State Roads: 273-1100 Federal Roads: 285-2109



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AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD with Kathy Kerr

VALENTINE'S DAY

With Valentine's Day approaching, love is in the air. Who knows more about love than younger couples with new babies and older couples whose marriages have endured several decades.

Geneva and Ira Belcher met at a drug store in Banville, Kentucky, in 1947. They married in 1950 and moved to Arlington in 1952, where they lived in the Buckingham Apartments. In 1964 they found their present home on George Mason Drive. There were lots of other children in the neighborhood for their son John Robert to play with. Looking back at 36 years of marriage, Geneva says that the time just flies. She thinks that one key to a long marriage is to help and support each other. Ira and Geneva have many similar interests. They are very involved with their church including such programs as Meals-on-Wheels and FISH. The Belchers come to every BSCL meeting, where Ira is our current president.

Making the Belchers seem like newlyweds, the Flournoys have been married for over 50 years. In the late 1920's, Isla Arnold met young Harold Flournoy at a dance held at the Washington Canoe Club down in Georgetown. On their second date they attended choir rehearsal at Isla's church. She says that Harold had a wonderful bass voice.

Mrs. Flournoy has many interesting memories. She was born in Cherrydale but moved to Barcroft and attended the original Barcroft School which is now our BSCL meeting house on S. Buchanan. She recalls that there were at least 3 grades at the school, all in one room. She has a special memory of her teacher sitting on the desk reading the Bible to the students every morning. Her family home was near the Payne property which is presently the site of Hidden Oaks development, and the Arlington Unitarian Church is built on land that was her family's farm. She remembers watching with envy as some neighbor girls rode their horses nearby.



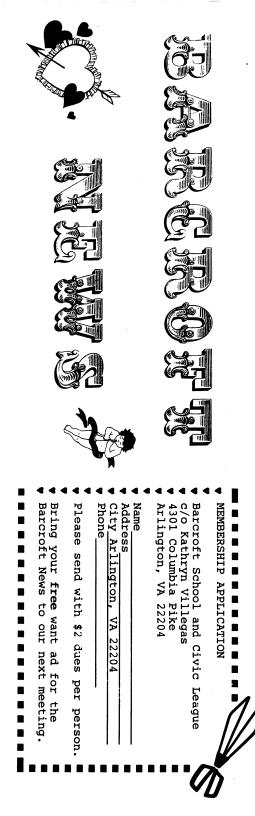
Can you even begin to imagine Arlington without Route 50? I cannot, but Isla assures me that Arlington Blvd. was once all forest. After 4th grade, Isla walked through the woods to attend Clarendon School and later Ballston School. Arlington was criss-crossed with old country dirt roads. She remarks that she always felt safe walking around then. Isla still loves to walk. You may have seen the Flournoys on one of their frequent walks around Barcroft.

The church has always been important to the Flournoys. Isla says that living a good, Christian life has been the key to their long marriage. The Flournoy's two daughters have followed their parents' example by also being active in church. One daughter is even married to a minister. The Flournoys have 8 grandchildren, all married. There are 11 great-great-grandchildren of ages 14 months to 11 years.

Nancy and Jim Schroll over on Woodstock have a new family member to share Valentine's Day with this year. Their baby, Julie Lynne, was born November 5. Julie's big brother Ben is 2 years old and is enjoying his new sister more than anyone expected. The Schroll's have lived in Barcroft for 2 1/2 years.

Terry and Maureen Hurley moved into their new home on 4th Street S. in mid-December just in time for their new baby Catherine Elyse to be born on Dec. 28th. Catherine weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was born at GW hospital. Her thrilled parents are from the Metro area. Terry grew up in Vienna and Maureen lived in Maryland. Welcome to Barcroft! And Happy Valentine's Day!

New neighbors? New babies? New grandchildren? Weddings? Bar Mitzvah's? Anniversaries? Special talents? Anecdotes? Memories? Help Kathy keep up-to-date with our neighborhood. Call her at 892-6458.





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

