



Barcroft School and
Civic League

800 South Buchanan



Neighborhood News

Congratulations to Pat Williamson, Randy Swart, David Michaelson and Bruce Atkinson for their tireless efforts in getting the handicapped ramp for the Community House approved. Thank you all for your good work!

In addition to the gardening roundtable at last month's meeting, the Barcroft School & Civic League approved a Resolution on Arlington's Fiscal Year 2003 Budget, to be submitted to the County Board. The letter, which may be read on our website www.bscl.org, basically supports the recommendations of the Arlington County Civic Federation to the Arlington County Board for the FY 2003, with the provision that those recommendations include a reduction in the real estate tax rate from \$1.023 to .96.3 cents per \$1,000 dollars of house valuation but an average increase in the real estate tax of 12 per cent taking account of increased assessments.

May is the final month for scheduled BSCL meetings and the monthly newsletter. Keep checking our website for breaking info during the summer.

Reports from the April 17th County Board work session on the budget con-

(Continued on page 12)

On Sunday, May 5, the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization presents The Seventh Annual Columbia Pike Blues Festival, a **free** community celebration on Columbia Pike, South Arlington's main street. The outdoor festival takes place from noon to 6 pm, rain or shine. This year's Festival takes place in a new location: on Walter Reed Drive on the north side of Columbia Pike.

We'll have blues of all kinds—the soulful vocals of Darrell Nulisch; the blue acoustic guitar of Chris Smither; the good vibes of Dr. S.O. Feelgood; honky tonk blues from Janine Wilson; plus The Impossibles, featuring Gabby Gabaldon; and The Curbfeelers, soul blues from South Arlington.

The Blues Festival also features food and drink from Pike restaurants (Cowboy Café, Cecilia's, Mario's Tex Mex, Meiza International Restaurant.) There will also be crafts, civic information, bike registration, a free moonbounce and instrument

The Casey O'Neal Team at RE/MAX Horizons



Casey O'Neal
Associate

Rosemarie Johnson



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TERMITES.....IS YOUR HOUSE ATTRACTING THEM?

Did you know that when you spread mulch around your home, that you can encourage termite infestation? Eric Chrissy from Suburban Pest Service has seen many incidents where termites exist in shredded bark mulch along with landscape timbers. Wood debris in close proximity will also attract termites.

Eric recommends using Cypress or Cedar mulch to reduce the odds of termite infestation along with keeping the mulch at least 2 feet away from the home. Mulch spread close to the home can act as a bridge to the foundation wall allowing termites to build shelter tubes. If you would like a FREE inspection, call Suburban Pest Service at 703-352-1777 and ask for Eric. He can offer a booster treatment as a preventative measure. For the chemically cautious, another option for preventive maintenance are bating

Celebrate Neighborhood Day at Barcroft Barbeque

Barcroft News Staff

Editor Christina Cavoli, 271-0631
 editor@bscl.org
Publisher/Mailing Susan Hunn, 892-6179
Contributions Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
Advertising Mgr. Mark@bscl.org
 Jim Kerr, 892-6458
 Jim@bscl.org
Neighborhood News Kathy Kerr, 892-6458

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BSCL Officers for 2001-

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Vice President Pat@bscl.org
 Eric Harold, 486-0879

Recording Secy. Eric@bscl.org
Treasurer **We need you!**
 Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184

Corres. Secy. Gary@bscl.org
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 Jim Kerr, 892-6458
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Fundraising Jo Anne Barnhart,
 920-0821

on hand to discuss the reasons and the process, and to encourage our neighborhood to get involved. A proposed change in the school calendar will also be discussed.

The last hour of the meeting will be dedicated to the Parking Committee. The preliminary results and recommendations of the Parking Committee will be presented and discussed. Representatives from Arlington County as well as from the County police force and possibly the

Blues Festival on the

Barn Dance Saturday, May 4, 8:00

Traditional American dancing (contras, squares, and circles) for everyone. Liz Donaldson, caller, will teach all the steps and dances, so non-dancers can participate immediately. Live music provided by JumpStart (Julie Gorka, piano and fiddle, Kathy Kerr, fiddle, and Jim Besser, guitar and concertina).

Barcroft Community House
 800 S. Buchanan St.
 Info: Julie Gorka (703) 979-

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Wanted! House in Barcroft
 Do you have a house to sell? Nice couple, engaged to be married in September, would like to live in our neighborhood and are ready to buy! Pre-qualified to mid-300's. Please call me if you are contemplating a move this spring or summer.

New Listing

Coming soon! 3 level TH off Quaker Lane in Alexandria. 4BR/3FB/1HB. Model home condition. High 300's – Low 400's.



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References readily available

It's Spring, and Time to Clean Up Around

By David Kyle

Inert Materials Collection Program (Brick, Concrete, Asphalt, rock, sod, earth, sand, and ceramic tile.)

Because Arlington does not collect inert materials curbside, a drop-off facility is being provided to Arlington residents on a pilot basis

Where Should I Take My Inert Materials?

The inert materials drop-off facility is located at the Solid Waste Division's Earth Products Yard, 4300 29th Street South. Weekday drop-off hours are 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Residents must call the Solid Waste Division at 228-6570 to schedule an appointment for weekday drop-off. On the first Saturday of each month, drop-offs will be on

a walk-up basis from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary for Saturday drop-offs. Only small quantities of material will be accepted (one pickup truck load or less). Contractors and non-residents will not be allowed to drop-off material. Inert material will be reprocessed and reused in County construction projects. Trash and building construction material will not be accept

Weekday hours of operation are by appointment only. Call (703) 228-6832 during business hours to schedule an appointment. On weekdays, citizens with appointments should report to the HHW office which is located in room 107 of the Operations Control Building. HHW materials for disposal should not be brought into the HHW office. Weekend business hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturdays. A scheduled appointment

An addendum to 'Spring Clean Up Around Here'

Another item for us homeowners to consider - check the sidewalk in front of our homes and see if perhaps some of the plant growth needs a trimming! Our sidewalks are so narrow that for two walking abreast every inch is needed (no comments about human widths!). Shrubs and ground cover in some places, including our own St. John's Wort or

Too Much Trash!

The following message will be distributed to all Barcroft neighbors including all apartment residents:

Bottles, litter and trash are being left on sidewalks, streets and lawns. Please use trash containers at home to deposit your trash. Let's keep our community beautiful, safe and litter free.

Se han encontrado desperdicios y

Announcements

Barcroft Exchange

Found: Green tarp. During a windy storm about a month ago, this tarp was seen tumbling down 6th Street. We "captured" it and would like to return it to its owners. This is a specific tarp for a specific item; tell us what it's for and we'll gladly return it.

Around the Neighborhood

by Kathy Kerr

BARCROFTER TIP: I ran into Barcrofter Carol Harvey at the video store. She recommended a movie that everyone in her extended family enjoys. It's called "Last of the Blonde Bombshells." I enjoyed it too! It's about an all woman jazz band that formed during the WW II in England. Many years later, one of the band members begins to play again and finds most of the former band members for a reunion. The music alone makes this video worth renting. Thank you, Carol!

ANOTHER BARCROFTER TIP: My sister was visiting with her three kids, all fussy eaters. We decided to give them an adventure and take them out for Ethiopian food. At Mark Wigfield's recommendation, we went to the Skyline Cafe on George Mason Dr.

We ordered two combination platters, one vegetarian and one with meat. Each platter supposedly feeds 2 people. Our party had 4 adults and children ages 8-15. Even the fussy eaters had to admit it was delicious. We still had generous leftovers to bring home. For the next two days I had the most amazing lunches reheated in the microwave. Our food tab was about \$40 and our drinks (sodas and a beer) came to around \$12. We showed the staff the article about Skyline Cafe in the Barcroft News. They were very excited!

I think it would be a lot of fun to have a "Barcroft Night Out For Dinner." We could all meet at the community house and carpool to a selected restaurant. Perhaps we could call ahead to warn the restaurant that a large group is coming. What would be some fun restaurants to visit? We could announce it via the Barcroft email list. If you are not on the email list, I'd be happy to maintain a phone list of people who would like to hear about going out for a meal.



CONGRATULATIONS to Leah & Tom Stratford of 7th St. on the arrival of their first child, Sophie, born March 4. The Stratford family moved to Barcroft last spring.

RELATED CONGRATULATIONS are also due for Ralph and Debora Johnson, who live on 9th Street. They increased their family by 100% when they adopted a boy and a girl from Guatamala on October 19th of last year. Maria is now 14 months, and Tony is 11 months. The family can often be seen strolling around the neighborhood with their white dog.

Local Craft & Farmer's Market Premieres

The southwest neighborhoods are the most economically and ethnically diverse areas in Arlington. Residents have come from such places as Central and South America, Puerto Rico, Cambodia, Vietnam, Ethiopia, Somalia and Russian.

To support and showcase the talents of all residents, the Office of Heritage Arts is cooperating with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service on a community development project in the form of an open-air craft market in the parking lot of the Arlington Mill Community Center, located at 4975 Columbia Pike. The market will open for business for the first time on Sunday, May 12 and will continue on the third Sunday of each month until October. Hours are from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Initially 15 craft vendors will present a range of work that includes ceramics, beeswax candles and variety types of needlework. The Columbia

Heights West Teen Photo Project members will sell their photographs and services. A farmer's market is also expected.

For more information about the market, call Jennifer Abel at 703-228-6417, or contact our Barcroft Arlington Mill representative Bill Lykes.

Barcroft's 14th annual 4th of July Parade Preparations Underway

by Andrew Hunter

Attention all Barcroft boys and girls, adults of every age, musical instrument players (includes bagpipers), patriots, clowns, Uncle Sam, dancers, lion tamers, fire engines, police motorcycles, antique car owners, bicyclists, scooterists, float makers, precision lawn mowing teams, dragons and general parade marching population...

Build a float! Perform! Ride your bike, watch, anyone can join in the fun. The parade starts at 10:00 sharp on the 4th of July, rain or shine. Start and finish will be at the community house. Just show up!

There will be a special show after the parade and during the picnic. This year come and be amazed by the sounds of The Chromatics (www.thechromatics.com). This group of techies (engineers, scientists, computer geeks, and NASA employees) performs pop and rock and their 3 CDs cover original songs inspired by our modern world. The Chromies have also written astronomically-correct a cappella songs to be used in classrooms for a project called AstroCappella. The Chromatics have presented AstroCap-



ella from Palm Springs, California to Orlando, Florida, from Las Vegas to Space Day on the Washington DC Mall, had their songs quoted in the New York Times and have had their CD flown in space! They have even twice sung the National Anthem for the Baltimore Orioles so you know they're good enough for our picnic!

Last year the 8th rd Precision Lawn Mower Drill Team decided to take a sabbatical. Rumor has it that the drill team will resurrect itself and return to dazzle the crowds once again with shame defying stunts.

Call Parade Chairman Andrew Hunter at 979-8247 if you have any questions or would like to volunteer. He is always in need of volunteers to set up, clean up, work the BBQ and bring food dishes. We are also looking for a car (preferably a convertible) to carry this year's Grand Marshall. Please contribute in making this celebration one of Barcroft's more memorable events.

(Continued from page 1)

tain several items of interest to our neighborhood:

- Arlington Mill ART bus route - Score one for Barcroft, Columbia Forest, and CHW! The Board approved approx \$300K plus for three new routes to be included in the Arlington Rapid Transit (ART) local bus system. One of these new ART routes will be from the west end of Columbia Pike to Clarendon and Courthouse. For ART, the County uses the small 'green and clean' buses that run on compressed natural gas.
- Pedestrian Improvements - The Board approved about \$495K for pedestrian improve-

Celebrate Neighborhood Day at the Barcroft Barbeque!

May 11, 4-7 p.m.
Barcroft Community House
Dinner is \$8/adult, \$6/kid

Side dishes & desserts welcomed!

Call David Michaelson at 553-3953 for more

Barcroft Elementary Hosts Spring Fair

Barcroft Elementary School will present a fun-filled Spring Fair and Silent Auction on Saturday, May 4, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. The event will be held at the school, 625 S. Wakefield St.

The event will feature a Moonbounce, an Ocean Slide and a Ferris Wheel for kids; carnival games and activities such as races, games of skill and games of luck with fun prizes; rake walks and Piñatas throughout the day; Spin Art machines; face painting and body art.

Parents can browse the Silent Auction from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. and bid on such items as certificates for maid service, dinners, music and Costco; gift baskets; artwork created by our children's classes; services provided by Barcroft's own parents and teachers and more!

A menu of foods from many of the countries represented by Barcroft students and parents will be available.



The fair is a fundraiser for the school's marine education summer enrichment program. For the past year, Barcroft has been immersed in marine science, thanks to an innovative hands-on program called Marine Activity, Research and Education (M.A.R.E.), which incorporates marine biology, habitat and environment studies into the general language arts, science and math curricula.

If you would like to donate goods or services for the Silent Auction, contact Wendy MacCallum at 703.892-6712.

For more information, contact Barcroft Elementary School, 228-5838.



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If any of you shop at Target and wish to participate in their school rebate program, you can designate Barcroft School to receive 1 percent of the price of your purchases at Target or target.com when you use the Target VISA card.

With the new store going in the former Montgomery Ward site on Route 50, Target will be even more convenient to our neighborhood.

To sign up and designate Barcroft as rebate recipient, go to

www.target.com/target_group/community/community_fundraising

If you already have a Target card but don't have Barcroft designated, you can do so at that site. Our school ID number is 103242, but all you really need

is the school name, location and zip code. —Eileen Putman

Hello Plant Lovers! Annual Plant Sale Set for May 4th!

You can buy your annuals, perennials and herbs from the Sixth Annual Plant Sale to Benefit Charity! Remember that will be the weekend before Mother's Day. The plant sale will take place at the Barcroft Community House on Saturday, May 4 from 9 am to 1 pm. Come early as the plants go fast! Peter Wood buys the high quality plants from his brother, Paul, who has been in the growing business for over 20 years. Paul currently has a wholesale greenhouse operation on the Eastern

Shore of Maryland. This year the Charity receiving the funds are a little different. The proceeds will benefit the Friends of Homeless Animals <http://www.foha.org>.

Peter Wood is also a metal sculpturer and will have a few sculptures there: <http://www.rustymetal.com>). So celebrate Spring and help this great charity!

Hello Art Lovers: If you're interested in the art Barcrofter Peter Woods creates, it will be displayed at the above listed Plant sale and also at the following:

- "All Dolled Up": One of his sculptures will be in this traveling show at the Suffolk Museum through May 15, then at the Arlington Ellipse Arts Center from May 21 - July 26. This show is an invitational exhibition of sculpture, photography and fine craft inspired by shapes and symbolism of dolls. Peter's sculpture is called Dress Up.
- Brookside Gardens 2002 Sculpture Show will display two of Peter's pieces, Man and Hit the Ground Running, displayed May 4—July 7. The Sculpture show is in the North Conservatory at Brookside Gardens located in Wheaton, Maryland. This is a wonderful setting for sculpture



Neighborhood Day has been celebrated since 1997 as an opportunity for Arlington residents to connect with their

neighbors and learn more about each other by taking part in neighborhood events or community service projects. This year's celebration will continue the tradition. Some of the community events already planned include the Arlington Community Hero Awards, the Animal Welfare League of Arlington Walk for Animals, the Fort Myer Military Community Twilight Tattoo Ceremony and a multicultural festival that will feature entertainment and exhibits representing the many different cultures that make up Arlington.

Once again, the highlight of the

day promises to be the annual Neighborhood Day Parade, now in its fifth year. It will begin at 2 p.m., and travel down Wilson Boulevard from the Clarendon Metro Station to North Wayne Street in the Courthouse area. After the parade, everyone is invited to join the multicultural festival.

Be part of the new Famous Barcroft Rolling Brigade of cyclists, rollerbladers, scooters marching with the Barcroft Elementary School Patrols. Kids, dogs, strollers, wagons, bikes, whatever will all be welcome as we parade a big chunk of our neighborhood down Wilson Boulevard! Info from pat@BSCL.org if you want to be in the parade.

After the parade, we will be holding our Spring Barbeque from

Barcroft Elementary Considering Modified

By Carol Hunter

The administration, faculty, and parents of Barcroft are currently in the process of considering a change to its school calendar. This change, if adopted, would likely affect the 2003-2004 school year. Instead of the traditional school calendar, (Sept.-June), the new calendar would shorten the summer weeks from 10 to 5 weeks, and begin around the first week of August. Then, throughout the school year, there would be three optional "intersessions" to provide a fun, hands-on, low-stress schooling ses-

Csion at the end of each 9-week grading period.

Many schools across the country have adopted the modified school calendar with great success. Time is the crucial issue for students, teachers and parents. This new calendar provides more consistent time in school throughout the year to keep from losing so much ground in the summer, as well as lessening "burn-out" for teachers and students.

Miriam Hughey-Guy will be present at the May BSCL meeting to make a short announcement regarding the new calendar. She has

Redrawing School Borders

Boundary Development and Program Planning

By Inta Malis

In order to relieve overcrowding within the Arlington County schools, boundary changes are being considered for several elementary schools in South Arlington: Abingdon, Barcroft, Campbell, Carlin Springs, Claremont, Hoffman-Boston, Oakridge, and Randolph. In addition, one of these schools will house the new Spanish immersion school, which will be created by merging the immersion programs at Abingdon and Oakridge. Other changes in school programs also may be adopted. Earlier this year the School Board created the Boundary Development and Program Planning Committee comprised of representatives from each of these school communities. This committee is charged with developing recommendations in a process that ensures wide community engagement. Changes will take effect in the fall of 2003.

The Arlington County School Board at its meeting on November 8, 2001 directed the Superintendent to begin an examination of boundaries and programs for elementary schools located primarily in the southeastern and southwestern parts of Arlington County. Two key elements of this process are:

- Setting boundaries to relieve crowding and determine the attendance areas for a group of elementary schools. This may

impact Abingdon, Barcroft, Campbell, Carlin Springs, Claremont, Hoffman-Boston, Oakridge, and Randolph Elementary Schools and possibly others as appropriate.

- Supporting the development of any additional elementary program options that are necessary, appropriate, or develop from the boundary development process.

On Thursday, Feb. 21, the Arlington School Board approved a recommendation to create a second countywide elementary dual language (Spanish/English) immersion school to replace the partial immersion programs currently at Abingdon and Oakridge Elementary Schools. The new elementary school, which will open in September 2003 at a site to be determined, will join Key Elementary in offering an immersion program in a school-wide setting, dual immersion program.

The Boundary Development and Program Planning Committee has been formed to assist the Superintendent in developing the recommendations outlined above. Chair Inta Malis, Vice-Chair Marina Fanning and citizen and staff representatives were appointed by the School Board in January. Each of

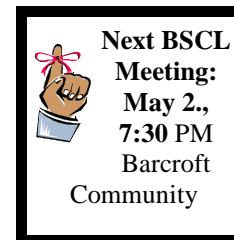
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the elementary school communities listed above is represented on the committee by the school principal, one teacher and two parent representatives. Meg Tuccillo, Director, Administrative Services, will serve as Senior Staff liaison for the process. In addition, at the Committee's first meeting held on Feb. 6, the Committee agreed to add representatives to the Committee from the Claremont neighborhood to represent the Claremont building and representatives from Drew Model School. Other school communities may be added to this process as the Committee proceeds in its work. The Committee's charge is to bring recommendations to the School Board for an immersion school site by June of 2002 and for boundary changes.

The Committee encourages all civic and community leaders and the members of their organizations to follow and contribute to this important effort. The community can participate in several ways:

- Individuals and community groups are encouraged to contact their local schools and to participate in school-wide discussions of issues concerning



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