

December 2008

# Barcroft News

Vol 106, Issue 4

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## President's Report

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*by Heidi Wicker*

As the holidays are fast descending on Barcroft and the leaves are piling up, we are looking forward to our neighborhood **Holiday Party, Thursday, December 4 at 7:00pm** (note earlier time than our regular meeting time) at the Community House (800 S. Buchanan). Come one, come all—and please bring some treats to share if you can. If we're really good, there might even be an appearance by Santa!

In other news, our **Neighborhood Conservation Plan** has received approval from the County Board. The Conservation Plan sets the neighborhood's priorities for receiving County funding for projects like fixing sidewalks, lighting, beautification, etc. It has been a long process over the past two years to survey neighbors, tabulate the results and write up the Plan. Many thanks go Randy and Barbara Swart for spearheading the effort, as well as all the neighbors who volunteered on committees or as block captains. The County Board commended our Plan as a model for others to emulate, a true community effort!

At our last community meeting, we heard from our police captain and her officers for a **crime**

**update.** Please be careful during the holiday season if you are headed out of town. The County recommends having a neighbor set out your trash, arrange to have your newspapers and mail stopped, put a couple of lights and maybe also a radio or TV on timers, and remove any valuables if you are leaving (and lock!) your car.

The members present at the meeting also voted to unanimously ask **The Examiner** free newspaper to stop delivery to Barcroft. We sent a letter to The Examiner to that effect, and attaching a list of over 40 households which have otherwise contacted the BSCL to also ask for delivery to be stopped. We encourage any neighbors who would like to receive The Examiner to contact the paper directly to subscribe at (202) 903-2000 or [contactus@examiner.com](mailto:contactus@examiner.com).

Mark your calendars now for our annual **Spaghetti Dinner** to be held on Sunday, **January 25, 2009** at the Community House. If you are able to volunteer, please drop me an email at [heidi@bscl.org](mailto:heidi@bscl.org).

Wishing all Happy Holidays!

**Barcroft News Staff**

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**Deadlines:** 15th day of the month preceding the issue month.

**BSCL Officers for 2008—2009**

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 heidi@bscl.org  
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 Bryant@bscl.org  
*Recording Secy.* Marlene Terreros-Oronao  
 228-3818  
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 Gary@bscl.org  
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 Peg@bscl.org  
*Board Members* Jim Kerr, David Michaelson  
 Mike Behringer, Shirley Gay  
*Community House Facility Mgr.* Christine Scullion  
 clscullion@yahoo.com  
*Restoration* David Michaelson  
*Fundraising* JoAnne Barnhart, 920-0821  
*Landscaping* Scott Brintzer, 892-0308  
*Traffic Committee* Elaine Squeri, 920-7014  
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*Columbia Pike* Bryant Monroe, 271-0944  
 Bryant@bscl.org  
*Demeter* Darlene Mickey  
*Crime* **vacant**  
*Parks* Shelley Fichtner, 486-0856  
 Shelley@bscl.org  
*Parking Committee* **vacant**  
*Volunteers* **vacant**  
 Volunteers@bscl.org  
*Web Master* Randy Swart, 521-2080  
 randy@bscl.org

**Neighbor to Neighbor Ads**

**Teenage Babysitter** - Week nights and weekends:  
 Sarah @ 703-521-8756.

**Babysitter:** Red Cross certified ninth grader available for neighborhood babysitting. Call Abby at 703-892-1090.

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

**Yard Work:** Teenager available for raking leaves and other yard work. Call Thomas at 703-979-5838

**Babysitting:** Brother and sister, ages 14 and 15, can babysit in Barcroft, nights and weekends. Call Thomas or Allison at 703-979-5838.

**Looking for live-out nanny** for infant twins to begin mid-January for 45-50 hours a week. Must be non-smoker, experienced, have working knowledge of English, willing to perform light housekeeping and care for family dog. Please call 703-981-1117 or email [Westerbeck@aol.com](mailto:Westerbeck@aol.com).

**New baby at your house?** Announce it here in the Barcroft News! Contact **Kathy Kerr** 703-892-6458 editor@bscl.org





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## ***BSCL Membership***

As the holidays approach, there is no time like the “present” to send in your annual dues if you have not done so yet this year. It’s never too late! **Dues are still only \$3 per adult or \$6 per couple. .**

Thanks also for the contributions that came along with them. The exterior of the Community House desperately needs painting, so keep them coming!

The membership form is available at: **[www.BSCL.org](http://www.BSCL.org)**

## Around Town

### New Pike Holiday Market

The Columbia Pike Farmers Market's regular market season ended Sunday, November 22. The Market will keep going for another four weeks (same time, same place) as a "holiday market." Vendors are selling hand-made and imported crafts, as well as Christmas trees and wreaths..

In addition, some favorite regular farmers market vendors will continue to be there selling organic meats and baked goods, soaps, fresh eggs and hard-to-find unhomogenized milk.

### Community Bazaar!

The non-profit Ethiopian Community Development Council (ECDC) is holding a Community Bazaar at 903 S. Highland (1st Floor). Items for sale include brand new curtains, towels, bed linens, pillows, coffee makers, lamps, kitchen wares, chairs—all sold at very affordable prices.

Bazaar hours are 12 Noon-2 PM & 5-8 PM on Fridays and 9 AM – 3 PM on Saturdays.

## Historic Recipe

Some years ago, Barbara Swart orchestrated the production of a wonderful *Barcroft Cookbook* filled with recipes submitted by neighbors. All proceeds went to help restore the Community House.

Try this side dish and be a part of Barcroft history!

\*\*\*\*\*

### Sweet Potato Honey Balls

*This recipe come from Adeline Marye Robertson, who was born and raised in Barcroft. Her family, the Maryes, were one of the original Barcroft families. Her father, Sydney, edited the 1903 Barcroft News.*

3 or 4 medium size sweet potatoes  
 2 Tbs butter  
 1 Tbs. cinnamon  
 1/2 cup honey  
 1/4/ tsp. salt  
 1 lb shelled pecans, crushed

Bake sweet potatoes. Remove skins. Mash with butter, salt and cinnamon. When cool, make into small balls. Cool overnight. Dribble each with a little honey. Roll each into crush pecans (with a little butter.) Makes about 12-15 balls. These can be prepared days in advance, then heated thoroughly before serving.



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## NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL NEWS

### *Barcroft Elementary School*

On Sat. Oct. 25th, with the encouragement of their PE teacher **Denise Brown**, several **Barcroft** students participated in the Marine Corps' Healthy Kid's Fun run at the Pentagon. Teachers **Erin Kelly** and **Becci Hufford** helped students register and served as chaperones as well.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Hadley School for the Blind recently awarded **Barcroft** teacher **Mary Kakareka** the 2008 Dean W. Tuttle Professional Education award. Kakareka was honored for providing outstanding support for her blind students by completing numerous courses with Hadley which provides important information and skills to implement with her students.

### *Kenmore Middle School*

**Kenmore** business and information technology teacher **Jureen Benjamin** will assist the Virginia State Department of Education, Office of Career and Technical Education Services in a curriculum review and revision of the instructional framework for computer solutions.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Kenmore** art teacher **Jeff Wilson** and focus coordinator **Shauna Dyer** were recently selected to participate in the Phillips Collection Mentor Teacher program. They developed a unit based on the work of Christo and Jeanne Claude. On Oct. 23 they presented teacher workshops inspired by the Claude Exhibit, *Over the River*. In January, work created by students as part of this unit will be on display at the Phillips Collection.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Staples Foundation for Learning and Earth Force recognized the 2007-08 **Kenmore** sixth grade class with the Staples Earth Force award. Students participated in a cooperative project to improve the health of Four Mile Run.

## Faith Lutheran Church ELCA

Celebrating 75 Years of Our Faith  
1933 - 2008



**8:00 am** Traditional Worship  
**9:30 am** Contemporary Worship  
**11:00 am** Modern Traditional Worship

**9:45 am** Sunday School for all ages

*We welcome all people.*

[www.flcva.org](http://www.flcva.org)

3313 Arlington Blvd. (Route 50 & Jackson St.)  
Arlington, VA 22201 Tel. 703-525-9283

## Wakefield High

Eleven Wakefield students were selected for the competitive District Choir including at least 3 from Barcroft.

\*\*\*\*\*

HILT teacher **Felix Herrera** recently received direct commission to become a second lieutenant in the Army. A veteran with service in Afghanistan and Iraq, Herrera has served in the Army Reserves for over 7 years.

\*\*\*\*\*

On December 1 at 7 PM Doug Hill and his Storm Watch Team will visit Wakefield High School to talk about winter forecasting, how WTOP manages school closings, and how to save money this winter from local utility

experts. The event is free and all are welcome. Doors open at 6:30. Also, he will broadcasting his weather that evening from Wakefield so make sure to watch it!

## Washington-Lee High

Washington-Lee will host its annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Dec. 6 from 10am to 4 pm at the newly remodeled school. The event includes vendors, ethnic foods and holiday entertainment. 1301 N. Stafford Street.

Free admission. For info email: [w1\\_holiday\\_bazaar@live.com](mailto:w1_holiday_bazaar@live.com) or call Renee Gorsky at 703-516-7007.

## Free "Sound Station" Classes at TJ for teens

in the TJ Sound Station  
Mondays & Wednesdays ~ 4-6pm  
Learn about the production side of urban music and the process of making a song; from the idea to the finished product.

### Expressive Arts

Thursday s ~ 4pm-6pm  
Express yourself through lyrics, music and video.

### DJ Class

Tuesdays & Fridays ~ 3:30-6:00pm  
Experience the world of a DJ! You will be mixing music with your own cd's. All tastes in music are welcome: Hip Hop, Latin, Reggae, Trance, and Rock! Call for more information call Mr. Knox @ 703-228-7782.

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**GREEN WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE**


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***Make Your Own Rain Barrel***

**Thursday, December 4th. 7:30 - 9:00 PM.**

Come to this workshop to learn how to recycle a used pickle barrel into a rain barrels, to use to collect rain water from your home and reuse it in your garden. Help conserve water and reduce storm water runoff!

Cost for the workshop is \$50 per barrel (2 per household limit). All materials and tools will be provided. You must register and pre-pay. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Call 703-228-3610 for more information

Location: Fairlington Community Center, 3308 S. Stafford St. Arlington, VA 22206.

***Tour Arlington's Water Pollution Control Plant***

**Saturday, December 13th, 1pm.** Come join us for this rare opportunity for a VIP behind the scenes tour! The water pollution control plant is a critical part of Arlington that most don't think about, but we all depend on.

Learn how wastewater treatment protects public health and the environment. Join us for a detailed tour of the facility to see how each stage of the process works to transform water and how your everyday choices can protect our water resources.

Free, but space is limited so please RSVP with Adam Segel-Moss at 703-228-3066 to confirm your spot and for more details.

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**ROLLERSKATING**


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**For Families and Teens**

Every Saturday from now through March 28th, 2009 at the Thomas Jefferson Community Center  
6:30-8:30pm— Family Skate,  
9-11pm —Teen Only Skate

\$2 entrance fee, \$2 skate rental  
(must pay separate admission for both Family Skate and Teen Skate sessions)


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

**ALL THE LATEST NEWS**  
is available when you join the  
Barcroft chat group and  
news email lists!

**Go to: [www.bscl.org](http://www.bscl.org)**



Mark your calendar now for the  
**Annual Barcroft Spaghetti Dinner**  
**Sunday, January 25**

At the Community House

*Featuring **Eric Harold's Secret Sauce**  
and*

*live music by the unforgettable  
**Spaghetti Tones***



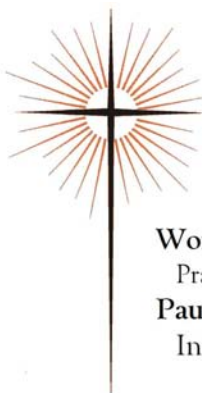
If you are able to volunteer, please  
email our BSCL President, Heidi Wicker  
[heidi@bscl.org](mailto:heidi@bscl.org).

## St. John's Episcopal Church

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703-671-6834

<http://stjohnsarlington.thediocese.net>



We invite you to participate in  
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**Worship with us Sundays at 8:00 A.M. or 10:00 A.M.**

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**Pause for reflection and prayer Wednesday evenings at 7:30 P.M.**

Informal worship and sharing in the middle of the week

### **Celebrate Christmas at St. John's!**

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| December 21 | Neighborhood Christmas caroling 6 p.m.  |
| December 24 | Holy Eucharist for all ages with children's sermon – 5 p.m.<br>Christmas music and caroling in church – 10:40 p.m.<br>Festival Holy Eucharist – 11 p.m. |
| December 25 | Holy Eucharist – 10 a.m.  |
| December 28 | Lessons and Carols – 10 a.m.  |

*The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. John 1:5*

## Arlington Forest United Methodist Church

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4701 Arlington Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22203

Causal Worship: 8:20 a.m., Traditional: 11:00 a.m. Sunday

Chesterbrook Montessori School now open on site

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### Leaf Collection

Barcroft will receive two vacuum passes by **Dec. 31**. There will also be weekly bag collection service on Fridays through Jan. 16. Biodegradable bags are available.

For full information about the schedule, call 703 228-6565 for info or visit the website: [www.arlingtonva.us](http://www.arlingtonva.us). You can also join the Leaf Collection Schedule Listserve to keep up to date with the latest collection schedule information.

The County has nearly 100 leaf workers, over 30 pieces of equipment including vacuum trucks, rear loading collection trucks, and loaders. By the end of the leaf season, they expect to collect over 45,000 cubic yards of leaves for processing into leaf mulch. They appreciate feedback about the program.

### Become a Secret Santa

You, your family or group can help a needy family this season. Mail or deliver gift cards by **Dec. 5** to:

Secret Santa Program  
c/o Kurt Larrick  
Department of Human Services  
3033 Wilson Blvd, Suite 700A  
Arlington, VA 22201

Individual cards should not exceed \$50. . Undesignated gift cards will be used where they're needed most. Include the value of the gift card, a return address so that your donation can be acknowledged, and a beneficiary designation if you choose one.

Ideally, gift cards will be delivered to recipients in time for holiday shopping, so please submit them by Dec. 5 but late-arriving cards are still very helpful!

Questions? Call Kurt at 703-228-1775.

## Local Business News

If it's been awhile since you've been inside the **Columbia Pike Goodwill store** at 4714 Columbia Pike you've missed some big improvements—better product displays, new departmental and seasonal signage, and a thriving book department on the lower level. The recently expanded “Book Nook” is now the recipient of a large percentage of metro area book donations, and it also features videos, music , as well as audio books.

The **George Mason Shell** (4211 Columbia Pike) has closed while it is being upgraded with new tanks and dispensers. The station operator reports that when the service station reopens it is likely to be something other than a Shell Gas station and will offer the most competitive gas prices on the Pike.



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Barcroft School and Civic League  
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Arlington, VA 22204

## **Prep Your Home For a Top Dollar Sale**

When selling your home, listing it "as-is" is an option to appeal to bargain hunters, although the key to ensuring the best possible price for your home is careful preparation. Prepared homes sell 4 times faster and spend 50% less time on the market.

### ***Here are some valuable tips***

**CREATE SPACE:** The more "space" it appears you have, the higher the price you're likely to get. Eliminate excess furniture. Rent a storage unit for the few months it may take to sell your home. **De-clutter.** Cluttered rooms don't show well to buyers. **MAXIMIZE AND NEUTRALIZE:** After cleaning, it's time to paint (neutral or earth tone color works best). A fresh paint job will go a long way to attracting buyers, making it easier for them to imagine their stuff in your house if they're not distracted by wild colors or patterns.

**ALL SYSTEMS GO:** Get qualified contractors to service your HVAC mechanical systems, repair plumbing leaks, correct any electrical switches or outlets that aren't working, etc. Fix minor problems

so they don't become major ones. Get a roof and flashing "tune up" from a licensed roofing company **OUTSIDE CHECK:** Do a little work to freshen up the exterior. Replace broken windows, repair rotted trim, cutback trees that are too close to the house and make sure your landscaping looks neat.

Need advice on where to begin? Contact us for our *70 Point Checklist for Selling Your Home*, and/or our *Home Preparation Guide*.

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