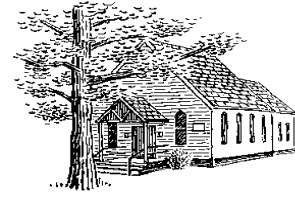


Barcroft School and Civic League
800 South Buchanan Street
Arlington, VA 22204



June/July 2014

Barcroft News

Vol 111, Issue 10

Come Celebrate



Our Nation's 238th Birthday &
the 26th Annual Barcroft Parade



★ Friday, July 4th, 2014 ★

The Parade begins at 10 a.m. sharp.
Parade participants should check in at 9:45 a.m.
at the Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan Street

Decorate strollers and bikes, paint faces and bellies or come dressed as your favorite super hero or rock star! Turn your bike into a helicopter, put wheels on your surfboard, make a fun float or banner! Create a group performance - Let the imagination soar!
Join in the fun and create memories of a lifetime!

This Year's Event features:

Color Guard, AFD Fire Engine, Our Barcroft Grand Marshall Uncle Sam, a magic show for the kids and young at heart, followed with an Award's Ceremony, food, BBQ, drinks, family and friends and the singing of our National Anthem.



PLEASE BRING A DISH TO SHARE
Sponsored by the Barcroft School and Civic League.
For more info, call Andrew Hunter at 703/979-8247.



Lindsey's New Swing Set

Scott and Anna's first home was a condo, and once Lindsey was born a few years later the space became more crowded. Linda had recommended me to Scott and Anna as I had sold a home for her and her husband Glen. After meeting with Scott and Anna to discuss their situation, I recommended that they speak to one of our preferred mortgage lenders to get approved. They were pleased to learn that they could qualify for a large single family home without selling their condo since they had good incomes and savings. Scott really wanted close proximity to Metro for his DC commute so we set some parameters for their search.

Joe and I showed them various homes to educate them on what they could buy in their price range. A few candidates were found but not quite the right one. Finally a home came up that fit and we inquired about the offer strategy. They had a weekend open house planned, and offers were due the next Tuesday. We structured a competitive offer and found that there were a total of 8 offers. Scott and

Anna offered \$25K over list price; the winning bid paid \$50K over -no contract contingencies. The next week another home came up that was even better. We advised Scott and Anna to aim high which they did. With four competing offers they got the home using an escalation addendum that triggered a \$35K price increase even though they would have gone much higher. The "info only" home inspection was done in 3 days. The transaction went smoothly to settlement and Scott, Anna and Lindsay are happy with a wonderful home and a level fenced in yard, perfect for Lindsey's new swing set! Do you know of a family who is outgrowing their home in need of something larger? Please let them know I can help them write strong offers in a competitive market!

FREE Notary for Barcroft Residents!
Casey O'Neal, Associate Broker
RE/MAX Allegiance 703-217-9090
www.CaseyOneal.com www.NovaHomeValue.com
www.NovaHomeListings.com

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Visit Us Online: www.bscl.org

Monthly Happenings

President's Report by Eric Harold

Happy Summer, Barcroft! As usual, we take the summer off but that doesn't mean there's no activities. The Best 4th of July Parade EVER continues, under the steady hand of Andrew Hunter, Parade Director For Life, and his crack team. In addition, save the date for National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5. Ice cream and visits with neighbors will be the usual activities.

At our May meeting, BSCL passed a resolution supporting the effort to restore the old farmhouse on the Reevesland Farm (at Bluemont Park) as a learning center. Also, the current group of officers was re-elected for another term. Incumbency has its privileges. Also during May, Scott Brinitzer and a group of volunteers did some spring cleaning and sprucing to the gardens at the Community House. Thanks, Scott, for keeping the grounds as beautiful as they are and thanks to all the volunteers that help him do it.

It's been a busy spring. Summer's nearly here. Happy Summer, Barcroft. Looking forward to seeing you on walks, at parks and at pools. •

Save the Date

National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5



Neighbor to Neighbor Ads

These ads are free to BSCL members.

The listings run for three months unless requested to be removed or updated.

Kevin's Media: Will convert VHS tapes, TC30 tapes, Laserdiscs and 35mm photograph slides to DVD. Professional packaging/artwork included upon prior request. Please inquire for rates. Email kevinmedia118@gmail.com or text/call 703-919-7605 .

Rebecca Bean Babysitter: 9th grader available nights and weekends. Email: rebeccaahbean@gmail.com or call 571-344-4134.

Vacation Help: Responsible teen to water plants, bring in mail, care for pets, water gardens, etc.: Dylan Vega, 703-271-5987, dylanrvega@gmail.com.

Alexandra's Babysitting: high school senior available, afternoon, nights and weekends. 703-307-4889.

Babysitter, house/pet sitter: Carmen Dunlap, responsible 16 year old. Available weekends and weeknights. Dunlap.carmen@gmail.com.

August's Pet Sitting: 703-892-6712.

Need music for youth-focused party?

Concerned about cost? Call Dylan "DJ VIP" Vega: Local, teenage and reasonably priced. Dylanrvega@gmail.com or 703-907-9162.

Neighborhood college student: Available for babysitting, odd jobs, cleaning, housework, etc. anytime. Abby Fram, 703-892-1090 email: abbyfram94@aol.com.

Jenny's Babysitting, Petsitting and Vacation Care: Sixteen-year-old available weekends and some weeknights. Can water plants, bring in mail, etc., while you travel. Contact jennylclaire@gmail.com or call 703-998-5338.

Babysitter, Petsitter, Vacation Help: Responsible 9th grader. Will water plants, bring in mail, etc. Email Tyler at tylerchanlapointe@gmail.com or call 571-244-7555.

4Sunsets Beach House: White sand, gulf front home, 14 hour drive from Arlington or fly into Panama City, Florida. Visit 4Sunsets.com or email Alissa at alissa @4Sunsets.com •



Juliet's Housecleaning Service
Honest, more than 10 years experience with Excellent Barcroft-area References
LOW RATES!
Weekly, biweekly, monthly, or one-time cleaning.



**Call anytime: 703-628-3434,
703-354-3225, or
571-236-3700**

Greetings this June from Our Savior Lutheran School

By **OSLS National Junior Honor Society**

We are currently accepting applications for the 2014-2015 school year for grades PreK through 8. Next year's pre-kindergarten class will meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We also offer both before and after care. OSLS was established in 1952 and has been providing an affordable, quality Christian education in Barcroft ever since. With small classes, our dedicated teachers are able to entirely devote themselves to our diverse student body. Stop by or call our school office if you have any questions. Check out our school website at osva.org. School starts again on Tuesday, August 26.

This past May, Our Savior students raised almost \$4,000 through Math-a-thon for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. We are so excited to send that off to St. Jude to help other children. We can't wait to do it again

next year.

Get ready for Vacation Bible School! Who wouldn't want to explore a tropical island, with its glittering turquoise waters, warm white sands and cool ocean breezes? Visitors to Son-Treasure Island are welcomed by the scent of exotic flowers, the taste of tropical fruits, and the captivating sound of island music. But this is no ordinary tropical escape! There is treasure to be found here. More precious than gold we believe is God's love. At Son-Treasure Island, your treasure seekers will play island games, create colorful crafts, and enjoy tropical snacks.

We are accepting 3 year olds (who are potty trained) through completed 5th graders. We will meet June 23 to 27, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon each day at Our Savior Lutheran Church and School. If you are interested in signing your child up for VBS for this summer, click on the VBS Registration button on our church homepage (www.osva.org). •

Barcrofter Keith Fred Awarded Volunteer Honor

Barcroft resident and BSCL board member Keith B. Fred was recently named the recipient of the Arlington County Bill Thomas Outstanding Park Service Volunteer Award for 2013. The award was established to honor and encourage residents who demonstrate a passionate dedication and support for natural resources and public open spaces.

Fred was recognized for his efforts supporting Arlington County dog parks, specifically the Shirlington dog park where for the past thirteen years he has been the lead in making it a highly regarded destination for current and future park users while preserving critical open green space for county residents.

Serving as the community liaison to County staff, Fred has been primarily responsible for improvements to the Shirlington dog park, including fencing the entire length of the park bordering Four Mile Run stream, the

installation of new fixtures to provide drinking water for dogs, the design and funding for the new main entrance gates, and more.

Fred purchases and makes available over 160,000 dog waste bags annually, which are critical in keeping the park a safe environment and at the same time protecting the Potomac and Chesapeake watershed by preventing thousands of pounds of dog waste from entering Four Mile Run stream. He and his yellow lab mix, Daphne, who sadly passed away earlier this year, were at the park every day providing critical maintenance, which combined with his other volunteer efforts, contributed to the increase in visitors to the park by over 300 percent to now over 200,000 people and 300,000 dogs annually.

Fred was presented his award at the April 22 County Board meeting. A reception was held afterwards for the award winners. •

FCB: What is it?

By **Krystyna Piccorossi**

Sixth grade students at Kenmore Middle School tested the water in Four Mile Run, and we found that FCB was a problem. FCB, Fecal Coliform Bacteria, is a bacteria found in mammals' waste, including dog, goose, raccoon, and human waste, which comes out of broken pipes. It runs off into Four Mile Run when it rains and can cause illness in mammals.

Why should you care? Most of our

houses back up to streams that lead into Four Mile Run, or right onto Four Mile Run. When you go into the stream, FCB can get into you through any opening in your body. Cuts, eyes, ears, nose, and mouth are some of them. This could cause infections, and in less common cases, dysentery.

What can you do to help? If you have a dog, please pick up their poop and dispose of the bag properly. Please spread the word about the FCB problem. •

JOB OPENING !



Extended Day Director - part time

OSLS is seeking to fill this position for the school year 2014-2015, beginning in late August. Duties include overseeing before and after care program, along with tracking and billing student accounts. We are looking for someone who loves children and is excited to work directly with them, to create a caring, safe and enjoyable extended day program. This is a great opportunity for part-time work, right in Barcroft. For more information contact the school office: 825 South Taylor Street Arlington, VA 22204. (703) 892-4846. www.osva.org.



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Thanks to my Barcroft friends & neighbors for your continued support!

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Community House Garden Blitz a Success

By Inge Nealis

Every year there is a Community House clean up where our Barcroft neighbors volunteer to weed, trim, prune, rake leaves and mulch the garden around the Barcroft

Community House. Even though the weather wasn't that nice, I am happy that people weren't discouraged and still came to help. Scott Brinitzer and Judith Richter guided the volunteer crew to accomplish this great task in

about 5 hours. This year, our gardeners even planted new grasses near the entrance of the garden. As always the hard work was rewarded by a nice lunch that included hotdogs, drinks, and much laughter.

It was very satisfying to see how beautiful the garden looked afterward. This is a wonderful contribution to our community as many Community House renters enjoy the fruits of our labor. I hope that you too will be able to help out next year at the annual garden clean up. It is lots of fun! •



Scott Brinitzer and Markarius Nealis dealing with leaves during the spring Garden Blitz at the Community House on May 10.

Arlington Neighborhood Villages Opens

By Elaine Squeri

It is actually happening! As of April 7, the volunteer organization of ANV (Arlington Neighborhood Villages) is opened for service. There are already two volunteer applications in from Barcrofters wanting to participate and one membership enrolled, although for now the enrollee is well and independent. If you

are interested in more information about this initiative, volunteering, or enrolling, here is the website to consult: www.arlnvil.org. Over the past eight years, dozens if not hundreds of Arlingtonians have been researching what other localities have achieved and preparing this opportunity right here. April 7 is an event to be noted, even celebrated! •

Remembering John Bagnal

By Menefee Bagnal

My father, John Bagnal, a 40 year Barcroft resident, passed away September 2, 2013. He was very much loved in the Barcroft community and was known for walking his little dachshund, Brandy, and talking to all the neighbors along the way.

At 85 he was still working 40 hours a week with the Foreign Service Officer Training Center in Dunn Loring, Virginia. He spent his life serving his country in both the Navy, Army then the State Department for over 60 years.

In 1960 he married the love of his life, Mary Sasfai, at the New York Avenue Presby-

terian Church in Washington, D.C. He traveled the world with his family for work and settled in Barcroft to continue his career. We kids did eventually leave the nest, but settled only a stone's throw away. Mary passed away in 2002 but my father was always keeping her spirit alive.

Barcroft is a quiet little community that builds friendships that last a lifetime. We are so grateful for the wonderful neighbors that continue that relationship and stop by and share their stories of the man we have always admired and respected. •

You Don't Have to Interview the #1 Remodeler in Arlington... But...

Why Wouldn't You?

For a larger Graph image and more information about the Graph, visit our website at www.CookBros.org/BarcroftGraph

What Good is a Tick?

*By Cliff Fairweather,
Naturalist, Long Branch Nature Center*

Ticks won't ever win any popularity contests, even among naturalists. They are a part of nature that most of us would prefer to avoid or even wish didn't exist and I'm often asked, "What good is a tick?"

Before we get into what good a tick might be, let's consider what a tick is. A tick is an arthropod, an animal with an exoskeleton, which is an outer body covering and skeletal support in one. They also have jointed legs and arthropod is Latin for jointed leg. Other common examples of arthropods include insects, crustaceans, centipedes, and millipedes.

A tick is also an arachnid, which puts it in the same group as spiders, mites, scorpions and other eight-legged critters. Ticks, though, start out life with six legs and get their fourth pair as they mature. Those legs have spines and end in claws that helps a tick stick to plants or to the host animal.

Ticks are also parasites, which are organisms that live on or in other organisms and take energy from their hosts. For ticks, that energy comes in the form of a blood meal. A tick uses a barbed, piercing mouthpart to extract a blood meal from its host. The hard, flattened body helps a tick hide on its host's body and resist being scratched off. Because most ticks move from one host to another during their life-

cycles, an infected tick can transmit disease.

Four species of ticks live in Virginia, including the American dog tick, the blacklegged or deer tick, the brown dog tick, and the lone star tick. All of these species can transmit disease to humans, although not every tick is infected. Nonetheless, tick-borne diseases such as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever can have severe and sometimes fatal consequences if not treated.

So what good are these blood-sucking, disease-carrying parasites? One answer might be that they provide food for other animals, such as birds, mammals and various tick parasites. Another answer is that ticks control populations of other animals by transmitting diseases. These answers are probably cold comfort for someone trying to pry a tick off their scalp but the answer to this question is a matter of perspective.

To the disease organisms that ticks carry, ticks are an indispensable transportation system. From our perspective, they are little eight-legged horrors. We now live in a time that many biologists and conservationists consider to be the sixth great extinction, with most of those extinctions being due to human agency. Maybe those species might ask, "What good is a human?" Something to think about before we ask, "What good is a tick?." •

Flavors of the Season: Berries

*By Kari Hickman,
virtualgoodyplate.blogspot.com*

This month's recipe has it all— fresh, seasonal berries; tropical flavors; ease of prepara-

tion; potluck pleaser; AND, for your post-parade celebrations, it is also RED, WHITE, and BLUE! Happy Summer, Barcroft!



Coconut-Lime Berry Cake

- 3/4 cup unsalted butter, room temperature
- 1 3/4 cup plus 1 T all-purpose flour, divided
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp coarse salt
- 1 cup packed sweetened shredded coconut
- 1 cup plus 1 T sugar, divided
- 3 large eggs
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 tsp finely grated lime zest, plus 2 T lime juice (from 1 to 2 limes)
- 3 cups mixed berries, such as raspberries, blackberries and blueberries (about 1 lb)
- 3 T orange juice

1. Preheat oven to 350. Butter and flour 9 x 13 baking dish. Whisk together 1 3/4 cups flour, baking powder, salt and coconut; set aside. Using an electric mixer, beat butter and 1



cup sugar on high, scraping down bowl, until light and fluffy, about 4 minutes. Add eggs one at a time, and beat until combined. With mixer on low, add flour mixture in three additions, alternating with two additions of buttermilk, and beat until combined. Stir in lime zest and juice. Pour batter into dish. Smooth top with a small offset or rubber spatula.

2. In a medium bowl, toss together 1 T flour, 1 T sugar, berries and orange juice. Scatter berry mixture over batter. Bake until cake is golden at edges and a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, about 35 to 40 minutes. Let cake cool in pan on wire rack 20 minutes before slicing. Serve warm or room temperature. Refrigerate left-over cake, wrapped in plastic, up to 5 days. •

Summer Updates from Barcroft Elementary

By Jenny Ditta, Barcroft Elementary Liaison

Summer is fast approaching, and Barcroft Elementary is enjoying the pleasant change in the weather! Barcroft was recently featured in Arlington Public School's (APS) weekly Snapshots program for its STEM Robotics Lab and Competition. Through a partnership with Americorps, Barcroft students used several Lego robotics kits to learn about building and programming robots during the school's recent Spring Intersession. To view the APS Snapshots segment, go to: <http://www.apsva.us/snapshots>.

Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) testing for Grades 3 to 5 commenced in May and will conclude on June 10. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 2 completed phonemic literacy testing in May as well.

The PTA's annual celebration of Farm to Table week will occur June 8 to 13. The week commences with a scavenger hunt and prizes at the Columbia Pike Farmers Market on

Sunday, June 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. On Monday through Thursday during school, children will enjoy gardening fun, farming surprises, special tastings, and walking farm field trips. On Friday, June 13, join us for Dinner and Family Recess Night from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3 per person and \$7 per family.

Field Day activities and a 4th Quarter Leonardo Learning Day event focusing on being "Well in Mind and Body" will be held on Friday, June 13 as well. The 5th Grade Promotion Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 17 beginning at 7 p.m. The last day of school is Friday, June 20.

We wish our neighbors a wonderful Summer Break. School resumes for our Kindergarten through Grade 5 students on Monday, August 4 while the Virginia Preschool Initiative program resumes on Tuesday, August 5. A school-wide Open House will be held on Friday, August 1 from 11 a.m. to noon. •



St. John's Episcopal Church

We welcome everyone including believers, seekers and doubters to share God's love and acceptance in a community of worship and service.

Sunday Worship Services 8 am & 10 am

Vacation Bible School July 7 – 11 - Evenings 5 - 8 pm

Kids ages 3 - 10 are welcome to join us for crafts, lessons and outdoor fun!
Price is \$20 for the week (\$10 for additional siblings) DINNER INCLUDED!

Email familyministry@stjohnsarlingtonva.org to reserve a spot or for more information.

415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204 703-671-6834 stjohnsarlingtonva.org



Dance your way to a fitter you!
Barcroft Community House

Thursdays at 7:15 pm
(except 1st Thursday of the month)

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Gardening in the Barcroft Community

By Markarius Nealis

It's that time of year to bring out the tools and get to work on your garden. We are doing our raised bed garden again and it is even bigger and better. It is surprising what consistent weeding and watering can do to produce yummy results.

Previously, our family helped The Woman's Club of Arlington (WCA) by watering and weeding their single raised bed garden. The WCA donated over 50 pounds of produce to Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) last year. These vegetables consisted of tomatoes, green beans, and peppers.

The WCA decided to expand their garden to three raised beds this year. Jonas Fiero donated his shed to the WCA so they would have a place to store their garden tools. Then Flip Newton, Kathleen Harrison, Markarius Nealis and Inge Nealis helped build the wood base for the shed. The Barcroft Elementary School fifth graders have volunteered to help water the garden. The next

step is adding a rain barrel for the "watering crew." As a result the WCA's garden has become a community effort.

Making your garden beautiful is easier in Barcroft because of our wonderful gardening neighbors. We were happy to receive plants (walking onions, shallots and leeks) from Sara Leach's garden last year. If you remember last June we had that huge rain storm that knocked over trees by Sara's house on 8th Road. As a result, her shade garden became a sunny garden. Since we have a sunny garden, we were able to help her out with some of our Black-eyed Susans, which thrive in the sunlight. We have continued to receive and share plants with Sara and other neighbors. This way all of us can now have a wider variety in our gardens and be knowledgeable of what grows well in our neighborhood. So if you want to start or expand your garden, look to your neighbors for help and advice. After all it takes a village, a Barcroft urban village! •