



March 2018

# Barcroft News

Vol 115, Issue 7

## Put Theory to Practice: Barcroft Invasive Removal

*By Alyssa Ford Morel*

Barcrofters who were inspired by recent Community Meetings in November 2017 and January 2018 that featured information about neighborhood environmental concerns have an opportunity to take action at an invasive pull scheduled for Saturday, March 31 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. The invasive removal activity will take place at the South 9th Street entrance to the W&OD Trail.

Gardeners from the Community Garden in that location will be joined by Master Gardeners and Master Naturalists, as well as Barcrofters who want to help. No experience is necessary. Identification



of target plants and invasive removal techniques will be explained.

The site includes a number of invasive plants including English Ivy, Bush Honeysuckle, Garlic Mustard, Golden Bamboo, Porcelainberry, Asian Wisteria and Japanese Honeysuckle.

Participants should dress appropriately and bring work gloves and pruners, loppers, etc., if they have them. It's a good idea to mark your tools with your name. Extra gloves and tools will be available. Poison ivy is present in the area and may be difficult to identify, so long sleeves and pants are a must.

For questions, please email or call Alyssa Ford Morel at [alyssa323@aol.com](mailto:alyssa323@aol.com) or 703-907-9318. •

## Next Community Meeting

Thursday, March 1, 7:30 p.m., Barcroft Community House

Topic: To be announced



## Barcroft News

*Editor:* Alyssa Ford Morel  
703-907-9318,  
editor@bscl.org

*Advertising:* Jennifer Tomlinson  
jaitomlinson@yahoo.com

*Publishers/  
Mailing:* Teresa Saunders and Theresa  
Schweser, publisher@bscl.org

**Next Deadline: March 15**

## BSCL Officers

*President:* Chris Siple, chris@bscl.org

*Vice President:* Gary Mason, gary@bscl.org

*Treasurer:* Jennifer Lis  
jenlis@comcast.net

*Recording Secy.:* Vacant

*Membership Secy.:* Joanne Rodewald  
joanne@bscl.org

*Board Members:* Barbara Clemens, Keith  
Fred, Eric Parker, Daniel Weir

## Contacts and Committees

*Community House Rental Manager:*  
Barbara Swart  
barcrofthouserental  
@yahoo.com

*Web:* Daniel Weir,  
webmaster@bscl.org

*Fundraising:* Chris Ditta

*Landscaping:* Scott Brinitzer, 703-892-0308

*Traffic Committee:* Vacant

*4th of July Parade:* Heather Meade and Jim Moran

*Columbia Pike:* Keith Fred, Charlie Smiroldo

*Demeter House:* Darlene Mickey

*Parks:* Shirley Gay

*Signs:* Glen Li

*NCAC Rep.:* Deborah Wood  
wood\_deborah@yahoo.com

*NCAC Alternate:* Neal Martin

*Arlington Civic Fed. Delegates:* Eric Harold, Chris-  
topher Hoh, Chris Kupczyk, Randy Swart *Alter-*  
*nates:* Joseph Knarich, David Michelson, Mark  
Wigfield

## President's Message

**By Chris Siple**

The Barcroft News is the BSCL's primary method of communicating with Barcrofters. I've always enjoyed it and found it a good source of information about events and issues of interest to our neighborhood. We also have our official website (the link is at the bottom of the box to the left) and there's the "chat list," a yahoo listserv you can subscribe to. (The website explains how you can join it.) But we're always eager to improve/enhance our ability to hear from you, for you to hear from us, and for all Barcrofters to communicate with each other for their mutual benefit. To that end, we're currently reevaluating current methods and considering new ones. For instance, not many know there is a Barcroft Facebook page; we may promote it and/or a Facebook group.

If you have comments or ideas about the ways BSCL communicates and how they could be improved, I'd love it if you'd send them to me (chris@bscl.org). We very much want to reach more Barcrofters and to better serve their interests through civic engagement. It all starts with all of us letting each other know what we consider important to Barcrofters. Thanks in advance for your thoughts on this. ●

# Barcroft Elementary School Has Spirit

**By Meg Neill, PTA**

Barcroft Elementary has had lots of fun activities to counteract the dreary, cold winter! We enjoyed Spirit Week at the end of January, with pajama day and the ever-popular crazy hair day among the themes.



*Barcroft Elementary students offer a sparkling water toast at Author's Night.*

We observed the 100th day of school on February 1 with a kindergarten and first-grade parade through the halls led by school resource Officer Gammell. Students wore cos-

tumes with drawings of 100 things.

Barcroft celebrated writing on January 30, with a visit from Ursula Vernon, author and illustrator of the Dragonbreath and Hamster Princess books, and an evening event with a number of local authors.

To kick off the night's activities, students shared their own writing with their families in the classrooms, and then moved to the library to hear from authors Gary Kerton, Tom Crumm, Madelyn Rosenberg, Bill Schweigart, Elizabeth Kuleski, an Arlington teacher who co-wrote the picture book "A is for Arlington," and Barcroft teacher Alicia Cherry, who shared her experience writing "Cosmo and the Flying Chair". The authors spoke about their books and the process of writing and getting books published. The evening also included a book swap and a photo booth, and was topped off with cookies and a sparkling water toast to all the authors.

Barcroft has been using the curricu-

*Continued on Page 4*

# Barcroft Elementary, *continued*

## *Continued from Page 3*

lum of the Teachers College (Columbia University) Reading and Writing Project, founded and directed by Lucy Calkins, a professor of children's literature. A number of Barcroft teachers have had the opportunity to attend professional development events, and students have been



writing every day.

The BiBa Chat (bilingual parent) group and the PTA sponsored a Valentine Party for families on February 16, a great way to kick off Presidents' Day weekend.

Looking for more news from Barcroft? You can follow Barcroft Elementary School PTA on Facebook. •

*The "100 Days " parade was held on February 1.*



## ***Celebrate Holy Week and Easter with Us!***

- Sat. Mar 17** Family Game Night - **FREE!** Refreshments provided 7 to 9 pm  
**Sun. Mar. 25** Holy Eucharist and Blessing of the Palms - 10 am  
**Thurs. Mar. 29** Loaves & Fishes Meal & Service - 6:30 to 8 pm  
**Fri. Mar. 30** Good Friday Services - 12 noon and 7 pm  
**Sun. Apr. 1** Easter Festive Holy Eucharist with children's message - 10 am  
**Easter Egg Hunt for all kids** after the 10 am service

**Sunday Worship Services**  
8 am and 10 am

**Sunday Christian Education**  
Adults 9 am - Youth 10 am

**All are welcome to all services and activities!**

See website for more information.

## ***St. John's Episcopal Church***

*We are an inclusive congregation that nurtures Christian spiritual growth and community through worship, education, outreach, mutual care, and fellowship.*

415 S. Lexington Street Arlington, VA 22204

703-671-6834

stjohnsarlingtonva.org



# Technology Devices in Schools to be Discussed

**By Ann Marie Douglass**

Arlington County Public Schools (APS) has announced a “Community Discussion on Acceptable Use Policy” related to technological device use by students. The meeting will be held Monday, March 5, at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria of Wakefield High School (1325 South Dinwiddie Street).

According to APS, the School Board adopted the first of two acceptable use policies for student devices used for learning on February 1. This policy is specific to federal guidelines and filtering. The second policy will be discussed as an information item at the March 22 School Board meeting and a School Board action item on April 5. Community members interested in the second policy — which will address topics such as internet safety, digital citizenship, rights and responsibilities, and shared ownership — should attend the March 5 Community Discussion mentioned above. For more information about the Acceptable Use Policy process and timeline, visit [www.apsva.us/engage/acceptable-use/](http://www.apsva.us/engage/acceptable-use/).

Many teachers, parents, administration and community members are concerned with 21st century technology's effect on both children and adults. The School Board will be addressing issues and getting feedback on

subjects including:

- Internet addiction;
- Skill displacement (i.e. What happened to cursive?);
- Discrepancies of screen use throughout APS (i.e. discrepancies in which schools have device-free lunch times, smart phone bans, extra blue light filters, and iPads for home use);
- Current national and county data on rates of ADHD and depression;
- Exposure and access to inappropriate content and actions (i.e. porn, sexting, on-line bullying, etc.);
- Privacy issues;
- Parental opt-out/opt-in choice related to their child's use of these devices;
- Efficacy and data related to the benefits vs. concerns of this technology.



There is much research to be gleaned and awareness to be built. If we work together, we can make this technology helpful. For more information, check out: [www.humanetech.com](http://www.humanetech.com).

We all need to work together and I urge attendance at the March 5 Community Discussion meeting to help us do just that. Everyone wants what's best for our kids and ourselves. I hope to see you there! •

# Dues News: Time to Join or Renew Membership

**By Joanne Rodewald, Membership Secretary**

Thought you might find our membership statistics interesting, so I am sharing them here. As of mid-February we had 106 households that have sent in dues for 2018. It is encouraging to see that seven are members that are new to the roster. We of course are pleased to see renewals, too. Of the 106 households, 26 "Individuals" joined the 80 "Families" that are currently registered.

This is a good start. I would love to see us increase our dues paying members to at least 300 this year.

Please help us reach this modest

goal by joining or renewing your membership this month. The application form is included in this Newsletter and available online at <http://www.bscl.org/membership>. If you have questions or concerns, contact me at [joanne@bscl.org](mailto:joanne@bscl.org). •



**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**



## Adam (RT) Tnaib

202-725-0055  
[adamt@kw.com](mailto:adamt@kw.com)  
2101 Wilson Blvd, #100, Arlington, VA

**Your local realtor & neighbor in Arlington**

If you are thinking about selling this spring, now is the perfect time to start getting your home ready. Please contact me for a free/no obligation consultation to learn about simple things you can do to improve the value of your home. I look forward to working with you.



# 2018 BSCL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION or RENEWAL

## January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

*Please complete the entire form and return with dues to:* Barcroft School & Civic League  
 c/o Treasurer  
 811 South Taylor Street  
 Arlington, VA 22204

**Check one:**  
 New Member Application  
 Membership Renewal

Individual Membership (\$ 5.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Couple/Family Membership (\$10.00) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Additional Tax Deductible Contribution to  
 the Community House Conservation Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total** (Please make check payable to BSCL) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apt: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address (s): \_\_\_\_\_

I/we would like to volunteer to help with:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snow Removal for Elderly/Disabled                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Yard Work for Elderly/Disabled                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barcroft Players                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Food Events ( <i>Dinners, Cookouts, etc.</i> ) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Distribution ( <i>Newsletters, Flyers, etc.</i> ) | <input type="checkbox"/> 4th of July Parade and Picnic                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grant Writing                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> One-Time Efforts ( <i>as they arise</i> )      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on a Committee -- Specify which: _____      |   |

*(Crime Resistance, Parking, Traffic)*

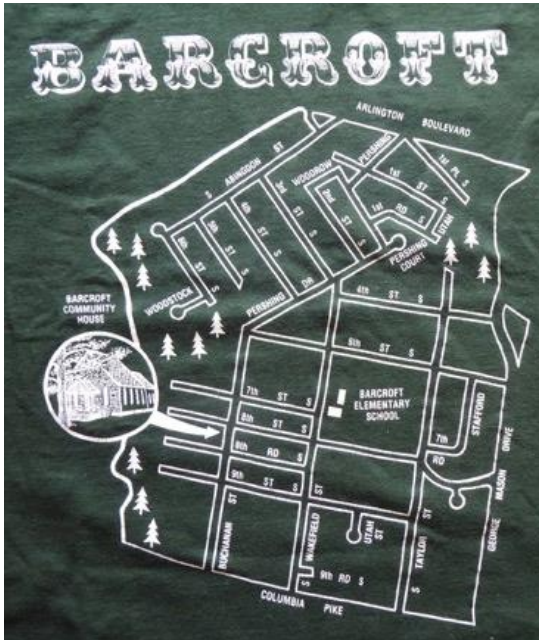
# New Tee-shirt Design Deadline is Nigh

*By Elaine Squeri*

Our traditional Barcroft neighborhood tee-shirt designed by former neighbor Jack Turner is facing competition! New design, new fabric, new color(s) and... let's see what your creativity brings us. Submittals no

later than March 1.

The date for submittal of designs to BSCL Tee-shirt Committee, is March 1, c/o elaineg.squeri639@gmail.com. Any questions, feel free to contact us. •



## Preparing for the Parade

*By Heather Meade*

Do you love the Barcroft 4th of July Parade? Do you want to help make it better? A few neighbors mentioned they wanted to contribute to planning the 2018 4th of July Parade. If you want to help organize the 2018 event, email Heather Meade at heather.meade@gmail.com. •

### Arlington County Environmental Collection and Recycling Event (ECARE)

Saturday, March 31

*New hours and location:*

8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Yorktown High School





# March Events at the Woman's Club of Arlington

The Woman's Club of Arlington will host three special events in March.

The Prayer Breakfast will be held March 5 at 10:30 a.m. The cost is \$5, paid at the door. The prison ministry, Kairos, will be featured. Margaretta Smith has been involved in prison ministry for 25 years going to the Virginia State maximum security prison for women and to the regional adult detention centers for 19 years.

An art show and painting demonstration will be held March 8 at 7 p.m. Fine wood-

works, jewelry and embroidery will be shown and sold.

The first ever Book Magic will be presented by Renee Bostick, former principal of Randolph Elementary, and two former teachers on Monday, March 19 at 7 p.m. Learn how to read out loud to children, what books to choose, and different strategies to encourage reading. Books will be raffled.

Please come to one or all of these wonderful programs at the clubhouse located at 700 South Buchanan Street. •

## Still the #1 Remodeling Contractor in Arlington

Pulling more permits in Arlington than any other contractor



**Specializing in Arlington Homes**

GET A FREE QUOTE TODAY

703-536-0900 | [CookBros.org](http://CookBros.org)

# Mid-Winter Greetings from OSLS

Every year, Lutheran schools around the country celebrate National Lutheran Schools Week. Our school will celebrate this special week from March 5 to 11. Our theme for this year is "It's Still All About Jesus." Every day during the week, we dress up in special spirit wear or crazy outfits and have fun activities, such as puppet theaters, math magicians, and student team competitions. The school week wraps up with a Bingo Night and dessert auction. On Sunday, March 11, we will have a special Lutheran Schools Week church service at 11 a.m. at Our Savior Lutheran Church, located right across the parking lot from our school. Please feel welcome to join us for this wonderful service

## Four Mile Run Clean-Up

Arlington County Park Rangers are calling on volunteers to help clean Four Mile Run on Saturday, March 10, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Get outdoors and help Arlington restore its natural spaces. Great project for individuals, families service clubs and school groups. Volunteers should wear waterproof boots and bring gloves. Bags will be provided. An adult must accompany volunteers under 18 years old.

Meet in the main courtyard at Arlington Mill or at the 3rd Street entrance by the restrooms in Glencarlyn Park. ●

celebrating Lutheran Schools across the nation.

Please join us at Our Savior Lutheran Church for Holy Week services this March. We have a Maundy Thursday service on March 29 at 7 p.m., a Good Friday service on March 30 at 7 p.m., and Sunday Easter services on April 1 at 8:15 and 11 a.m. We would love to have you worship with us.

We are currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year for grades PreK through 8th. We offer both before and after care. Stop by or call our school office if you have any questions. ●

### Christine Hopkins

Real Estate Consultant  
Your Barcroft Neighbor

[ChristineHopkins.smarthomeprice.com](http://ChristineHopkins.smarthomeprice.com)  
[facebook.com/NoVaHouseHunter](https://www.facebook.com/NoVaHouseHunter)



Genevieve Concannon Broker

929 W Broad Street Falls Church Va 22046  
(703)663-7171

# Neighbor to Neighbor Listings

*These listings are free to BSCL members, and run on a space-available basis. The listings run for three issues unless removal, renewal or update is requested. Email listings and renewals to [editor@bscl.org](mailto:editor@bscl.org).*

**Bikes and 3D Printers:** What do they have in common? You want your bike ready for winter and I want to earn money for a 3D printer! Offering a Quick Tune-up for \$30, Bike fitting for \$20 or Cleaning for \$20. Call or email me for more details or other services. Zach 703-380-6227 or [robbets4@gmail.com](mailto:robbets4@gmail.com).

**Morning Mows with Ethan Valencia:** need a trim? Text Ethan Valencia at 703-254-9551 or email [EthanAValencia@gmail.com](mailto:EthanAValencia@gmail.com). Also available for cat care.

**Private Drum Lessons in Barcroft:** All ages/levels. Local musician offers instruction in Barcroft home studio on 3rd Street South. Unique, fully equipped studio with two full drum sets. Multiple styles--rock, jazz, classical, musical theatre. Complimentary 30-minute lesson/consultation. References provided. Email Mitchell at [mitchbassmusic@gmail.com](mailto:mitchbassmusic@gmail.com).

**Neighborhood Graduate Student:** Available for pet sitting and dog walking, babysitting, odd jobs, housework, etc. Abby Fram, 703-477-7550; email: [abbyfram94@aol.com](mailto:abbyfram94@aol.com).

**Barcroft Resident Dog Walker:** Hello neighbors! I have recently moved to Barcroft and have space available for new clients. I have 14 years experience running my own dog walking/pet sitting business in Washington, and am excited to begin in Arlington. Any and all pet services can be provided. Contact David McCreight at 202-413-9179 or [thedoggiedaddy@yahoo.com](mailto:thedoggiedaddy@yahoo.com).

**My name is Sasha,** and I'm a 7th grader at Thomas Jefferson Middle School, an older brother, and the owner of a 9 month old, energetic puppy. I would like to offer some weekend services to my fellow neighbors in Barcroft such as: Lawn work (Planting grass seeds, weeding, raking, etc); Baking freshly made goods (Banana bread, cookies, pumpkin bread, chocolate cake); Dog walking & pet-sitting. If you are interested, please contact me at [truewieb@gmail.com](mailto:truewieb@gmail.com) for prices and further discussion. Thank you for your attention! •

Have a business to promote?

You can advertise in Barcroft News.  
Contact Advertising Manager  
Jennifer Tomlinson at  
[jaitomlinson@yahoo.com](mailto:jaitomlinson@yahoo.com)  
for more information.



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

Low housing inventory has been a chronic problem in the area, especially in Arlington. 5+ months of inventory is a balanced market and Arlington has about 1 months' supply due to the rate of absorption.

From 1/1/18 to date, 279 properties have gone under contract in Arlington, 94 of them were single family homes. With rising rates some buyers are acting now, while others wait for more housing inventory to arrive. *Historically the 1st quarter to the mid-2nd quarter of the year are prime times to be a home seller.*

Rates are expected to continue climb, which could erode buyers' purchasing power. In recent multiple contract situations, some buyers are reluctant to offer much over list price. The demand is high, yet most buyers are hesitant unless they perceive they are getting a great deal, hard to do in a seller's market.

Market Values versus Assessed Values. Arlington County's average assessed value of residential property (condos, town houses and single-family homes) is now \$640,900, up 3.8% from \$617,200 last year. It's hard to apply a 3.9% to all homes since an Arlington home has an average market value 10% higher than

its tax assessment, which varies in sectors and zip codes. One point to realize is just because your tax assessment might not have increased, doesn't mean the market value of your home did not increase (and vice versa). Every year homeowners can appeal their assessment, and in a few cases, it might work out. Check out the county website for information since Arlington provides an informative website.

If you're considering appealing your tax assessment, contact me with questions and for market data. If you are curious about what a buyer might pay for your home I can also help with advice on the ranges of value.

***FREE Notary for Barcroft Residents!***  
**Casey O'Neal, Associate Broker**  
**RE/MAX Allegiance 703-217-9090**  
**Put our 33 years of experience to work for YOU!**  
**Visit [www.CaseyOneal.com](http://www.CaseyOneal.com), request a valuation,**  
**Or Find Out Your Home's Value Instantly at:**  
**[www.ArlingtonVAHouseValue.com](http://www.ArlingtonVAHouseValue.com)**