

BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 88, No. 5

January 1991

JANUARY MEETING: Candidates' Night and Neighborhood Projects

There will be a special general election January 8 to choose a Delegate to the Virginia General Assembly, succeeding the late Warren Stambaugh. The candidates, Karen Darner (Dem.) and Alice Tennes (Rep.) will be at the January BSCL meeting to answer questions and present their qualifications and viewpoints. They will open the program, following the reading of the minutes (about 7:40 PM. Be there on time!

The second part of the meeting will focus on the priorities for Neighborhood Conservation Projects. The first project, rehabilitation of the park at Columbia Pike and Four Mile Run, has already been approved by NCAC for funding. Help us decide which project will be number two. If you would like to review the list of projects before the meeting, call Randy Swart (521-2080) and he will get a copy to you.

Barcrofters Bag Brush, Bash Bandit

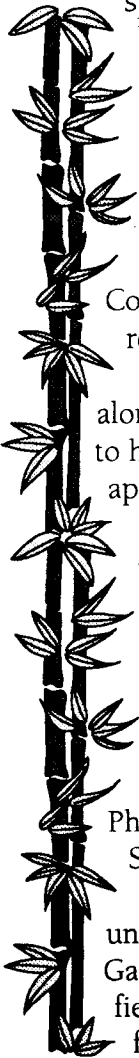
The park cleanup noted in the last *Barcroft News* was completed by a sturdy band of Barcrofters, many of them members of the Crime Resistance Committee. More than 25 people, including volunteers from Buchanan Gardens, made a good start on renovating the park. Check it out the next time you're on Columbia Pike where the Washington & Old Dominion Trail crosses.

During the second cleanup on Nov. 24, sirens and whistles signaled a police chase. A fugitive came running toward us, hotly pursued by a police officer. A female Barcrofter slowed the fugitive down with a well-placed tree limb to the midsection. He was apprehended, cuffed, and led off to the paddy wagon. Since he was one of the band of vagrants living in the brush being cleared, the episode boosted our crew's morale! Evidently a large part of the recent crime wave, as well as much of the harassment

in our shopping centers and public drunkenness, stems from the four-man gang camping in the park. The County will now mount a task force to deal with the problem, offering the men rehabilitation services and shelter to encourage them to leave the area for good, then removing their mattresses from the park.

Arlington County Parks has been very cooperative in this neighborhood-sponsored effort, providing trash bags and cleaning up the brush and trash gathered. They have now agreed to cut the remaining weeds on the site and do some additional tree trimming. Later this year the County will finish the project with Neighborhood Conservation funds, replacing the recycling bins with a grassy area and adding a split-rail fence along the sidewalk. By fall we hope to have a park that will enhance the appearance of our neighborhood.

Members of the brush-clearing crew were Scott Allard, Mellen Candage and daughter, Dick and Hilka Carter, Roger Cornell, Mitch Dale, Gabrielle and friend, Larry Goldschmidt, Laura Goldschmidt, Marty Green, Jill Herndon, Glen Jacob, Phyllis Kinsey, Osman Moreno, Sue Sarcone, Lew Stern, Barbara Swart, Randy Swart, Linda Titolo, eight unidentified residents of Buchanan Gardens, and a number of unidentified trail users. Thanks to everyone for a job well done!



Ready to Design the Neighborhood Signs?

An upcoming Neighborhood Conservation Project is the installation of "Barcroft Neighborhood" signs in two locations: the triangle at George Mason Drive and 8th Street S. and along the Arlington Boulevard access road at Abingdon Street. A committee will choose a design for the signs and obtain approval for the one at Abingdon. If you are interested, please come to the January 3rd meeting of the BSCL or call Randy Swart at 521-2080 to volunteer for the committee.



Barcroft News Staff

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<i>Contributions</i>	Laurie Kelsch	920-9429
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Deadline for submissions: 5th of the month preceding the issue month.

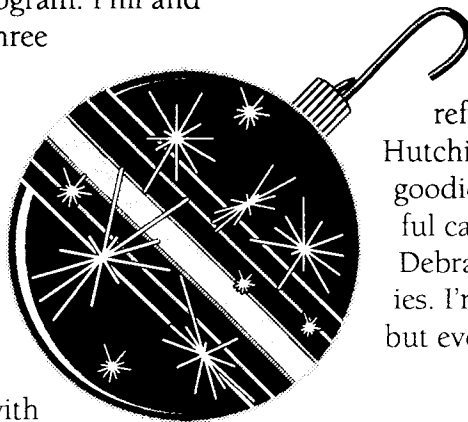
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Ho! Ho! Ho!

It keeps getting better and better. The BSCL Holiday Party was an extravaganza. The band played, um, enthusiastically, and we enjoyed singing songs of the season. This year a number of solos were added to the program: Phil and Alicia Cackley sang three songs. Linda Titolo sounded angelic on her harp, accompanied by husband Roger Cornell on hammer dulcimer. Michael Nazeretz woke us up with a Russian wintertime song on accordion (with a bit of percussion by Laura and Peter Goldschmidt). Arlington Forester Paul Saunders performed two pieces on his lovely hammer dulcimer. Barbara (on banjo) and Randy (guitar) Swart livened things up with a bluegrass tune, "Christmas Time's a Comin'." Other band members included Jim Lande (clarinet), Iles Minoff (accordion), Steve Wilson (guitar), and Kathy Kerr (fiddle).

Toward the end, Mary Ann O'Rourke gathered all the kids at her knee to read "The Night Before Christmas," and the band went a little crazy playing what is probably our best number—"Santa Claus Is Coming to Town." It must have been pretty impressive because who "to our wondering eyes should appear" but Santa Claus!



Santa said that he heard the festivities as he was flying over the Community House and decided to stop in to give the children a pre-Christmas candy cane. He reported that the elves are hard at work making computers and video games, and he promised to return in a few weeks.

After Santa left, everyone enjoyed the amazing array of refreshments arranged by Joyce Hutchins. Lots of Barcrofters brought goodies to eat. Laurie Kelsch's beautiful cake is becoming a tradition, and Debra Wood made some artful cookies. I'm not sure who made the rest, but everything was terrific.

Kathy Kerr

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Conservation Plan Project Priorities

The BSCL has submitted the first two Neighborhood Conservation Plan Projects for County funding from the bond funds approved in November. We can submit two projects every six months. If you want to help set the priority order for these projects, come to the next BSCL meeting on January 3rd and stay after the candidates finish. We will have a discussion of the priorities at that time, starting with the draft priorities list approved by the BSCL Board and looking for comments.

Computers for Classrooms

The Barcroft School is doing well in the Giant and Safeway grocery tapes campaign. As of November 25, they had collected and tallied \$35,000 from Safeway and \$34,000 from Giant. Remember, they need \$125,000 for just *one* computer! You can drop off tapes at the school or at Nora Myers Rumpf's house at 4607 Third St. S., or call Nora at 521-8634 for pickup.

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Ad Manager Wanted

The *Barcroft News* needs an Advertising Manager. This involves checking with regular advertisers monthly, perhaps selling another ad or two, and then billing them on a monthly basis. Please call Randy Swart at 521-2080 if you are interested.

Cub Scout Pack Meeting

The January 18 meeting will focus on Working with Wood (Pinewood Derby). It will be held in the basement of Arlington Forest United Methodist Church (Henderson Road and Rt. 50) from 7:30 to 8:30 PM.

Den meetings are held approximately weekly for the following groups: Wolf Den (2nd graders), Bear Den (3rd graders), and Webelos (4th and 5th graders). Den leaders will contact scouts with specific information on times and locations.

Gung Ho at Gunston

The Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Community Resources is sponsoring a three-day grand opening January 10-12 to inaugurate the renovated Gunston Center facility. It has two new theatres, a renovated community center with modern kitchen, a state-of-the-art gymnastics area, and more parking. The celebration includes three evening events and a free open house, 10 AM-6 PM, Jan. 12. Call Maggie Gaffen (358-6965) for info.

Arlington's Best Kept Secrets

Where Is the New Miniature Golf Course?

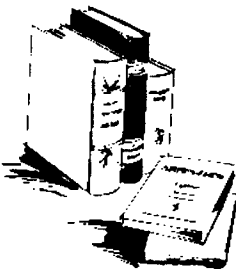
Arlington has a replacement for the Putt Putt miniature golf course that was pushed out of its location at Glebe Rd. and Wilson Blvd—the Upton Hill Park course, opened in 1990 by the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. The real challenge is finding it. Take Wilson Blvd. about 5 blocks past the tennis courts at Four Mile Run, almost to the County line. At Patrick Henry Dr., you will see the park entrance on the left.

The course has a “natural” layout, much like a real golf course, instead of the usual gaudy windmills, loop-the-loops, and such. At least one Barcrofter prefers gaudy to natural, but others may find the new course more to their liking. It is a little expensive at \$3.75 per game, but there are discounts for seniors and large groups.

The biggest “find” at Upton Hill is the Batter’s Cage. It has slow, medium, and fast hardball machines, but the slow softball machine is more fun, with 25 easy-to-hit softballs for \$1. There are free loaner bats and helmets, but take a pair of bicycle gloves along. Get all the batting you want, without having to go out in the field at the end of the inning!

Hours are 3–10 PM during the week and 10 AM–10 PM on weekends.

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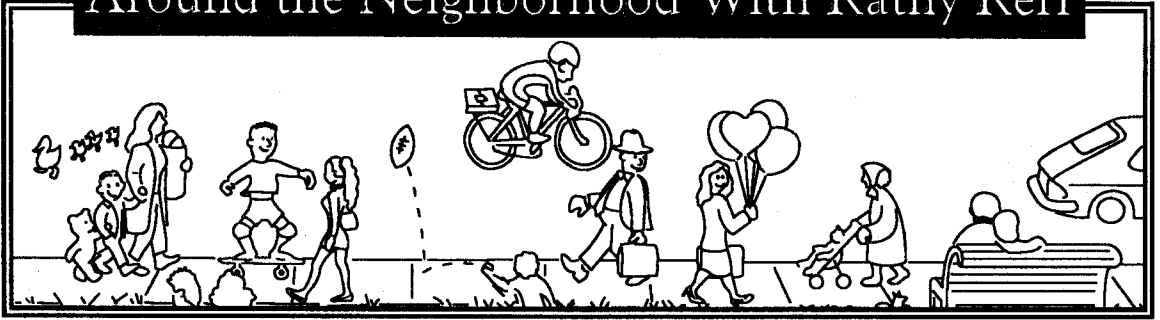
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Around the Neighborhood With Kathy Kerr



Who was that in the white beard and red suit at the Holiday Party? Santa's helper Rick Tittmann, who also happens to be one of Barcroft's newest neighbors. Rick and his wife, Cathy, moved here on September 1.

Rick has master's degrees in business and hospital administration and is a Navy Commander. He has been in the Navy for 15 years and now works for the Assistant Secretary of Defense as a medical facility planner. Cathy taught first grade for 16 years. She is happy to be a mother at home now with their son Travis, age 3, who was adopted at age 10 weeks. Cathy enjoys sewing and doing calligraphy, and Rick is a jogger and likes to work with stained glass.

Cathy and Rick moved to Burke from San Diego in '88. Rick soon tired of the commute, so they happily found a home closer in. They have lived in **many** different places but never one like Barcroft, with its community spirit and neighborliness. They say its the best place they've ever lived!

The Tittmanns wasted no time getting to know their neighbors. Shortly after moving in, they invited everyone on their street (2nd St. S.) to an open house. They clearly like being around people. Through their church, started in 1989 with just 14 people and now counting more than 450 members, Rick and Cathy are involved in such programs as a homeless children project.


Update: Danny Kelsch, who last year was 14 years old with size 14 shoes, is 15 now and, yes, wearing size 15s. Danny reports that they are getting a little tight.

Donna Anderson of S. Pershing must have been awfully good this year; Santa is bringing her a brand new, bright red Lincoln Mercury Tracer! She is the lucky winner of a Lincoln Mercury promotion she entered in early November. (You may have seen the story in the *Arlington Journal*.) Donna's not sure whether she will keep the car or trade it in on a station wagon. Hoping that her luck will continue, she has invested in a few lottery tickets. Donna has lived here since July 4, 1971, and is a writer and an avid gardener.

Faylinda Kodis and Rich Beach have a new baby girl, Avery KaHee Beach. Her middle name is Korean for "Beautiful Delight." Avery was born in Taegu, Korea, on May 21, 1990. In October she arrived in Washington following a 22-hour flight—only to get caught in a storm that closed National Airport, forcing the plane to circle above the clouds for 3 hours. Faylinda and Rich anxiously awaited her with her brother Max, age 3, also adopted from Korea. Faylinda reports that they have had an easy adjustment to their new family member and that Max just adores his baby sister. The Kodis/Beaches live on S. Pershing Drive.

January Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2 Bird Walk, 9:30 AM-noon; adults; free; call 358-6535.	3 Barcroft School & Civic League, Community House, 7:30 PM. Info, call 521-2080.	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Gunston Center House-warming Gala, tickets \$22.50. Info, call 358-6965.	11 Gunston Center House-warming Gala, tickets \$12. Info, call 358-6965.	12 Gunston Center Open House, 10 AM-6 PM, free; evening World Music Ensemble, call 358-6965.
13	14	15 Winter Tree Identification, 9:30-11 AM; call 358-6535. A Taste of Barcroft, Barcroft School PTA	16	17 Afterschool Special: Winter Woods, 3:45-4:45 PM, kids grades 1-3; free; reservations; call 358-6535.	18 Cub Scout Pack Meeting, 7:30 PM.	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Afterschool Special: Animal Hide & Seek, 3:45-4:45 PM, kids grades 1-3; free; reservations; call 358-6535.		



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Foster Parents Sought

Arlington County is seeking Virginia residents to provide temporary homes for children in the County's Foster Care Program. Foster parents can be married or single, live in a house or apartment, be employed outside of the home, or have their own children. Training, supportive services, and financial reimbursement are provided.

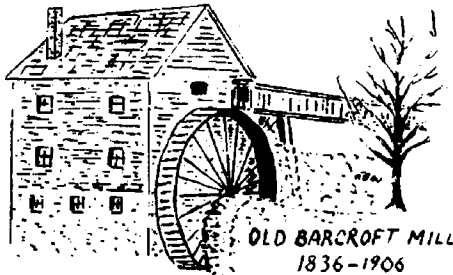
The children in the program range from infants to adolescents. Whatever their age, all need loving care in a warm home environment.

Interested individuals should call Anne Powell of the Arlington Foster Care Office (358-5085) for more information.

County Schools Want Science Mentors

Looking ahead to a new millenium, our country faces a serious shortage of scientists. Arlington Public Schools is asking citizens to help do something about this shortage. By sharing your scientific expertise with students and acting as a mentor, you can encourage more of them to pursue careers in the sciences.

To join the group of volunteer mentors, call Science Advisory Committee member Tony Mazzaschi in the evening at 931-8228. For more information about the science mentor program, contact Science Supervisor Don Brandewie during the day at 358-6166.



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SALE! Sidewalks and Curbs Half Price!

The approval of the Neighborhood Conservation Plan entitles Barcroft residents to a discount on County sidewalk and curbing projects. The County normally charges \$16.75 per linear foot for sidewalk; but with Neighborhood Conservation funding, property owners will now pay \$8.375 per foot, or \$419 for a 50-foot lot. If you are on a corner, the discount for the side yard sidewalk is double—you pay \$4.19 per foot for the side yard. If your income is low enough, the County may be able to give you the sidewalk free. If not, you can either pay up front, or pay one installment every

six months for 10 years at 6% interest, or defer the payment at 8% interest until the property is sold.

That's a good deal, folks. Sidewalks improve pedestrian safety, add to property values, give you and your guests a dry place to walk when getting out of the car, reduce the chances of you or a guest stumbling in the dark, and make it easier to roll your Eagle Cart to the curb. The County handles grading, moves fences, and moves as many of your precious plants as possible.

In some cases, however, there are drawbacks, including trees that cannot be moved, shorter yards, and fewer pedestrian targets as you drive down the street after dark.

Want this great deal? You need approval by at least half of the property owners affected. Get their signatures on a letter and call Ken Hill, Dept. of Public Works, at 358-3678 for more details. To let the BSCL know you are getting a project together, call Meril-Lee Jones, our Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee Representative, at 920-5942 or Randy Swart at 521-2080. Sidewalks will never be cheaper!



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Crime Resistance Committee Makes Progress!

The BSCI's Crime Resistance Committee has held meetings with owners of the Columbia Pike shopping centers at Buchanan and George Mason. They presented a list of the neighborhood's concerns, including security problems.

At the George Mason shopping center, Hi-Cue Billiards, the site of a murder some months ago, continues to attract loiterers who verbally abuse women going to Rite Aid and other adja-

cent businesses. It should not remain open until 2:30 AM, as it now does. The crime rate in the parking lot is very high, with many cars vandalized there; and Barcrofters walking to the bus stop have seen syringes there. The food store is not clean, and the parking lot needs additional lighting. It appears that a security guard is needed if Barcrofters are going to use that shopping center at night. County police have increased their patrols of the area, in particular, the pool hall, and Committee members have seen some improvement in the situation.

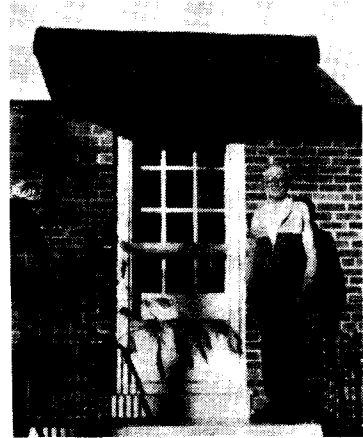
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The Barcroft Shopping Center at the foot of Buchanan has its own problems, many traceable to alcohol consumption at the restaurant there. Again, there is harassment of women going to Blockbuster Video and other businesses, prompting the Hairloom to seek another site after more than 15 years in that location. We have asked the police to keep a closer eye on the parking lot, where a man was shot in the head a few months ago. Removing the vagrants from along Four Mile Run will help. Ultimately we hope the restaurant can be moved or better managed to moderate the sale of alcoholic beverages.

If you are concerned by the length of the monthly Crime Report and the deterioration of security in Barcroft, call the Crime Resistance Chairman, Dick Carter, at 521-5976 for the time of the next meeting.

Barcroft Crime Report

Crimes reported during November. If you have information about an incident, please call the police at 558-2222.

- 11/2 900 S. George Mason 2 shoplifting cases
- 11/3 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting case
4500 S. Arlington Blvd. Stereo, tapes, license plates stolen from car
- 11/4 4300 S. Columbia Pike Car window smashed; nothing taken
900 S. Wakefield Radio stolen from auto
- 11/5 900 S. George Mason 2 shoplifting cases
- 11/6 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting case
- 11/9 4300 S. Columbia Pike Gloves stolen from car
4200 S. Columbia Pike Car window broken
- 11/10 4600 S. 3rd 4 tires stolen from car
900 S. Wakefield Stereo stolen from car
4800 S. Columbia Pike Subject kicked light out of vehicle; arrested
- 11/11 600 S. Woodstock Rear window louver stolen from car
- 11/15 4600 S. 2nd Resident reported receiving repeated hang-up calls
- 11/18 900 S. Buchanan Tire stolen from car
- 11/19 900 S. Wakefield Cellular phone stolen from car
4700 S. Columbia Pike Shoplifting case
- 11/21 4300 S. Columbia Pike '86 Toyota stolen
4400 S. 1st Pl. Attempted burglary; basement door window broken
- 11/22 4200 S. Columbia Pike Trespasser
- 11/23 Unit block S. Abingdon Stereo and speakers stolen from car
- 11/24 800 S. Taylor Stereo stolen from car
4600 S. 4th Unsuccessful attempt to enter car
- 11/26 900 S. George Mason Shoplifting case
- 11/27 4800 S. 7th '87 Plymouth stolen
- 11/28 4800 S. 7th '86 Toyota stolen elsewhere recovered here
- 11/29 900 S. Buchanan Victim cut with knife after dispute

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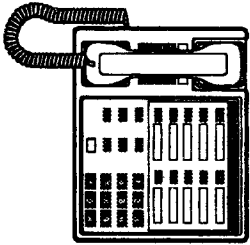



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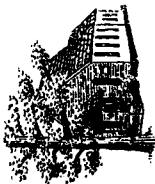
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Special Election for DELEGATE
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