



# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 94, No. 3

November 1996

## County Approves Plans for Demeter; Resident Lawsuit is Threatened

On Saturday, Oct. 5 the County Board approved by a 3 to 2 vote the application by Vanguard Services to move an 18 person group home and residential treatment facility to a single family home on Sixth Street.

A group of Sixth Street residents is now exploring the possibilities of filing a lawsuit to try to stop Demeter House from opening. The group is in the beginning stages of raising money to fund legal expenses. Call Rocco Saracina at 920-0748 if you wish to help.

During the lengthy county hearing, it seemed to many Barcroft participants that the board's decision had been made in advance, including the cosmetic reduction of the number of residents from 22 to 18. Saracina requested the Board and Vanguard to assure the neighborhood that there would be a two year cap on bumping up the maximum number of residents, but each refused to do that, leaving no doubt about where the facility

is headed.

County Board member Chris Zimmerman, who with fellow member Paul Ferguson voted against the final decision, noted that he thought the neighborhood has reason to be dissatisfied with the way the County's process worked in this case.

In the wake of the meeting, some Barcrofters suggested making protest votes  
*(continued on page 3)*

## Barcroft Principal Will Speak at Nov. Meeting

Barcroft School Principal Miriam Hughey-Guy will be the featured speaker at the Nov. 7 Barcroft School and Civic League meeting. Hughey-Guy will discuss school statistics -- including an enrollment jump this fall -- and future plans.

Also at our November meeting, Dick Wark of Arlington Parks and Recreation will give a short presentation on the county's proposal to widen the bike trail from 8 feet to 12 feet.

The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be held in the Community House, 800 S. Buchanan. For more information, call the Neighbor Line, 521-1116.

## “Why I Like Barcroft”

*One more essay in a series from the 4th of July parade. This month, an adult writer.*

It's like a park, someone startled me by saying. I stood back and looked, never having thought of Barcroft that way. Well, you could say that, and much, much more. And that is why I like Barcroft.

The much, much more of Barcroft that I like is the community spirit. Such a community spirit existed that our predecessors built our own Community House here in 1908 and at about the same time created our own community organization, The Barcroft School and Civic League. Our Community House was built for a church, a school and a meeting place instead of in homes. People cared enough to create a sense of community, a house to represent that sense of community and the determination to continue this spirit and hard work, a commitment which has lasted almost a hundred years.

Part of our Barcroft spirit is sharing our Community House with others, now the St. George's Bulgarian Eastern Orthodox Church, which needed a center for Bulgarian immigrants in the Washington Metropolitan area and even beyond. In turn, income from them keeps our Community House in the black.

Barcroft's spirit is alive and well today, thriving and throbbing with more and more active interested Barcrofters. Barcrofters meet the first Thursday every month September through June at 7:30 to give information, discuss and present

solutions to current and future concerns. And the first Tuesday of the month at Arlington Hospital delegates and citizens attend the Arlington County Civic Federation to bring our concerns, are informed and help with Arlington-wide concerns.

As well, activities take place such as the celebration of the 4th of July with its music, parade and picnic with its hello-you-all getting to know neighbors and their children. All this and more is why I like Barcroft.

Donna P. Anderson

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**Deadlines:** 1st (ads) or 10th (editorial material) day of the month preceeding the issue month.

### BSCL Officers for 1996-97

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Community House kitchen and was served on the stage. After the meal, giant tubs of water were put on the stage and used to wash all of the dishes.

Mrs. Presson remembers all of Barcroft with great fondness but especially loves her memories of the fun she had at the Barcroft Community House. She is thrilled that present day Barcrofters seek to care for and renovate the building. And she knows that it would mean a great deal to her father to have the only school he ever attended repaired and restored.

Present day Barcroft children are also going to cherish their memories of the Barcroft Community House. Our annual 4th of July Parade, festivals, events, coffee houses and dinners all help us to unite in the sort of community spirit that has existed in Barcroft for many, many years.

## Barcroft Store Sells Cards, t-shirts for Gifts

Items from the Barcroft store will make great gifts this year. Still in stock are:

- The Barcroft Cookbook -- 130 recipes with photos of Barcrofters on the cover (\$10).
- Barcroft notecards -- feature a print of the Barcroft July 4th parade by Nancy Tankersley (\$8 per pack).
- Barcroft T-shirts -- red, X-large (\$8) and XX-large (\$10) sizes.

To make sure that you can give a unique gift not found anywhere else, order now -- we may run out by Christmas. All proceeds from the store will benefit the Community House restoration fund. To order, please call 521-2080 or send an e-mail to [cookbook@bhsi.org](mailto:cookbook@bhsi.org).



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## Barcroft School Posts Big Jump in Students

Barcroft Elementary School has seen an explosion of incoming students this fall. As of the second week of school, 104 students were enrolled in kindergarten, a jump that came as a surprise to school officials. The county expected 67 new kindergardeners this fall.

Two new teachers were hired and two additional kindergarten classes were opened up, bringing the total number of kindergarden classes to five.

Why the increase? More Barcroft parents are sending their children to the neighborhood school, said Principal Miriam Hughey-Guy.

Barcroft school's statistics, with first

the projected, and then the actual number enrolled, are as follows: Preschool, 8, 7; Kindergarten, 67, 104; 1st grade, 72, 85; 2nd grade, 66, 68; 3rd grade, 72, 76; 4th grade, 60, 62; 5th grade, 72, 76; Total enrollment, 435, 474.

## Don't Forget to Vote!!

On Tuesday, Nov. 5, Barcroft and the rest of Arlington will vote for everything from U.S. president to local bond issues. There are also two contested school board seats and a County Board seat at stake.

Write-ins are simple. Just push the "Write In" button below the name of the candidate you don't care to vote for, then push a second button that lights up above. A door automatically pops open (do not pry the door open--that jams the machine!) for you to write the name in with the pencil or pen you brought. It's simple: take a pencil, and push two buttons.

Our polling place is at the rear of Barcroft School, 625 S. Wakefield. The polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m.



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## Crime Report

Here is the crime report for September, courtesy of Arlington Police Department community resources officer Rick Schoembs. All addresses are the block where the incident occurred, not a house number. In deference to neighborhood sensitivities, we do not mention race, ethnic origin, age, or religion, although the original police reports may have some of that information to aid in identifying possible suspects. Chris Monek (920-1287) has the full report.

**9/3** 900 S. Taylor. Vandalism. Car door scratched.

**9/6** 4300 S. 8th St. Larceny. Bicycle stolen from side of home.

**9/8** 600 S. Buchanan. Larceny. Car stereo and cell phone stolen.

400 S. Abingdon. Larceny. Stereo taken from car.

300 S. Pershing. Larceny. Wallet stolen from truck.

**9/9** 600 S. Taylor. Assault. Man assaulted by a relative.

**9/11** 4600 S. 5th St. Larceny. Stereo stolen from car.

**9/13** 4300 Columbia Pike. Assault. Man assaulted his wife.

600 S. Wakefield. Larceny. Camera stolen from desk drawer.

**9/14** 900 S. George Mason. Larceny. Two juveniles stole cigars.

900 S. George Mason. Larceny. Alcohol stolen.

**9/17** 900 S. George Mason. Larceny. Woman arrested for shoplifting found to have crack cocaine on her.

**9/19** 4600 Columbia Pike. Fraud. Taxi cab left gas station without paying.

**9/22** 4700 S. 6th St. Larceny. Cell phone and attache case stolen from car.

4800 Columbia Pike. Assault. Person fought with security guard and was sprayed with pepper spray.

**9/23** First block S. Abingdon. Larceny. Two bicycles stolen from storage area.

**9/24** 900 S. George Mason. Assault. Man received severe lacerations in attack.

**9/26** 4500 S. 8th St. Burglary. Attempt made to gain entry into house.

**9/28** 900 S. Taylor. Larceny. Tire stolen off vehicle.

900 S. Wakefield. Burglary. Front door to business smashed and items taken.

900 S. George Mason. Larceny. Person arrested for taking two cases of beer.

**9/29** 900 S. Buchanan. Car theft.

4800 Columbia Pike. Assault. Suspect punched a pizza delivery man after an accident.

## Barcroft Exchange

**FOR SALE.** Thomas 281 California Series Electric Organ--spinet type. In great condition! \$395. Call Lisa Dowdell at 271-0659.

**SEEKING NANNY** to care for our 18-month old son in our home. 4 days/week; live out; must speak English well; non-smoker; references required; call 979-8459.

# EventsEventsEventsEveNOVEMBERntsEventsEventsEven

Nov. 2, Saturday -- **Stream Cleanup.** Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment are sponsoring a Four Mile Run stream cleanup in Barcroft Park.

Nov. 5, Tuesday -- **Election Day bake sale** sponsored by the Barcroft School PTA. (Don't forget to vote, too!)

Nov. 7, Thursday -- **BSCL Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Barcroft Principal Miriam Hughey-Guy will speak.

Nov. 19 Tuesday -- **Barcroft PTA General Meeting.** 7:00 p.m.



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

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