

# BARCROFT NEWS

Volume 95, No. 1

September 1997

## Fall Composting to be Focus at BSCL Meeting

You may not want to think about it, but fall is on the way. Prepare for it by learning how to compost your leaves, grass and other yard waste. The place to learn is at the Barcroft School and Civic League's first fall meeting on Sept. 4 at 7:30 p.m. Naturalist Martin Ogle of Potomac Overlook Nature Center will talk about how to build a compost heap that, by spring, will have turned those leaves into lovely dark compost that can nourish your garden, loosen hard clay soil, and leap over tall buildings with a single bound.

Martin is chief naturalist at the nature center, where he tends an organic garden and holds forth on plants, trees, birds and the environment. It's worth coming to the meeting just to meet him.

Also, mark October 2 on your calendar, Barcroft's annual candidates' night. We have invited candidates from all the relevant races, from school board and county board to governor and attorney general. Come and meet the candidates.

## Follow-up Meeting to Hi Cue Shows Progress

On July 31, a meeting was held by CPRO to discuss actions taken after the tragic shooting that occurred in the parking lot at George Mason Drive and Columbia Pike last March.

At the meeting, police officers reported on the effectiveness of security measures instituted in response to citizen requests. Officers said calls to the police and reports written by them have shown a significant drop since implementation of extensive security measures. The "banning order" that bars individuals from the property has also been helpful.

It was agreed that quick action on the part of all parties resulted in getting that particular situation under control. It was also agreed that the forces that caused the first situation must be addressed in other areas along the Pike and throughout Arlington.

A discussion of appropriate and  
(continued on page 7)

## Email Addresses for BSCL Officers Posted

The BSCL now has its own email server. Barcrofters who are on-line can contact most of our officers and newsletter staff with the address: [firstname@bscl.org](mailto:firstname@bscl.org)

David Michaelson	<a href="mailto:David@bscl.org">David@bscl.org</a>
Mark Wigfield	<a href="mailto:mark@bscl.org">mark@bscl.org</a>
Bill Huddleston	<a href="mailto:bill@bscl.org">bill@bscl.org</a>
Scott Brintzer	<a href="mailto:scott@bscl.org">scott@bscl.org</a>
Tom Palance	<a href="mailto:tom@bscl.org">tom@bscl.org</a>
Jim Kerr	<a href="mailto:jim@bscl.org">jim@bscl.org</a>
Kathy Kerr	<a href="mailto:kathy@bscl.org">kathy@bscl.org</a>
Phil Cackley	<a href="mailto:phil@bscl.org">phil@bscl.org</a>
Barbara Swart	<a href="mailto:barbara@bscl.org">barbara@bscl.org</a>
Randy Swart	<a href="mailto:randy@bscl.org">randy@bscl.org</a>

Mail to these addresses is automatically forwarded by the Barcroft mail server to the person's primary account. Officers not listed are not actively using email.

## Renovation Under Way At Community House

At the end of June the Renovation Committee removed the entire contents of the kitchen at the Community House (including the furnace) and the renovation work began on July 7. It will take several months to get the new kitchen, handicapped-accessible bathroom and other changes installed. The back wall of the main hall will also be replaced. The work has been blessed by the Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board with a certificate of appropriateness. Your renovation dollars are at work, and Bill Huddleston (920-2011) is looking for more for the later stages.

## Barcroft Exchange

**LAWN MOWING.** If you don't feel like wasting your time mowing lawns, raking leaves and weeding gardens, then call me, Collin, at 979-0339. Reasonable rates.

**TOYS.** Barcroft teacher is looking for children's outdoor toys. Inexpensive or free. Elizabeth DiFrancisco, 521-7583.

### Barcroft News Staff

<i>Editor</i>	Phil Cackley, 271-9743
<i>Publisher/Mailing</i>	Jane Duffy
<i>Advertising Mgr.</i>	
<i>Neighborhood News</i>	Kathy Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Contributions Ed.</i>	Could be you!!

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

### BSCL Officers for 1997-98

<i>President</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Vice President</i>	Mark Wigfield, 979-0339
<i>Recording Secy.</i>	Maria Corey 486-2060
<i>Treasurer</i>	Gary Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Corres. Secy.</i>	Bill Huddleston 920-2011
<i>Membership Secy.</i>	Peg Lefebvre, 521-0184
<i>Board Members</i>	Scott Brintzer, Jim Kerr Tom Palance, Randy Swart
<i>Community House</i>	
<i>Facility Mgr.</i>	Tom Palance 979-8366
<i>Restoration</i>	Jim Kerr, 892-6458
<i>Fundraising</i>	Bill Huddleston 920-2011
<i>Landscaping</i>	Scott Brintzer, 892-0308
<i>Crime Resistance</i>	Chris Monek, 920-1287
<i>Neigh. Conserv.</i>	David Michaelson, 553-3953
<i>Signs Manager</i>	Jack Turner
<i>Traffic Committee</i>	Elaine Squeri 920-7014
<i>Parade</i>	Andrew Hunter 979-8247

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## Parade Memories Show Best Side of Barcroft

Here are some memories contributed by Barcrofters who were at this summer's Fourth of July Parade:

Astronaut Guy Gardner and his wife led off the parade on the back of Tom Palance's convertible. Imagine having a real live astronaut living in your neighborhood, and he turns out to be a very likable down-to-earth guy.

The incredible Challenger space shuttle float constructed by the 8th Road team, with a fifteen foot wingspan, floating above a model of the Barcroft Community House, with smoke coming out the jets.

Who could forget little Peter Sarracino and his drum. He was a treat!

One marcher had both an American flag and another, unusual flag. It was the flag to commemorate the recognition of Philippine independence by the U.S., done on a July 4th, in (maybe) 1947 or so.

Youngest child in Barcroft was Gavin Sellars, the son of Pam and Duncan Sellars. The baby was only seven days old, and Pam looked like she was already fully recovered. We saw them inside the Community House, sitting on the steps to the stage.

Oldest person there was probably James Chalmers, born in 1902 and a long-time Barcrofter. He was one of our parade reviewers.

Holler from the sidelines to the fire engine driver: "Thanks for coming--it wouldn't be a parade without Engine Company 51!"

David Michaelson and Bruce Atkinson shoveling hamburgers and hotdogs in the heat and the smoke, their eyes red from smoke and perspiration running down their faces.

State Assemblyman Karen Darner cutting up watermelons until her hands were so sticky she couldn't even shake hands with anybody. As always, her baked beans were the first to disappear when the hungry hoards struck, and she went home with the large empty pan.

Everybody smiling about the nice coverage of the event in the Washington Post on July 3, complete with color picture. It was so nice to see the neighborhood presented in a positive light after all the recent fighting with the County Board.

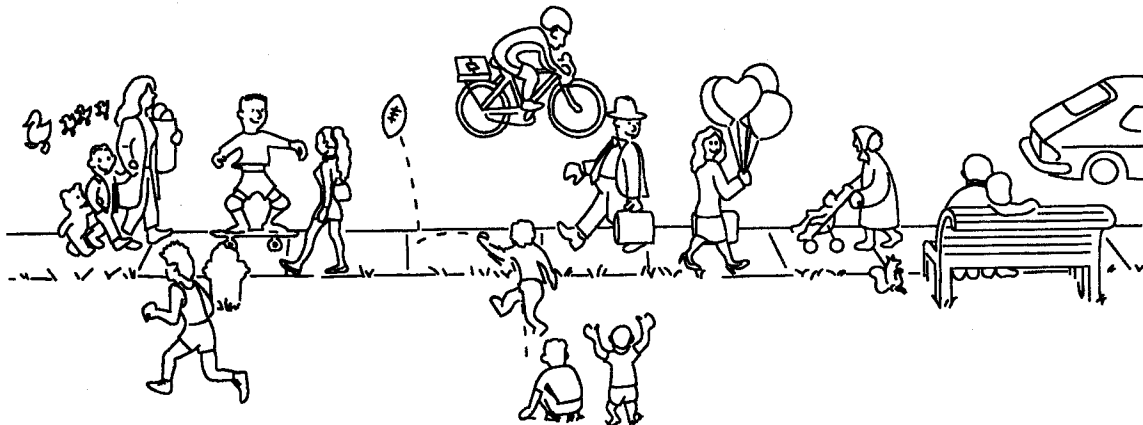
The Tesh's great-grandchildren marching with a wagon decorated as a covered wagon. Like some other Barcroft families, all three generations were visiting for the day, and had a cookout later before the fireworks.

## Local Merchants Give Items for Parade Prizes

Once again, local merchants donated a wide variety of door prizes for the picnic following the Fourth of July Parade. Over 700 participants and attendees waited for their number to be called in the hopes of winning anything from dinner out to dry cleaning to hair care products to an oil change.

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# Around the Neighborhood with Kathy Kerr



This year's youngest participant at our annual Barcroft Fourth of July parade was Gavin Sellars born June 27. Gavin's parents are Pam and Duncan Sellars of 9th St. S. At the parade, Gavin's big sister Sophia, age 5 rode her bike while brother Henry, age 3 rode in a wagon pulled by his cousin. Gavin, age one week, snuggled in a baby carrier on his mother's chest while she videotaped the event. The Sellars have lived in Barcroft for seven years. Duncan is in a joint business venture with a Russian car manufacturer. In September, Pam will be returning to work for a U.S. senator.

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Congratulations to Bryant Monroe and Kathy Kircher of 4th St. S whose new baby Olivia was born April 17. Bryant works for the Department of Defense in economic development. He enjoys fixing up their home. Kathy will soon be returning to work as a health care consultant. Bryant and Kathy have lived in Barcroft for five years. They have a cat

named "Eddie" and a beagle named "Daisy." Watch for them enjoying one of their family walks around the neighborhood. Or you may see them outside working on their spectacular garden. Thirteen year old neighbor, Vicky Millin, reports that baby Olivia is "SOOO beautiful!"

## Enrollment at Barcroft Jumps for Second Year

At press time, Barcroft Elementary was expecting almost a 12 percent increase in enrollment, with the projected number of students at 525. Last year's closing number was 470. Principal Miriam Hughey-Guy, a strong advocate of small class sizes, particularly in 1st and 2nd grade, reports that this year she was able to create six first grade classes with about 18 students each, below the norm for many schools in the area.

"First and second grade are particularly critical and we do everything we can to keep those classes small," Hughey-Guy said.

Other school news: Barcroft students will be selling wrapping paper in the community during September for the school's major annual fundraiser. Back-to-School night is Sept. 24.

## Reception By Vanguard Held For Neighbors

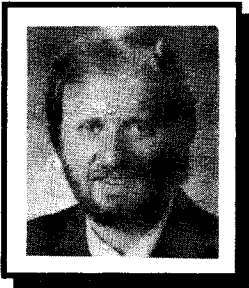
On June 30, Vanguard Services held a reception at Demeter House for Barcrofters. The flyers were exhausted early, so you may not have received an invite, but the intent was to have the whole neighborhood. Vanguard's staff and Board of Directors were there welcoming neighbors and giving tours of the house on Sixth Street.

Demeter house will not move in immediately, and is not activating the use permit for the Demeter program yet.

In the interim, the house will be used as a dormitory for eight clients of Vanguard's Phoenix Program, which by state regulation does not require a use permit. Phoenix is also focused on helping clients to overcome their substance abuse problems. The eight men will have classes, training and therapy sessions at the main Phoenix location in North Arlington. They have a resident staffer on duty and awake whenever they are there, either Roland Hollins, Mike Leatherwood or Tom Cooper. Neighbors met and chatted with them at the reception.

The atmosphere was somewhat more positive than the one in the courtroom, although there was still some edginess among both the Vanguard staff and the neighbors. Many neighbors had said all along that an eight person home would be

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*(continued from page 5)*

acceptable, so the interim use will not be as contentious as the full Demeter program. It should have very little impact on the block.

Vanguard showed their plans for modifying the house, and the landscape plan which Barcroft landscape designer Scott Brinitzer is already implementing. Fencing will be in place by the time you read this article, and Scott intends to give the front of the house with its long driveway the look of a gated estate house.

Vanguard's staff emphasized that they want to hear from Barcrofters if you have any concerns about the operation of the program or the house. Please call their Sixth Street Hot Line before you get hot under the collar, at 553-0440. Or call a Barcrofter on the liaison committee, most likely Daphne Miller at 920-5681.

**SCOTT BRINITZER DESIGN ASSOCIATES**

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## Traffic Panel to Meet

The Traffic Committee has been meeting since June. At the September BSCL meeting, it will present a preliminary draft of possible alternatives to gentle traffic through Barcroft. The next committee meeting is Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. at 216 S. Abingdon. If you have questions or comments, or would like to attend the next meeting, call Elaine Squeri at 920-7014.

## Parade Merchants...

*(continued from page 3)*

We are grateful to all of the following merchants for their support and hope that you will consider patronizing them:

- Atlatl -- meal certificate
- Brenners Bakery -- cake certificate
- Colour Oasis Hair Design -- haircare products
- Country Curtains -- merchandise certificate
- Cowboy Cafe -- meal certificate
- Crystal Thai -- meal certificate
- Forbes Video -- videotapes and coupons
- George Mason Shell -- certificates for oil change
- Giant Food --merchandise certificate
- Mrs. McGregors Garden Shop -- merchandise certificate
- New Forest Valet -- certificate for dry cleaning
- Outback Steakhouse -- certificates for dinner for two
- Partyline Ice Cream -- certificate
- Pizza Hut -- pizza certificate
- Arlington Cinema "N" Drafthouse -- movie passes
- Safeway -- \$20 Certificate
- Pines of Naples -- meal certificates



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acceptable standards of behavior resulted in agreement that urinating in public, drinking or drunkenness in public, painting of graffiti and "after hours" loitering are all behaviors that are not considered acceptable in the communities surrounding Columbia Pike. These behaviors are becoming more prevalent throughout Arlington, including Pike communities. All of the above behaviors can be addressed by police action as well as by education.

As a result of our meeting, the following action will be taken. Business owners will be encouraged to:

- have adequate night lighting on their property
- remove litter and graffiti as soon as it appears

• post no trespassing, no loitering signs and back those signs up with police enforcement

• citizens and business people will be encourage to report any suspicious or illegal activity to the police immediately

• efforts will be made to encourage neighbors to use the businesses located in the Hi Cue shopping center efforts will be made to create some special event/activity at the shopping center at George Mason and Columbia Pike that attracts more people to it (i.e. mid-week Farmer's Market, weekend Flea Market)

If you see activity in your neighborhood that is illegal please call the police and report it. They are committed to working with us to eliminate illegal behavior. Non emergency, call 558-2222; for an emergency, call 911.

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Sept. 4, Thursday -- **BSCL Meeting.** 7:30 p.m. Barcroft Community House, 800 S. Buchanan St. Naturalist Martin Ogle will talk about how to build a compost heap.

Sept. 13, Saturday -- **ARLINGTONES Barbershop Show "September Cabaret."** 8:15 p.m., Elks Lodge, 8421 Arlington Boulevard. Adults \$12, Seniors/Students \$10. Info and tickets: 526-9631 or 527-6195.

Sept. 24, Wednesday -- **Back to School Night.** 7 p.m. Barcroft Elementary School, 625 S. Wakefield. Call 358-5838 for information.

Sept. 27, Saturday -- **Community Treasure Hunt.** Various locations around Arlington. Contact CPRO for details at 892-2776



**Call the Barcroft Neighborline**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**521-1116**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Get the latest information**

Barcroft on the Internet: <http://www.bscl.org>



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