

The Buzz

North
Lincoln Park's
Neighborhood Newsletter

July 2002

Volume 13 Number 7

Neighborhood Night Out

Again this year, NLPNA will celebrate Neighborhood Night Out at the August meeting. This is an opportunity to socialize with neighbors that you don't see as often as you'd like and to meet new neighbors. Children are especially welcome. The event will begin at 7 p.m. on August 6 at the eastern end of Lincoln Park.

We're planning on our traditional "pot luck" supper. Start thinking now about what treats you will bring and any activities you'd like to organize. Children's games (soap bubbles, sidewalk chalk, etc.) would be a big hit. If you'd like to help with the planning, call Elizabeth at 543-3512.

Tree Gaiters

Tree gaiters are those green plastic "baggies" you've seen zipped up around the trunks of young trees. They have a slit in the side to insert a hose. The water can be turned on full blast and the bag filled in a hurry. Then it leaks out slowly, giving the tree a thorough watering. With a grant from CHAMPS, Trees for Capitol Hill was able to make a bulk buy to supply many of the newly planted street trees. If there is such a tree within hose-reach of your property and you would like to have a tree gaiter, please call Elizabeth (543-3512). She has a few available on a first-come basis. If you don't have a hose that will reach, she has other free water-dispensers.

Notes from the June Meeting

Understaffing in the 5th Police District

Officers from PSA 512 were present to discuss neighbors' crime concerns. No one was present to represent PSA 511 because only one officer was on duty that evening. This led to a discussion of staffing problems in the 5th District. It seems that officers officially assigned to the 5th District are being "detailed" to other districts, leaving an inadequate staff on duty in our neighborhood. As a result of the decreased patrols, there is an apparent increase in crime, especially drug activity, car theft, and theft from auto.

NLPNA voted to begin a letter writing campaign to address this and other related issues. NLPNA will be sending a letter to Chief Ramsey detailing some of our concerns. Individual neighbors are encouraged to write, also. A sample letter/postcard is being developed, copies of which will be distributed door-to-door so that residents may sign and mail them to the Chief's office. Aaron Lane and Erin Pierce are coordinating this effort. They can be reached at 546-2477.

For neighbors who prefer to write a personal letter (or call), Chief Ramsey can be reached using the following address and phone number:

Charles H. Ramsey, Chief of Police
Metropolitan Police Department
300 Indiana Ave. NW, Room 5080
Washington DC 20001
202/727-4218

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **No NLPNA meeting in July!!**
- ANC6A, first Thursday (July 4), 7 p.m., Miner E.S., 601 15th St. NE. Note: this is the 4th of July holiday and, as we go to press, we have not received confirmation that the meeting will take place as scheduled.
- NLPNA meeting, first Tuesday (August 6), Neighborhood Night Out, 7 p.m. at Lincoln Park. All are welcome. (See article.)
- ANC6B, second Tuesday (July 9) 7 p.m., Old Naval Hospital, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE.
- *The Buzz* editorial staff can be reached at 543-3512. Visit us at www.nlpna.juniperdc.com.

Directory

To be included in the NLPNA directory, call Elizabeth at 543-3512.

THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

Jennie Allen
Elizabeth Nelson
Suzanne Wells
Sharon Cochran
Nick Alberti

Buzz Distribution

Sometimes a *Buzz* distributor moves or becomes unable to continue delivery but forgets to tell us.

When that happens, we still deliver the bundle to his/her address but the *Buzz* doesn't get delivered to homes on the block. If you know of such a situation, please let us know and we will advertise for a new distributor.

A new distributor is needed for Elliot Street. Call 543-3512.

New Garden Site Sought

Many have noticed the new construction going up at 13th and E Streets, where a community garden had been since 1986. The loss of green space is especially difficult on Capitol Hill where few areas exist that provide enough sun and space for gardening. We'll miss the giant sunflowers and hollyhocks that bloomed along the garden's fence.

The gardeners are in search of another garden site. If you know any vacant lot or other space that you think would make a good garden site, please contact Reverend Orlando Bago at 399-2356 or Keith Perry at 434-8229.

Sculpture at Maury

This just in from **Sherry Schwechten** at the DC Public Art Initiative, regarding the sculpture by local artist, Marcia Billig, to be installed on the triangle in front of Maury ES:

- "I made a studio visit in April and saw the almost completed clay model. It was true to the model and incorporated the panel's stipulations. It looked great!

- "At the beginning of June, Marcia Billig had completed the clay model and representatives from the foundry had just arrived at her studio to make the mold.

- "The project is on track for a September installation but an exact date has not been determined."

The Buzz will announce the date as soon as it is finalized.

Kingsman Sale

In the latest twist in the lengthy process to find a new owner for the closed Kingsman Elementary School, Paul Cohn with the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) reported to the *Buzz* that the Charter School Development Corporation is still interested in purchasing Kingsman. However, Options Charter School, the school that was interested in moving their facilities to Kingsman, has decided to back out of the deal.

It now appears the Cesar Chavez Public Charter High School for Public Policy is working with the Charter School Development

Corporation to purchase Kingsman. By June 30, DHCD must receive a proposal for purchasing and renovating Kingsman or a request to extend the June 30 deadline. DHCD will review the proposal and make a recommendation on whether or not to accept the proposal. If the proposal is not accepted, DHCD may once again open the bidding up exclusively to charter schools or may open the bidding up to private developers.

If you have any questions about the sale of Kingsman, contact Paul Cohn at 442-7233.