# The Buzz

# North Lincoln Park's Neighborhood Newsletter

August 2002

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# **Update on Miner ES**

by Diana Winthrop Gray

The construction of the new Miner Elementary School (15th & F Streets) is scheduled for completion in December 2002, when teachers and students will be moved into the new building. The groundbreaking for the new facility was delayed almost six months because of a legal battle over the construction bid. The legal battle was not the only issue; the District of Columbia chapter of the National Historic Trust registered the old Webb school (adjacent to Miner) as an historic building.

Originally, both the Webb and Miner schools were to be demolished and replaced with parking and recreation areas. The historic designation would not allow demolition of Webb. Last year, the school system's Office for Professional Development was looking at occupying Webb, but it is now unclear what will happen with the old facility. Demolition of the old Miner building is scheduled to begin in early January 2003.

Ms. Angela Tilghman, the principal at Miner for ten years, says the students are excited about moving into their new school. The new school will have not only a new parking lot, but a number of playgrounds as well. An added bonus for the entire community is the circular driveway. This will allow buses and parents to drive into the circle to drop off students, reducing traffic congestion on nearby streets.

Neighbors Heartbroken

# Tyrone's Trees Vandalized!

The two trees that were planted on Kingsman Field (1300 block of D Street) in loving memory of our dear, deceased neighbor and community activist Tyrone Payne have been seriously damaged. Vandals stripped the trees of much of their bark and several of their lower branches. Their long-term survival is now in question. This is especially painful to those who knew Tyrone Payne, but it is also a grave disappointment to those who have cared for the trees through heat and drought and were looking forward to one day sitting in their shade.

If you know who hurt Tyrone's trees, please explain what a cruel and foolish act it was. And remind them that there is a \$5,000 fine for damaging trees on public property.

#### **BikeDC**

The Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA) is sponsoring this year's BikeDC on Saturday, September 14. This is a car-free, fun-filled bicycle tour of the national capital region, and is open to riders of all ages.

Part of the route will be through Capitol Hill. Riders will go up East Capitol Street from 4th through 15th Street, and along 15th Street from East Capitol to D Street, NE. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., parking will not be allowed on the south side of East Capitol Street, nor on both sides of 15th Street. WABA will distribute ride brochures to residents

#### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

- ANC6A, first Thursday (Aug. 1), 7 p.m., Miner E.S., 601 15<sup>th</sup>
   St. NE.
- NLPNA meeting, first Tuesday (Aug. 6), Neighborhood Night Out, 7 p.m. at Lincoln Park. All are welcome. (See article.)
- ANC6B, second Tuesday (Aug. 8) 7 p.m., Old Naval Hospital, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE.
- NLPNA meeting, Sept. 3, 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial Church, 14<sup>th</sup> & C St., NE.
- BikeDC, Saturday, Sept. 14. (See article.)
- *The Buzz* editorial staff can be reached at 543-3512. Visit us at www.nlpna.juniperdc.com.

along 15th Street and the south side of East Capitol, to inform them about BikeDC.

The ride will begin at 12th and Pennsylvania Avenues, NW, and starts at 8 a.m. If you register before August 23, the fee is \$35 for adults (or \$30 if you are a Giant Food BonusCard member), \$15 for students, and \$10 for children 14 and under. For more information about the ride, call (202) 628-2500 or visit www.waba.org on the web.

#### **Buzz Distribution**

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

#### Service for Peace Volunteers

The NLPNA was recently contacted by Service For Peace, a non-profit organization that believes that "concern for others is the central principle of vibrant and peaceful communities." Service for Peace is sponsoring a summer program for young people from all over the country to volunteer in Washington DC and other cities. They sent a group of six volunteers to spend a long, hot afternoon helping with the gardening and other chores at Maury ES.

We'd like to thank Jinae Mitchem of Torrance, CA; Jason Howell of Lake Ponkonkona, NY; Naomi Schmidt of Sheboygen, WI; Charles McDougald of Cincinnati, OH; Katie-Li Greene of Amherst, NH; and Hanshin Brewster of Roslindale, MA. The landscaping looks ever so much better as the result of their efforts!

The gardens at Maury are always in need of maintenance. If you can help with this effort in the future, contact Elizabeth 543-3512.

# Directory

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

### Kingsman Sale Progress

The Charter Schools Development Corporation (CSDC) submitted a purchase contract with the District government for Kingsman (14<sup>th</sup> & E Streets). The purchase contract is conditional based on City Council approval, community acceptance, zoning, permitting, and obtaining financing for the project. CSDC has until the end of the year to finalize their financing package and get Council approval for the sale.

There are still several unknowns at this time regarding CSDC's specific development plans. CSDC plans for the Cesar Chavez Public Charter High School for Public Policy to be the primary tenant of Kingsman. The Chavez School opened in September 1998, and now has 230 students in grades nine through twelve. The Chavez School graduated its first class of 24 seniors this year.

CSDC is leaning now toward a complete demolition of Kingsman, but will be meeting with engineers and architects over the next few weeks to determine if renovating the building is feasible. The "annex" portion of the building will be torn down.

Michelle Gelsino from the

CSDC is planning to attend the September NLPNA meeting to discuss the plans for Kingsman. If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 454-9919.

#### **Neighborhood Night Out**

Again this year, the NLPNA will celebrate Neighborhood Night Out with a pot luck supper. Children are especially welcome. The event will begin at 7 p.m. on August 6 at the eastern end of Lincoln Park.

Bring a dish to share (and serving utensils) and any games you think would be fun. Soap bubbles, sidewalk chalk, Frisbees, etc. would be a big hit. For more information, call Elizabeth, 543-3512.

#### **Tree Gaiters**

Tree gaiters and other free watering devices are still available to neighbors trying to keep the young street trees watered. Call Elizabeth 543-3512.

#### THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

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