

The Buzz

North
Lincoln Park's
Neighborhood Newsletter

February 2001

Volume 11 Number 2

Update on PEPCO Facility

Last summer many neighbors noticed that PEPCO had removed transformers and other equipment from its facility at 13th and D St., N.E. PEPCO has informed us that they have decommissioned the site as a power substation. The former trolley car station will house a communication system for PEPCO. Starpower Communications may also use the facility in the future.

While noting that they are an absentee landlord, the spokesman for PEPCO's real estate management office says that they want to be a good neighbor and will work with the community to clean up the

corner and make it more attractive. However, they insist that the chain link fence and "no trespassing" signs must stay for security reasons. Although costs are a factor, PEPCO management is open to suggestions for making the site more attractive.

6A11 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner Ronald TT Nelson and Skip Coburn of Councilmember Sharon Ambrose's office are working on behalf of the community to get this area cleaned up. If you have suggestions for making the site more compatible with the residential neighborhood, please call Sharon Cochran at 399-0715.

Sasha Bruce House to Open in February

Sasha Bruce Youthwork's independent living program at 1312 East Capitol St. will soon be open. According to Mr. Hung Do at Sasha Bruce, the house has passed two of the four inspections it needs to be approved for occupancy: plumbing and electrical. The contractor plans to have the fire and building inspections scheduled early in the week of February 5. Two projects on the outside of the building are scheduled to be taken care of Friday, February 2 and Monday, February 5 – the walkway connecting the wheelchair ramp to the sidewalk, and removal of the tree stump in the rear garden.

If all goes well, Sasha Bruce hopes to move the staff and youth into the house on or about Friday, February 16. The permitted occupancy remains at eight youth.

Greening Grants

Garden Resources of Washington (GROW) is making grants up to \$1,000 available for community greening projects. Funds may be used for expenses such as gardening supplies (e.g., seeds, plants, tools), educational materials, outreach, and events. Last year the 500 block of Tennessee Ave. improved their tree boxes, and two trees were planted on the Kingsman Field with GROW grants. Projects will be selected based on the following criteria: a high level of community participation; strong community-building impact; realistic project plan, clear timeline and budget; clear plan for long-term project sustainability; applicants' financial need; long-term benefit to the neighborhood and environment; and, in the case of youth/school projects, meaningful educational/community service purpose and

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NLPNA meeting, Tuesday Feb. 6, 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial Church, 14th & C St., N.E. A speaker will attend to report on the Community Visioning Process meeting (see article). Nominations for NLPNA officers will be accepted. All are welcome.
- Briefing on the status of D.C. General Hospital, Tuesday Feb. 13, 7:00 p.m., St. Benedict the Moor Church, 320 21st St. N.E.
- A *Buzz* distributor is needed for the 500 block of 14th St. Call Elizabeth, 543-3512, to volunteer. Many thanks to current *Buzz* distributors and recent donors!
- Visit NLPNA's web site at www.nlpna.juniperdc.com.

clear plan for long-term incorporation into classroom curriculum or ongoing community service.

Applications are due by March 5, 2001, and funds will be released by mid-April. For an application or more information, call (202) 234-0591 or e-mail GROW19@aol.com.

Illegal Dumping

If you notice illegal dumping or have previously reported illegal dumping and have not had a satisfactory response, please call Inspector Harold Beckham, 645-7957. He will be happy to hear from you and eager to respond to your complaint.

Community Public Art Update

Monica Manuel, of the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, attended the January NLPNA meeting to discuss the Community Initiatives Public Art Program. The commission was seeking site nominations from District residents for outdoor sites in their communities that are available for long-term placement of public art projects. The meeting attendees agreed to make two site nominations. The first site is the triangle bounded by 13th St., Constitution Ave., and Tennessee Ave., across the street from Maury Elementary School. The second site is the triangle bounded by 14th St., D St., and Tennessee Ave. A committee consisting of Mary Farmer, Susan Hormuth, Suzanne Wells, and Elizabeth Nelson prepared the proposal, which was delivered to the program offices January 19, the application deadline.

Lovejoy School to Be Renovated for Residential Use

Located at 400 12th St. N.E., Lovejoy School sits on land that is jointly owned by the District and the federal government. In December, Congress enacted legislation that effectively waives an ancient federal property interest dating to 1866, thereby opening the way for the District to sell the property. The purchaser is Winter Properties, an Atlanta-based developer known for fine historic renovation work. Formal closing on Lovejoy is to occur in March, and the selling price is \$1.2 million.

The renovation is a multi-million dollar undertaking that will take 12-15 months, and 40-43 condominiums are planned, according to Grant Grimes, Vice President of Development for Winter Properties. Lead and asbestos abatement will be handled by the company's environmental

Maury Elementary Celebrates 100 Days of Learning!

Maury Elementary held its annual celebration January 24 with a full day of literacy-based activities. Students who had read more than 30 books attended a reception in the multi-purpose room where they met with Distinguished Readers including Superintendent Paul Vance, School Board Member Tommy Wells, corporate sponsors, parents, and an NLPNA representative. Mistress of ceremonies 5th grader Ashley Paige introduced the speakers. Maury School Cheerleaders performed special cheers developed especially for the occasion. The Readers were then escorted into the classrooms to read to the students from works of their choice.

This year's featured author was Dr. Carolivia Herron, a District resident, who read from her book "Nappy Head." Dr. Herron said that she would welcome invitations from other schools and youth groups; her name is in the phone book.

remediation subsidiary, Winter Environmental Services Inc. Grimes says the company hopes to begin working on the building in late spring or early summer.

Responsibility for the project's design has been assigned to the Washington, D.C.-based architectural firm of Martinez and Johnson. To date, there has been one preliminary meeting with the Capitol Hill Preservation Society, with more to follow.

Winter Properties has promised the community that there will be attractive landscaping around Lovejoy, with the area immediately behind the building slated for off-street parking. However, the lower playground is not for sale.

More than two years of work has gone into getting the District to address Lovejoy. Community activism *does* make a difference!

Community Visioning Process Meeting

A meeting was held January 27 at Miner Elementary to begin the Community Visioning Process for Cluster 26. This area, bounded by Constitution Ave., Florida Ave., North Capitol St., and the Anacostia River, includes most of the NLPNA area. The meeting, organized by the D.C. Office of Planning, was a first step in a ten-month-long process that will determine a budget for neighborhood development. Many neighbors, city planners, and Councilmember Sharon Ambrose were in attendance. A speaker will brief NLPNA at our February meeting.

Neighborhood Directory

To be included in the NLPNA neighborhood directory, provide your name, address, and phone number (and e-mail address, if you wish) in writing to Susan at 1400 C St., Elizabeth at 1330 North Carolina Ave., or Abbie at 226 14th St., or bring it to the next NLPNA meeting. Copies of the directory will be available only to those listed in it. We've set a tentative cut-off date of February 28, so please respond as quickly as possible.

Urban Campout

A committee is forming to plan the next Urban Campout, to be held in June. If you can help, please contact Barbara Anderson (398-6621), Anita Dyson (547-7332), Suzanne Wells (547-2477), or Elizabeth Nelson (543-3512).

Entertainment Books

Thanks to everyone who bought Entertainment 2001 books. NLPNA raised \$182 by selling the books.

THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

Jennie Allen
Elizabeth Nelson
Suzanne Wells
Sharon Cochran
Nick Alberti

