

Kingsman Future Uncertain, Again

Public schools administrators put the closed Kingsman Elementary School back on the bidding block after the Hospital for Sick Children withdrew plans to lease the property for a school for special needs children.

A request for proposal was recently published in the Washington Business Journal, according to Stuart Colquhoun of the real estate firm of Jones Lang Wootton. Proposals for use of the property are due August 17. The proposals are supposed to document "evidence of community support" for the proposed uses.

Several other organizations have expressed interest in Kingsman since the request for proposals was released.

MANNA, Inc., a community-based, affordable homeownership housing and community development organization which has built or renovated more than 500 affordable homes, is interested in developing affordable housing at Kingsman.

The REBOUNDS Foundation, a non-profit organization working to provide basketball facilities and after-school activities for children 8-17, is also interested in Kingsman for their first facility. And, Fleet Business School, an Annapolis-based college, is interested in Kingsman as the site for a charter business/technology high school.

Time is set aside on the agenda of the August 4 NLPNA meeting for these organizations to discuss their plans for Kingsman, and to answer community questions. The August 4 meeting will help these organizations gauge the community support for their projects

prior to the deadline for submitting proposals.

After the August 17 deadline for submitting proposals, another community meeting will be planned to hear from all organizations which submit proposals.

Dr. Arlene Ackerman, DCPS Superintendent, said in a June 5 letter to the Friends of Kingsman Park that they "were very disappointed" the Hospital for Sick Children withdrew their proposal, and urged the community "to encourage the hospital to again submit their proposal."

Many neighbors signed a petition urging the hospital to go ahead with development of the school for special needs children.

Sharon Ambrose, Ward 6 Councilmember, has urged public school officials to hold community meetings regarding the disposition of all closed schools to ensure future plans are acceptable to the surrounding neighborhood. NLPNA will press public school officials to hold a community meeting once the proposals are submitted.

Community Calendar

- July 14 -- PSA 511 meets with Sgt. Angela Cousins Tuesday, 7 p.m. at the Teachers Credit Union, 901 D St. N.E.
- July 15 -- PSA 512 meeting Wed., 7 p.m. with Sgt. Kenneth Mack at Lane Church, 14th and C N.E.
- July 20 -- Mayoral candidates forum on the arts, Monday, 5:30 p.m. at Corcoran Gallery, 500 17th N.W.
- Aug. 1 -- PSA 109 meets with Sgt. Phil Parker at the 1D1 substation, 500 D Street, SE. Check for time.
- Aug. 4 -- North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association meets Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. at Lane Church, 14th C streets. Organizations interested in the abandoned Kingsman School will tell about their proposals.
- Sept. 8 -- Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B meets 7 p.m. 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE.

Police On Two Wheels

Expect to see police on two wheels -- motorized and pedal pushers -- in the upcoming months. Fifth District Commander Lloyd Coward tells The Buzz that he has deployed a 10-officer motorcycle squad in police service areas 510 through 513.

The squad will be working the 3-11 p.m. shift, Coward said. Farther north, the first sector, Coward has deployed six officers on bicycles.

Coward says crime is down -- 18 percent over last year. In May, Coward said the Fifth District had a larger crime reduction over April than any other police district.

And, there's a new domestic violence unit at the Fifth District. Two detectives described how they investigate domestic violence cases. If you are a victim of domestic violence, call the Domestic Violence Intake Center at 879-0152.

Urban Campout a Raging Success

In February, the neighborhood children started asking when the Urban Campout was going to be. They weren't disappointed when June 6 finally came, and NLPNA sponsored the Second Annual Urban Campout at the Kingsman.

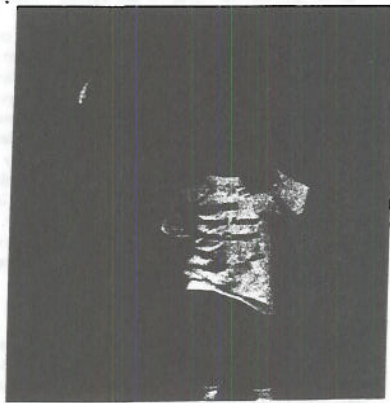
Field. At the height of the activities, over 400 people were counted on the field behind the school at 14th and E streets. Seventy hardy souls camped out at the field on the cool evening.

This year's campout featured many of the favorites from last year, but also many new activities. The 1300 block of D Street was closed as the activities overflowed from the field.

The children were thrilled to get their bikes in shape for the summer as their flats were fixed and seats were raised at the bike repair clinic. Parents welcomed the opportunity to get photo and finger print identifications of the children.

Then the fun began. While the children wore their Urban Campout t-shirts, the afternoon started with basketball, races, double-dutch rope, painting flower pots, a scavenger hunt, and a visit from Ranger Kate Bucco of the Kennilworth Aquatic Gardens.

When the music began, all eyes were focused on Hands All



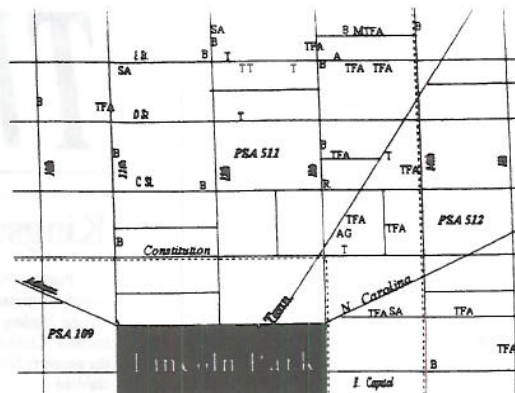
The Big Top -- A young urban camper emerges from her temporary digs after a night at the Kingsman Field.

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Crime 5/31-6/24

- Murder - M
- Assault - A
- Assault/Gun - AG
- Assault/Knife - AK
- Robbery - R
- Robbery/Gun - RG
- Robbery/Knife - RK
- Robbery/Fear - RF
- Burglary - B
- Stolen Auto - SA
- Theft - T
- Theft fr Auto - TFA
- Rape - Ra

511 and 512 by Sgt. Joe Snell. 109 stats not available.



Know Your Sergeant

- PSA 511
Angela Cousins,
727-4494,
voicemail 727-4932 box #26153.
- PSA 512
Kenneth Mack,
727-4494,
voicemail 282-1162 box #21343.
- PSA 109
Phil Parker.

Murder Inquiry Heard in the 'Hood

Police are looking for information that might help them close their investigation into the murder of an elderly woman on Emerald Street last month.

Police discovered Mary Alice Pratt, 82, on the floor of her home at 1362 Emerald Street home about 10:30 the night June 3. She suffered a fatal blow to the head, police said.

A deputy medical examiner declared Ms. Pratt dead at 12:45 a.m.

Police urge anyone with information to call the Homicide unit at 727-4347. Or, tipsters can call the DC Crime Solvers Unit at 1-800-673-2777. Calls to the Crime Solvers unit are confidential and if the caller can receive up to \$1000 if the information leads to an arrest and indictment.

If you like to garden, there is half a plot available in the 12th/13th/C/D streets Community Garden. It's not too late to plant tomatoes, and many other crops. Call 398-6305 to reserve your plot.

Nicholas Gimbel, a longtime Lincoln Park neighbor who recently moved to Princeton New Jersey, passed May 25. Gimbel and his golden retriever Megabyte were regulars at Lincoln Park. Condolences can be sent to his wife, Amy Gimbel, 44 McComb Rd., Princeton, N.J., 08540.

Special thanks to Peter May and Hubert Hughley from Soccer-on-the-Hill for mowing the Kingsman Field this Spring.

Congratulations to Jamie and Brett Summers on the birth of their daughter, Perry Elaine on May 6. Dad says "Mom

and baby are doing fine."

Tired of that overgrown grass on the public spaces staring you in the face every morning? The NLPNA lawnmower can be borrowed by NLPNA members in good standing. Call Environmental Committee Chair Brett Summers at 547-4060.

And if you are too lazy to mow it yourself, hire Cornelius "Bab" Thompson. He works hard and is a nice young man to boot. Call him at 546-9346.

Beat the heat this summer by joining the P.G. Community Pool. It's only 15 minutes from Capitol Hill. Individual, full family, single-parent & senior memberships available. Call (301) 277-8896 for more information.

Special thanks to Lillie and Doretta Ward, Ames Place for their contribution to the Buzz. Virginia Gaddis of 11th Street also contributed. So did Sharon Cochran and Lea Mesner of Emerald St.

Sad to hear that Mr. Shiva has died. He was the loyal canine companion to NLPNA Chair Nick Alberti and wife Elizabeth Nelson.

Legal Bill Blues

Trants Liquor is closed and it is no exaggeration to say the years of litigation played in important role. Trouble is, there are still \$3000 in outstanding legal bills.

Even if you don't live adjacent to the store, you're probably reaping the benefits. Eighty-five percent of the store's sales were single serving liquor items which could be consumed on the street, maybe in front of your house, according to the store's own statistics.

Help the NLPNA liquidate it's debt. Write out a check to the Capitol Hill Restoration Society and send it care of The Buzz, Box 306, 611 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, WDC 20003.

The Buzz is assembled and distributed by neighbors like you. Inquiries and input can be directed to Stew Harris, editorial, 544-8472 or Sharon Cochran, distribution, 399-0715. Contributions should be made to NLPNA, c/o The Buzz, Box 306, 611 Penn. Ave. SE, 20003.

Urban Campout Cont'd

Around, a musical group led by Bob Fagan, who got the field stomping to the "Let's All Talk Dog Blues."

Those who worked up a sweat were glad to see the DC Fire Department truck parked on D Street. After the firefighters gave fire safety tips, they turned the hoses on much to the delight of the children.

By that time, those who had worked up an appetite were glad to see Tyrone Payne cooking hot dogs and hamburgers donated by the DC Department of Corrections. Just as dinner was winding down, Kengmo, a professional storyteller from Cameroon, told stories and shared songs from his native land about respect for elders and the importance of values in our lives.

When Kengmo finished, those with a sweet tooth were satisfied with cupcakes baked by members of Brown AME and the Saint Paul Christian Community Churches plus Ben & Jerry's peace pops.

As dark fell, the campfire roared while the children sang camp songs, and couldn't seem to get enough roasted marshmallows. Camp songs were sung with Bruce Engelbert while individual tents were pitched by the campers.

Volunteers from the Marine Reserve, and officers from the Fifth

Police District kept a watchful eye on the campout all night.

The campout was covered by Channel 4 and Cable News Channel 8. Both reports focused on the neighbors concerns about the future of the closed Kingsman Elementary School, and our desire to see the Hospital for Sick Children construct a school for special needs children.

The Urban Campout continues to be an excellent example of what happens when a community comes together to find positive ways to solve problems. The campout showed the strength of the North Lincoln Park neighborhood, and could not have happened without the support of many individuals, businesses and organizations.

In addition to those mentioned above, Excello contributed electricity and coolers Tyrone Payne of Fats' Food Service donated the grills, Robert and Karen Reed, owners of The Old Post Office Pavilion Ben & Jerry's donated peace pops. Port-O-Let donated two portable potties.

And many thanks to the volunteers (too numerous to mention by name) who bought, provided or served food, fixed bikes and worked with the children.