

The Buzz

North
Lincoln Park's
Neighborhood Newsletter

June 2012

Volume 23 Number 6

The Buzz is Back in the Black!

In the April and May issues we reported that the "Buzz fund" had been depleted and distribution might have to end with the May issue. We're ecstatic to report that we've had a reprieve, having received donations and offers of limited free printing from loyal – and generous – Buzz readers (thank you!!). It costs about \$120-\$150 to photocopy each issue (depending on the free printing support we receive). Based on that, it looks like we will make it through the end of the year, especially since donations are still coming in. Plus we may receive a new allocation when the budget is approved in August.

That said, we will continue to accept donations going forward. Checks should be made out to North Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association and sent to (or dropped off at) 160 Tennessee Ave. NE.

Volunteer distributors are needed for the 100 block of 15th St., 300 block of 14th Pl., 1100 block of E St., 1500 block of Constitution Ave., 1500 block of North Carolina Ave., and 1400 and 1500 blocks of A St. This is a good opportunity for a young person in need of community service hours. Call 543-3512 or email elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com.

We are also seeking free or low-cost printing. If you can print even a couple of hundred copies, that would be helpful.

THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

Elizabeth Nelson
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NLPNA Yard Sale

The NLPNA Yard Sale took place, as usual, on the Saturday after Mothers Day. And what a glorious day it was! Perfect weather, that's for sure, sunny, breezy, and not too hot. Plus we made a lot of money, \$1,450 – one of our best years, ever. We sold a ton of small items and a beautiful, pristine living room set. It was fun to watch everyone eyeing it, wishing they could find a space for it in their own homes.

Many thanks to the volunteers who made this event a success, the folks who helped with set up and clean up, the sales people, the donors, and, of course, the shoppers!

NLPNA Finance Committee

The Finance Committee will present a proposed budget for discussion and approval at the August NLPNA meeting. If you would like to help plan the budget, please contact Gloria Junge, Committee Chair. She will have a planning meeting in July and can be reached at 546-4143.

Ward 6 Family Day at Rosedale Recreation Center

Join Councilmember Tommy Wells and your neighbors to celebrate the reopening of the Rosedale Recreation Center (1700 Gales St. NE) at the 6th Annual Ward 6 Family Day, Saturday June 23 from noon to 4 p.m. There will be free food, music, games, and tons of fun for the whole family. Several government and community organizations have been invited to be a part of our best Ward 6 Family Day yet! Details posted at www.tommywells.org.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **NLPNA meeting**, first Tues. (June 5), 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial CME Church, 14th & C St. NE. All are welcome.
- **Historic House Toolbox**, Sat. June 9, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. *See article.*
- **ANC 6A meeting**, second Thurs. (June 14), 7 p.m., Miner ES, 601 15th St. NE. For more info, visit www.anc6a.org.
- **NLPNA will not meet in July**
- *The Buzz* is available at www.anc6a.org/publications.html. Contact us at 543-3512 or elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com.

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society Presents...

Historic House Toolbox

Give Your House Some Love!

Join the DC Preservation League and CHRS to receive free individualized attention from contractors and seasoned professionals who can answer questions on a range of topics, including working with architects and contractors, roofing, wood windows, ironwork, energy efficiency, and much more. Two sessions will focus on researching house history and greening your house without compromising historic integrity.

This event is free, open to all, and will take place at Hill Center (Old Naval Hospital), 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Saturday, June 9, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Register at <https://dcpres.wufoo.com/forms/historic-house-tool-box/>. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Handwritten No-Parking Signs No Longer Legal

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has announced that all signs posted in public space for Emergency No Parking restrictions must now be electronically printed. Handwritten Emergency No Parking signs are no longer permitted in public space; they will be removed by inspectors and a \$25 fee may be issued for each improperly posted sign.

The change will make it easier to track the posting of Emergency No Parking signs and help residents determine if posted signs are properly permitted. A Public Space Permit Lookup Tool (<http://gis.ddot.dc.gov/PermitLocator/>) allows users to enter an address or area and pull up all public space occupancy/construction permits issued for that location and see to whom the permits were granted and for how long.

Applications for public space permits can be submitted using DDOT's Transportation Online Permitting System (TOPS), and Emergency No Parking signs can be printed at the Public Space Permitting Center, 1100 4th St. SW, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, and at most Metropolitan Police Department stations.

All Emergency No Parking signs issued for public space permits should be printed and include the following information:

- date(s) and hours for which parking is prohibited,
- public space permit number or DDOT contract number,
- date the signs were printed, and
- contact name/phone number.

Utility companies responding to an emergency – such as a gas or water leak – may post handwritten signs if necessary, provided the signs include an emergency work request number.

If you believe a posted no-parking sign is not valid, please call the Public Space Inspections office at 671-2036.

Please Water Trees

We are fortunate to have received many new street trees this year, but they have little chance of survival without our assistance; they will need supplemental water for at least their first two to three summers if they are to survive, and the District government does not water street trees. It is up to the neighbors to do the watering. You can help by joining the Urban Forestry Administration's Canopy Keeper program and adopting a tree near your home.

A quick blast from a hose encourages poor root development. It's much better to let the water trickle for 20 to 30 minutes – or better still, use a watering bag. It provides a useful way to measure the amount of water you are delivering, and a garden hose connected to a nearby water source makes the job easy. The trees will need an absolute minimum of 10 gallons each week – but as much as 20-30 gallons may be needed in very hot, dry weather.

Mulch is also important in keeping a tree hydrated. A 2-4 inch layer is sufficient, but the mulch must be kept away from the trunk. Clean weeds and debris from the planting space. This helps in two ways: First, the tree will not have to compete with the weeds for precious water. Second, the water bags are far less likely to be punctured by mowers if there is no vegetation to mow.

The Casey Trees website (caseytrees.org) posts moisture conditions but even if you think that Mother Nature has been providing enough rain, it doesn't pay to be over-confident. By the time a tree looks like it needs water (is shriveled or drops leaves), it has already been damaged. Don't wait. Be proactive!

Trees for Capitol Hill has a few bags that can be borrowed for the season. If you want one, contact *The Buzz*. Watering devices are also available from DDOT; go to

www.ddot.dc.gov, click on "Tree Planting," then click on "Canopy Keepers: Adopt a Tree." You will be asked to submit an agreement online or by mail to the Urban Forestry Administration, DDOT, 55 M St. SE, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20003.

Service requests can be made on www.dc.gov or by calling 311.

Library Programs

The Northeast Branch Library's programs include:

- ♦ Story Time for 3-6 year olds, Mon. June 4, 11, 18, 25 at 4 p.m.
- ♦ Toddler Times, Tues. June 5, 12, 19, 26 & Thurs. June 7, 14, 21 at 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Children's Book Club, Tues. June 5 at 4 p.m.
- ♦ Teen Advisory Group meeting, Wed. June 6, 5:15-6:15 p.m. Ages 12-19.
- ♦ Story Times, Sat. June 9, 16, 23, 30 at 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Teen Movie Night, Wed. June 13, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ages 12-19.
- ♦ Teen Gaming Night, Wed. June 20, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ages 12-19.
- ♦ Origami Club, Thurs. June 21, 4-5 p.m.
- ♦ Adult Book Club, Mon. June 25 at 7 p.m.

The library, at 7th St. and Maryland Ave. NE (698-3320), is closed on Sundays.

Want Trees?

NLPNA will be partnering with Trees for Capitol Hill again this fall to plant trees on public property. Funds from NLPNA and Trees for Capitol Hill will be used to match neighbors' contributions. Neighbors wishing to sponsor a tree must commit to digging the hole and watering for the first two years. Email elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com with "trees" as the subject, or call 543-3512 before June 11.

Trees for Capitol Hill now has a website; visit <http://treesforcapitolhill.org>.