

# The Buzz

North  
Lincoln Park's  
Neighborhood Newsletter

May 2000

Volume 10 Number 5

## Buy a House for \$250?!

by Sharon Cochran

On August 7th, at least two houses in our neighborhood will be sold by lottery for \$250. Houses at 1372 E Street N.E. and 1345 Emerald Street are among the 34 houses to be offered through the District of Columbia's Homestead Program. Usually, the houses offered in this program need a lot of work to bring them up to the city housing code. Any city resident who has never owned a home and has a good enough credit rating to qualify for loans to repair the house is eligible for the lottery. A winner and two runners-up are chosen for each house. Last year, several houses in our neighborhood were sold in a very successful lottery that drew over 3,000 qualified applicants. Repairs have started on most of the houses, and some may be occupied this summer. On May 18th, application packages can be picked up at the University Legal Services office, 300 Eye Street N.E. #202, and other offices in the city. For a complete list of properties, watch for ads in local papers or check the April 20th District Weekly section of the *Washington Post*. For more information about the program, call the Department of Housing and Community Services at 442-7299.

## Play Ball!

The season begins on Saturday, June 10, for the Capitol Hill Children's Baseball League. All children aged 11 and under are invited to sign up for the league. The 7-8 year-old league will play at the Kingsman Field. Call 546-7000, ext. 251, for more information.

## SEND A KID TO CAMP

The fourth annual Urban Campout will be held the weekend of June 10-11 on Kingsman Field. There will be games, food, arts & crafts, music and a bike repair clinic. Last year, over 150 kids attended. As in the past, the event will be free to all neighborhood children and their adult chaperones.

To raise the money we need to host the Campout, we are asking for donations of any amount. Individuals, groups, or businesses that contribute \$75 or more will have their names printed on the back of the souvenir T-shirt. We also have certificates for sponsoring businesses to display. If you would like to contribute or organize the neighbors on your block to make a group contribution, call Elizabeth at 543-3512 for a donation form.

We are also in need of volunteers to pitch tents (if you have a tent to lend, that would be great!), prepare and serve food, fix bikes, supervise games and arts & crafts activities, etc. Please call the number above to volunteer.

## DCPS Recommends School Sales

D.C. Public Schools is recommending that Lovejoy School be sold to the Winter Properties, an Atlanta-based firm planning to renovate the school into condominiums with off-street parking. Also, DCPS is recommending Pierce School be sold to Evolve, a company owned by two Capitol Hill residents who plan to turn the school into loft-style apartments. The D.C. Control Board must now approve the sales.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NLPNA meeting, May 2, 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial Church, 14<sup>th</sup> & C Street, N.E. Approval of budget. All are welcome.
- Fish Fry fundraiser for Urban Campout, May 19.
- NLPNA yard sale, May 20. To volunteer, call 543-3512.
- Capitol Hill Classic, May 21.
- Urban Campout, June 10-11.
- *The Buzz* needs contributions to pay for future issues. Please send your tax-deductible contribution to NLPNA Treasurer, 160 Tennessee Avenue, N.E.

## NLPNA Yard Sale – Something for Everyone

The annual NLPNA yard sale is the primary source of funds for neighborhood activities. This year's sale will be held Saturday, May 20 at 10 a.m. in the triangle park between the 1300 blocks of North Carolina Avenue and A Street N.E. Yard sale contributions can be dropped off beginning at 8 a.m. on the day of the sale. Volunteers are needed, especially sales persons. We also need shopping bags and, most important, stuff to sell!

This is recycling at its best. You get rid of stuff you no longer need (and get a tax deduction). Your neighbors get stuff they do need (at a great price). And the NLPNA gets the money we need to fund community activities. Remember, "one man's trash is another man's treasure." If you can help, please call Elizabeth at 543-3512.

### ***Buy a Fish Dinner and Help Support the Urban Campout***

On Friday, May 19, Horace & Dickie's might as well shut down because James & Anita Dyson are cooking up some mighty good fish. Between noon and 7 p.m., stop by 1333 D Street, N.E. and buy a fish dinner with all the trimmings. For \$5 you'll get fish, James' secret recipe potato salad, baked beans, and string beans. There will be sodas and dessert for sale, too. Proceeds from the fish dinner sales are a major source of funds for the Urban Campout. Last year, over \$300 was raised for the Urban Campout through the fish dinner. Mark your calendars for May 19, buy a fish dinner, and help support the Urban Campout.

### ***Memorial Tree Planting***

NLPNA received a \$275 grant from Garden Resources of Washington to purchase a tree for the Kingsman Field in the 1300 block of D Street, N.E. Several trees on the field died during last summer's drought, and the grant will be used to replace one of the trees.

### ***Community Garden Plot Available***

The community garden in the alley between 12th, 13th, C & D Streets, N.E. has an available plot for the summer. Unfortunately, this could be the last summer for this site that's been used as a community garden for over ten years. The garden site was recently sold, and the new owner has agreed to allow the gardeners to use the site for this summer. The new owner does not have definite plans for the site, but is considering building on the site where the garden now is. Still, if you have a desire to eat home-grown vegetables, there'll be plenty of time this summer to grow whatever you like. Call Jean at 547-8095 if you're interested in a garden plot!

The tree purchased with this grant will be planted in memory of Tyrone Payne, an NLPNA member who died in January. The tree planting will be Saturday, May 13, at 3 p.m. Anyone who knew Tyrone is invited to come and share your remembrances of him.

### **Capitol Hill Classic**

The Capitol Hill Classic will be held on Sunday, May 21, with a 10K, 3K, and fun runs. You can register for the race at [www.run-washington.com](http://www.run-washington.com). The Capitol Hill Classic is the primary fundraiser for the Capitol Hill Cluster School.

### **NEW OFFICERS ELECTED**

Officers were elected at the April NLPNA meeting. Elizabeth Nelson was elected Chair and Nate Reilly, Secretary. Ruth Oyen returns as Treasurer and Annie Goode as Finance Committee Chair. The attendees thanked Nick Alberti for his two years of service as Chair.

The meeting was well attended, with several new faces. The police attended to discuss crime issues and the District's plans for security during the WTO/IMF demonstrations.

### **THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM**

Jennie Allen  
Elizabeth Nelson  
Suzanne Wells  
Susan Oursler  
Nick Alberti

