

# The Buzz

North  
Lincoln Park's  
Neighborhood Newsletter

August 2001

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## Lofty Dreams

The loft movement that started more than 30 years ago in New York has finally made its way south to Washington, DC. Chris Swanson, co-owner of Evolve LLC (the company renovating the Pierce School at 14th and Maryland Avenue, NE into loft-rental apartments) believes the Pierce School will be the only "true" lofts in Washington, DC.

The concept behind a loft is that you try to adapt the space to



residential living in a way that least disrupts the original use of the building. In the case of the Pierce School Lofts, this will mean large open spaces with as many original features preserved from the school as possible. Chalkboards will line the walls of many of the renovated units, and coat hooks will adorn other units. But one lucky resident is going to live in the converted boys locker room, and have five

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## D.C. Public Art Initiative

### *Selection Will Be Made In August*

Plans to install a piece of sculpture in the triangle in front of Maury Elementary School are going forward. The four artists will present their proposals to the selection committee on August 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be open to residents of the neighborhood so that they can offer their comments before the committee votes. The location is 401 8<sup>th</sup> St NW (just north of the Navy Memorial Metro) on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. For more information, contact Mary (547-7092) or Elizabeth (543-3512).

## *Kingsman's Fate Undecided*

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is considering two bids for the closed Kingsman School. Both bids are from charter schools. One is from the New School for Enterprise and Development, a high school, and the other is from Options Charter School, which is currently housed at the Capital Children's Museum. According to Paul Cohn, neither proposal is strong enough yet for DHCD to make a decision. DHCD has asked each school to submit additional information regarding their financial viability and plans for renovating the school. If you have any questions, contact Paul Cohn at 442-7233.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NLPNA meeting, Tuesday, August 7, 7:00 p.m., **Lincoln Park**. See article.
- Arts in the Park, Fridays, August 3, 10, and 17. Lincoln Park; rain location is Capitol Hill Arts Workshop (CHAW), 545 7<sup>th</sup> Street S.E. Performances are from 5 to 6 p.m. See schedule.
- D.C. Public Arts Initiative selection committee meeting, Monday, August 13, 1:00 p.m., 401 8<sup>th</sup> Street N.W. See article.
- PSA 511 Community Meeting, August 15, 7 p.m., Teacher's Credit Union, 9<sup>th</sup> & D St. N.E. Open workshop to identify neighborhood problems that can be solved immediately. To see if you live in PSA 511, check the maps section on [www.nlpna.juniperdc.com](http://www.nlpna.juniperdc.com).
- *Buzz* distributors are needed for the 500 block of 14th St. Call Elizabeth, 543-3512.
- Visit NLPNA's web site at [www.nlpna.juniperdc.com](http://www.nlpna.juniperdc.com).

## Neighborhood Directory

The July 2001 revision of the NLPNA Neighborhood Directory is ready. Copies will be available at the August "pot luck," or contact Elizabeth (543-3512) to pick up your copy. Updated versions will be printed about twice a year so we can accept new participants at any time.

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urinals in his bathroom! The rental units are expected to be available in March 2002. Currently, there are 70 people waiting to be notified when the apartments are ready.

Photos were obtained from the Library of Congress showing the school as it looked in the late

1800's when it was built (check [www.evolveLLC.com](http://www.evolveLLC.com) for a look at an old photo of the Pierce School). As much of the original exterior of the Pierce School will be maintained as possible, including building new front and back doors that will closely match the original ones. Evolve LLC is putting \$1.25 million into the renovation of the Pierce School.

Evolve LLC's philosophy is that they want to improve neighborhoods through their projects. To do this they buy underused properties, and find productive ways to use them. In the case of the Pierce School, they're turning their lofty dreams into a reality.

### **Celebrate National Night Out at August Meeting**

The August NLPNA meeting will be a potluck supper beginning at 7:00 in **Lincoln Park**. Children will be especially welcome. Bring a dish (or beverage) to share and celebrate "Neighborhood Night Out." Fires are prohibited in the park, so we will not be grilling.

### ***Help Support NLPNA***

When you buy produce from [SmcCray@SprintPCS.com](mailto:SmcCray@SprintPCS.com), 20 percent of the proceeds benefit NLPNA. For pre-ordering, see Stan at NLPNA meetings.

### **THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM**

Jennie Allen  
Elizabeth Nelson  
Suzanne Wells  
Sharon Cochran  
Nick Alberti

### **Arts in the Park Schedule**

*Performances are held at 5:00 p.m. in Lincoln Park.*

**August 3** Summer Movement Camp Performance

**August 10** Thirty-three & a Third and Blufunk

**August 17** Summer Music Camp Performance

### ***Grants Available***

The Humanities Council of Washington, D.C. invites groups to submit proposals for projects promoting the Urban Humanities. There are two funding cycles, one of which ended May 3; the other will end September 19. Attendance at a "technical assistance workshop" is highly recommended, and the next one will be held August 21 at the Martin Luther King library. For more information, call Elizabeth at 543-3512.

