

The Buzz

North
Lincoln Park's
Neighborhood Newsletter

December 2011

Volume 22 Number 12

Seasonal Illuminations

"Seasons Greenings" at the U.S. Botanic Garden began November 24 and will continue through January 2, 10 a.m.– 5 p.m. This is a delightful venue, particularly on cold, dreary days, but it really shines through the winter holidays. This year, their famous Garden Railway in the East Gallery will feature imaginative buildings created with plant materials. Explore "Who Lives Here?" and see all kinds of delightful dwellings, from an opossum house and a critter condo to model American presidential homes. Don't miss this popular exhibit, including one of the largest indoor decorated trees in Washington DC and the capital's landmark buildings in the Garden Court.

See Union Station's Holiday Model Train as it winds its way through the mountains and fjords of Norway. Join the Marines, Mayor, city officials, and the Ambassador of Norway as they jumpstart the train and light the enormous Christmas tree December 1 at 6 p.m. This display will be on view through January 3 and is particularly suitable for children.

The U.S. Capitol Christmas tree (on the west lawn) is considered by many to be the most beautiful Christmas tree in the city – and it's right in our own back yard. The illumination ceremony will be held Tuesday, December 6 from 5-5:30 p.m.

A National Menorah is lit on the White House grounds at the Ellipse during the eight nights of Hanukkah, beginning Tuesday, December 20 at 4 p.m.

BLACK NATIVITY

The H Street Playhouse presents "Black Nativity" Dec. 3 – 31 at 1365 H Street NE. This song-play, based on the Gospel of St. Luke combined with the poetry of Langston Hughes, tells the original story of the Nativity in scripture, verse, music, and dance.

Tickets can be ordered at www.theateralliance.com or by phone at 241-2539. Group rates are available.

Buzz Distributors Needed

Volunteer distributors are needed for the 400-500 blocks of 11th St., 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., 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.

'Tis the Season – for Theft from Auto

One holiday tradition we could all do without is the annual increase in theft-from-auto. It's never a good idea to leave anything of value in your car, but as the gift giving season approaches it becomes even more important. Plus the north Lincoln Park area has already been experiencing greater-than-usual problems. Please help discourage crime by keeping your car as empty as possible.

There has also been an uptick in carjackings. Be mindful of your surroundings and stay safe.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- **NLPNA meeting**, first Tues. (Dec. 6), 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial CME Church, 14th & C St. NE. Holiday celebration. ANC 6A04 Commissioner Nick Alberti will be present to meet with his constituents. All are welcome! *See article.*
- **Streetcar Forum sponsored by ANC 6A**, Tues. Dec. 6, 7 p.m., Atlas Theater, 1333 H St. NE. Mayor Gray will attend to discuss the status of the H St./Benning Rd. line. *See article.*
- **ANC 6A meeting**, second Thurs. (Dec. 8), 7 p.m., Miner ES, 601 15th St. NE. For more info, visit www.anc6a.org.
- **Livable Walkable Awards**, Thurs. Dec. 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. *See article.*
- **CSX Tunnel Forum**, Fri. Dec. 9, 7-9 p.m., Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. *See article.*
- **NLPNA does not meet in January**
- *The Buzz* is available at www.anc6a.org/publications.html. Contact us at 543-3512 or elizabeth_knits@yahoo.com.

Brunch at Lane CME

Lane Memorial CME Church, on the corner of 14th and C Sts. NE, will be hosting a Holiday Brunch on Sunday, December 11 at 1:30 p.m. The cost is \$15.00. Persons can call the church for more information, 547-0407. Come and enjoy good food and conversation!

Capital City Symphony

The Capital City Symphony is a full-size symphony orchestra based as one of the arts partners at the Atlas Performing Arts Center, 1333 H Street NE.

The free Holiday Carol Sing Concert, in collaboration with the Congressional Chorus, the American Youth Chorus, and the Atlas Performing Arts Center, is a neighborhood tradition. This year there will be two performances, Sunday December 4 at 4 and 7 p.m. This popular show plays to full houses. Tickets are free but need to be reserved at www.AtlasArts.org.

Library Programs

The Northeast Branch Library's programs include:

- ♦ Toddler Times, Tues. Dec. 6, 13, 20, 27 & Thurs. Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11:15 a.m.
- ♦ Music, Sat. Dec. 3 at 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Story Time for 3-6 year olds, Mon. Dec. 5, 12 at 4 p.m.
- ♦ Teen Movie Night, Wed. Dec. 7, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ages 12-19.
- ♦ Story Times, Sat. Dec. 10, 17, 24, 31 at 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Teen Gaming Night, Wed. Dec. 14, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Ages 12-19.
- ♦ Origami Club, Thurs. Dec. 15, 4-5 p.m.

The library, at 7th St. and Maryland Ave. NE (698-3320), is closed on Sundays and Christmas (Dec. 25).

What's "On" in December

To discover fun, free (or darn cheap) activities, check out www.whatsoncity.net. Kathleen Donner keeps it up to date with events of interest to all ages/tastes.

Shop and Support NLPNA

NLPNA is enrolled with the igive.com charity support organization. If you are an online shopper, please consider joining.

THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

Elizabeth Nelson
Jennie Allen
Suzanne Wells

Holiday Celebration

The December NLPNA meeting (Tuesday the 6th) will feature "pot luck" snacks and sweets. Come join us at Lane Memorial CME, corner of 14th and C Sts. NE, to celebrate the holiday season with your neighbors. If you can, bring a few cookies or beverages to share. All are welcome. We hope to see you there!

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society Presents...

The Big Dig – DC

The CSX Virginia Avenue Tunnel project will be the topic at the December 9 membership forum for the Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS). A representative from CSX will make a presentation about this major project and answer questions from the community. Due to the size (extending from 2nd St. to 11th St. SE) and nature (an open trench) of the project there are serious concerns about environmental issues and the likely disruptions to traffic, public transit, and our commercial corridors.

The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. at Hill Center (Old Naval Hospital), 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE; the program will begin at 7 p.m.

The event is free and the public is encouraged to attend. For more information email caphrs@aol.com.

Livable Walkable Awards

Councilmember Tommy Wells is hosting the 5th Annual Ward 6 Livable, Walkable Awards Thursday, December 8, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the newly renovated Hill Center at the Old Naval Hospital located at 921 Pennsylvania Ave., SE. There will be food, drink, cash bar, live entertainment, and an awards ceremony to honor the recipients.

To learn more, please visit www.tommywells.org/events/livablewalkableawards or contact Patricia Joseph at 724-8628 or pjoseph@dccouncil.us.

Entertainment Books

The 2011 Entertainment books have arrived! Each book costs \$30, and NLPNA gets to keep \$5 from every book sold. All the money goes to support NLPNA activities, including printing *The Buzz*. The Entertainment books have hundreds of savings including TGI Fridays, Pizza Hut, Domino's Pizza, Ben & Jerry's and Haagen-Dazs at Union Station, tons of online savings to stores like Old Navy, savings on hotels and car rentals, and more. If you'd like to buy a book or help sell books, call Suzanne Wells at 547-2477, or email her at m.godec@att.net.

Streetcar Forum

From David Holmes, Chair, ANC 6A

Mayor Vincent Gray and Transportation Director Terry Bellamy will join ANC 6A, ANC 6C, ANC Single Member District 7D01, and the Sierra Club to address the remaining steps necessary to complete the streetcar line. This is the latest in a series of briefings for those interested in the H Street/Benning Road streetcar line. Mayor Gray and Director Bellamy will answer questions on December 6 at 7 p.m. in the Atlas Theater, 1333 H Street, NE.

Questions likely to be asked:

What decisions are being made about the terminus points for the H Street/Benning line? Are there any concrete plans to present?

What routes might bring the streetcar to the Metro station on the west end?

How is public input being sought for routes to and beyond the currently planned western and eastern terminus?

Have there been recent contacts with Amtrak? Is there a possibility of using a pass-through under the Hopscotch Bridge for the streetcar line and/or a maintenance facility? Is Amtrak open to use of the pedestrian tunnel to the Union Station Metro Station?