

The Buzz

North
Lincoln Park's
Neighborhood Newsletter

October 2003

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Walk to School Day

By Leslie Leahy

On Wednesday, October 8, 2003, Lincoln Park will be an official meeting place for the Capitol Hill Cluster School's (CHCS) Walk to School Day. Walk to School Day gives children, parents, school teachers, and community leaders an opportunity to celebrate the many benefits of walking. Last year nearly 3 million walkers from 28 countries walked to school – all hoping to create communities that are safe places to walk.

CHCS students, parents, and faculty, as well as Capitol Hill neighbors & VIPs, will meet at Lincoln Park beginning at 7:30 a.m. At 8:15 they will begin the walk to school, arriving in time for the morning bell at Peabody E.S., Watkins E.S., & Stuart Hobson M.S. Police officers (Metropolitan Police and Park Police) will help participants walk safely to school by stopping traffic at busy intersections.

Whether your concern is safer and improved streets, healthier habits, or cleaner air, Walk to School Day events are aimed at bringing forth permanent change to encourage a more walk-able America – one community at a time. For more info, contact Leslie at 543-3867.

Remembering Larry Gray

Longtime community activist Larry Gray passed away this summer. Donations may be made in his memory to the "Miner E.S. PTA Library Fund" and mailed or delivered to the school at 601 15th St. NE, Washington, DC 20002.

Catch a Ride to DC's Transit Future!

(October NLPNA Meeting)

The District of Columbia Transit Alternatives Analysis is a joint 18-month community-based transportation study by the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to examine new transit alternatives, like light rail and bus rapid transit, along corridors identified in the District's 1997 Transportation Vision Plan.

Following a recently completed feasibility study, the District and WMATA are working together to develop plans for these four high priority corridors:

- Anacostia Corridor/Minnesota Ave. to National Harbor
- Silver Spring to Anacostia Corridor
- Woodley Park to Stadium-Armory
- Georgetown to Stadium-Armory

Now, through the Transit Alternatives Analysis, the public is invited to provide input about transit technologies, route alignment, station areas, and more.

Representatives of WMATA and DDOT will attend the October NLPNA meeting to provide further information and solicit feedback. They will also discuss the Anacostia Demonstration Project, which will test the application of light rail technology.

Get involved and catch a ride to DC's Transit Future!



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NLPNA meeting, first Tues. (Oct. 7), 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial Church, 14th & C St. NE. New public transportation initiatives. See article. Also, **School Board Member Tommy Wells** will attend to answer questions and provide up to date information on the schools. All are welcome.
- Walk to School Day, Oct. 8, 7:30-8:45 a.m. See article.
- PSA 512 meeting, second Wed. (Oct. 8), 7 p.m., Miner E.S., 601 15th St. NE.
- ANC 6A meeting, second Thurs. (Oct. 9), 7 p.m., Miner E.S., 601 15th St. NE. Web address is www.anc6a.org.
- PSA 511 meeting, third Wed. (Oct. 15), 6:30 p.m., Teacher's C.U., 9th & D St. NE.
- Kid's Octoberfest, Saturday, Oct. 25, 1-4 p.m., alley behind the 100 block of 15th Street.
- NLPNA meeting, first Tues. (Nov. 4), 7:30 p.m., Lane Memorial Church, 14th & C St. NE. Topic to be announced.
- *The Buzz* is available on the community newsletters page of the Voice of the Hill website (www.voiceofthehill.com), and on the publications page of the ANC 6A website (see above).
- *The Buzz* editorial staff can be reached at 543-3512. Articles on topics of interest in the NLP area are very welcome.
- *A distributor is needed for the 1100 block of Constitution Ave.*

Octoberfest Is On

The neighbors on the 100 block of 15th Street have stepped up to the plate and volunteered to host the Kid's Octoberfest party in the alley behind their homes. The event will be held Saturday, October 25 from 1-4 p.m.

The city finally paved this alley after years of hard work on the part of the neighbors. Special thanks to Ajit Joshi for his role in getting the work done.

Lincoln Park Discussed at Sept. NLPNA Meeting

Superintendent John Hale, National Capitol Parks East, and Chief Pettiford and Lt. Horton, Capitol Park Police, attended the meeting with members of their staffs and took comments from neighbors regarding several issues, most notably the hours of operation for the park and lighting.

Superintendent Hale made a commitment to change the hours at the park so that it will be closed only from midnight until 5 a.m. and to keep the floodlights on all night, effective October 1. Beginning September 15, an assessment of tree condition will be made; dead and/or unsafe trees will be removed and replaced with new trees. Also, two repairs to the children's play area that were specifically requested have already been made.

Lt. Horton reminded us that he welcomes community feedback on crime issues in the park and that the number to call for emergencies in Lincoln Park is 619-7105. If you witness illegal activity, please call.

NLPNA is most grateful to the officers of the Capitol Park Police and the staff at National Capitol Parks East for their time, energy, and commitment to the community!

Election of officers was held. Congratulations to the newly elected NLPNA officers, Elizabeth Nelson, Chair; Ruth Oyen, Treasurer; and Heather Schoell, Secretary!

12th Place Is Beautiful!

By Mike and Andrea Ryan

The 200 block of 12th Place NE has become a more beautiful place under the leadership of Wes Grooms and Marissa Irwin, with brick sidewalks, new trees, and plants galore!

Back in March, Marissa worked with the city to have trees planted on the Maury ES side of the street. We soon had four new ginkgo trees. Wes found out that we were due to have our sidewalks replaced with brick. He worked with Cody Rice, our ANC rep, to petition the city to leave all the space between the sidewalk and the curb on the Maury side open for planting. He also worked with neighbors who had concrete front yards to have the city leave them open space for plants.

With the bricks laid around the planting strip in July, the neighbors met to talk about plants. Wes worked with a landscape designer and got suggestions for low maintenance, hardy plants. Many folks on the street donated money toward the purchase price. We have also had donations of other plants, some herbs, and a tree.

In August the plants arrived, including ornamental grasses, liriopie, yucca, black eyed susans, cone flowers, day lilies, and some ground cover.

Thanks to Randy and Diane Boyd, we also have slate stepping stones along the street, so that folks can get out of their cars without smashing our plants.

Next steps are working with the city to have the two ginkgos that died replaced (hopefully with shade trees!), perhaps planting more trees, and working with Maury to have the fence on the street side of the teacher's parking lot replaced with something more attractive.

Other involved neighbors are Hans Verolme, Luca Guerrieri, Jason Brown, Mai Pham, Holly Madison, Suzanne Snyder, Christine Scott, Jack Bartling and Mike and Andrea Ryan.

Please come by!

Kingsman Field

Stop by the Kingsman Field to see the new grass and benches the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has installed. The field is looking great. In the near future, there will be a hearing regarding the portion of the alley being closed. Once the alley is closed, the alley portion will become a part of the field. A big thanks to Ted Pochter from DPR and Kurt Bedenbaugh from the Temple Group for their dedication to this project.

Buy Your Entertainment Book Now

The Entertainment 2004 books are here! Entertainment books have valuable half-off coupons at many area restaurants, and hundreds of other savings. The books cost \$35, and NLPNA keeps \$7 from every book sold. Last year, NLPNA raised over \$200 by selling Entertainment books. Call Suzanne Wells at 547-2477 to get your book today.

THE BUZZ EDITORIAL TEAM

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New sidewalk, plants, and stepping stones on 12th Place.