

News from the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association



PO Box 75085
National Capitol Station
Washington, DC 20013-5085

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Visit our newly designed and updated website at <http://www.junibar.com/spna>

DC Metropolitan Police Officer to Speak on Safety Issues in Neighborhood

SPNA's March Town Meeting, Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 pm, Northeast Branch Library, 7th Street and Maryland Avenue, NE

We are pleased to announce that our March speaker will be the Metropolitan Police Department's Lt. Bob Glover of PSA 106. He will discuss safety and security issues as well as recent incidents in our neighborhood. Lt. Glover will also answer questions our members may have.

SPNA Seeks Candidates for the SPNA Board

SPNA is putting together a slate of officers for the association's 2001-2002 year. If you have an interest in becoming more involved with SPNA and getting to know your neighbors and DC government officials better, please contact Dru Tallant (547-8773), Monte Edwards (543-3504) or Jeanne Harrison (547-7132) as soon as possible. We need YOU on the SPNA Board! Elections will be held at our May meeting.

Councilmember Ambrose Speaks to Full House

At the February 28 SPNA Town Meeting, Councilwoman Sharon Ambrose updated residents on wide variety of topics of concern to our neighborhood. The high-lights include:

- need for SPNA to support efforts to stop new liquor licenses along the H Street corridor
- opposition to the BP Amoco project on H Street
- support for the proposed location of St. Colletta's school for severely handicapped children in the 200-300 blocks of H Street
- submission of design and construction proposals for the Sherwood Recreation Center, with planned public meetings to review the proposals
- safety concerns related to foot traffic from the bus station to Union Station
- revised plans for the Medlink project and indications that the project may include the entire Medlink property; construction should start soon on the planned townhouses for the 7th Street property across from the hospital.
- responses to questions concerning enforcement of health violations, illegal bus and truck traffic, and parking and traffic studies being done by DC Department of Transportation

BP Amoco Proposal: Urgent Action Needed

Recently the ANC 6A voted to oppose the proposed BP Amoco expansion in the 300 Block of H Street, NE. Under the revised plan, the proposed development has been consolidated onto the western half of the property from the alley to Third Street and no longer includes a car wash. The length of the canopy has been reduced from over 200 feet to over 100 feet and the convenience store remains unchanged at the center of the site.

Unfortunately, BP Amoco's consolidation has little to do with community opposition and considerable critical comments on the design of the proposal. While the company would like to maintain that they have reduced the project in response to community opposition, the redesign of the development merely recognizes that their original proposal to close alleys was a political and practical impossibility. BP Amoco was advised of the impracticality of closing the alleys early last summer, yet continued to push for the same inappropriate project. They are now presenting their misjudgment as a "concession" to the community and asking for permission to proceed with a design that is unacceptable to the neighborhood.

BP Amoco has failed to respond to a consistent and broadly shared set of comments from a coalition of neighborhood groups, which do not preclude a gas station on the site. Rather the community has maintained for the past nine months that if a gas station is to be constructed, it should reflect the urban nature of the site. BP Amoco was also provided detailed suggestions on how this goal could be accomplished. Instead of listening to the community, a nearly identical proposal has been submitted—one which appears to leave open the possibility of adding the car wash at a later date. The revised proposal does nothing to encourage other desirable retail activities on the remainder of the property purchased by Amoco, nor will it encourage desirable investment on the south side of H Street.

SPNA urges neighborhood residents to oppose the design of this new proposal and to voice that opposition to the city's Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA). Letters should be sent to Mr. Robert Sockwell, Chair, Board of Zoning Adjustment, 441 Fourth Street, NW—Suite 210, Washington, DC 20001, Re: Case No. 16648, Fax: 727-6072. Please send copies of your letters of opposition to: Councilmember Sharon Ambrose, 441 Fourth Street, NW, Suite 710 South, Washington, DC 20001, Fax: 724-8054; Mr. Andrew Altman, Director, Attn: Karina Ricks, DC Office of Planning, 941 North Capitol St., NE, Washington DC 20002, Fax: 442-7638.

Northeast Library Plans Dr. Seuss Extravaganza

On Saturday, March 31 at 1:30, the Northeast Library will host a Dr. Seuss Day, featuring a Seuss story and film, and a live appearance by the Cat in the Hat (who is appearing courtesy of the friendly folks at Barnes & Noble.) Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras.

New Workshop: Street Trees: Let 'Em Live!

Thursday, April 12, 7:00-9:00 pm, Market 5 Gallery (Eastern Market's north end), 7th Street and North Carolina Avenue, SE

Did you know that the average life span of a center-city tree is under 15 years for recently planted trees?

Nationally recognized Landscape Architect, James Urban of Annapolis, will share his years of research and experience on what makes a street tree thrive to a ripe old age. Urban has published leading edge articles based on his research in many prominent periodicals. His findings suggest that soil and planting conditions—not pollution or poor maintenance—are the most significant problems facing urban trees. He has pioneered techniques using interconnected rooting zones under sidewalks, structural soils for urban plazas, and root-path trenches. Please call 543-7293 to register.

Make Plans to Attend the SPNA Annual Dinner Catering by Las Placitas Restaurant

March 24, 6:30-9:30 pm, Recreation Room at Christ Church Capitol Hill, 620 G Street, SE

SPNA will hold its annual dinner on March 24 from 6:30 to 9:30 pm in the Recreation Room at Christ Church Capitol Hill at 620 G Street, SE. This popular neighborhood event raises money to benefit the SPNA Scholarship Fund. Come join your neighbors for an evening of good food, conversation, live music, and dancing. Due to limited seating, we encourage you to make your reservations early by submitting the form below along with your check.

Our caterer this year is the very popular, Las Placitas Restaurant, that will serve us a dinner with a south-of-the-border theme. We've also made arrangements for a six-piece band to entertain us with classical jazz and popular standards. Due to limited seating, we encourage you to make your reservations early by submitting the form below along with your check.

Stanton Park Neighborhood Association
Annual Dinner and
Membership Registration Form
(please print)

**SPNA's membership year runs from
September 1, 2000-August 31, 2001**

Please complete form and return to:
SPNA, PO Box 75085,
National Capitol Station,
Washington, DC 20013-5085

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone (evening) _____ (day) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Dinner reservations:

Adults # _____ \$20 for SPNA Members/\$25 for others \$ _____ total

Children # _____ \$1 for each year of the child's age up to 12 \$ _____ total

Type of membership (check one) (Make checks payable to SPNA)

Single membership (\$10 check enclosed) Total \$ _____ total

Household membership (\$18 check enclosed) \$ _____ total

Tax-deductible contribution to SPNA Scholarship Fund enclosed. \$ _____ total

Grand total \$ _____

Yes, I would like to receive the SPNA Newsletter via e-mail.

Signature _____