



# stanton park neighborhood association news

## CALENDAR

**MAR 26** **Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**

Monday, 7:30 PM  
Northeast Branch Library  
7th Street and Maryland Ave, NE

**APR 4** **ANC 6C Planning, Zoning, & Environment Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, 7:00 PM  
National Public Radio  
635 Massachusetts Ave, NE

**APR 10** **PSA 102 Meeting**

Tuesday, 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Sherwood Recreation Center  
10th and G Streets, NE

**APR 11** **ANC 6C Meeting Full ANC Meeting**

Wednesday, 7:00 PM  
National Public Radio  
635 Massachusetts Ave, NE

**APR 12** **ANC 6A Meeting Full ANC Meeting**

Thursday, 7:00 PM  
Miner Elementary School  
601 15th Street, NE

**APR 15** **SPNA Deadlines for:**

(1) Scholarship applications  
Contact: Tom\_Hamilton@verizon.net

(2) Neighbor of the Year nominations  
Contact: wsilagi@hotmail.com

### Want to know more about SPNA?

Want to know what happened at the last meeting? Find out more about how you can get involved? All this and more available on the SPNA Web site:  
[www.stantonpark.org](http://www.stantonpark.org)

## Board of Education Member Lisa Raymond to Address March SPNA Meeting

Put the March 26th SPNA meeting on your calendar if you're interested in the future of DC public schools. The guest speaker at the meeting will be Lisa Raymond, the DC Board of Education representative for District 3 (Wards 5 and 6).

The DC Public School system is currently governed by the DC Board of Education, which establishes policies and oversees the school Superintendent, who operates the schools. The Board is composed of 5 elected members (an at-large Board President, and 4 members who each serve two Wards), 4 members appointed by the Mayor, and 2 non-voting student members. The public school system has been criticized for low

student test scores, and for poor physical conditions in the schools. Mayor Adrian Fenty has proposed taking over many of the responsibilities of the school board by putting the schools under the direct control of the Mayor's office, instead of the Board.

Ms. Raymond was elected to the Board in November and took office in January. Come hear her perspective on the school takeover, and on other issues facing the school system. The SPNA meeting will take place on Monday, March 26 at 7:30 pm in the second floor meeting room of the Northeast Library.

## Specialty Hospitals Plans to Expand Operations at MedLink Facility

Specialty Hospitals of America (SHA), which operates a long-term acute hospital care facility in space that it leases at the site of the former MedLINK hospital, has indicated that it plans to expand its operations there. SHA proposes to reopen the currently vacant portion of the complex and to increase the number of patient beds from roughly 177 to 300.

At the same time, SHA hopes to be able to reduce the number of parking spaces it must provide for employees, visitors, and others. In 2004, the Board of Zoning Adjustment acted on an appeal by SPNA and decided that the facility is analogous to a hospital under the zoning regulations, and must provide one parking space per patient bed. Thus, it must provide 177 parking spaces if it operates 177 beds, and 300 parking spaces if it expands to 300 beds. But SHA would like to get the parking requirement cut in half, from one parking space per bed to one space per 2 beds. SHA proposes to mitigate the impact on the neighborhood by leasing off-site parking at RFK Stadium and providing shuttle bus service between the hospital and RFK. SHA says that it also provides transit subsidies to encourage employees to take public transportation instead of driving.

The MedLINK facility has a longstanding history of violating its parking requirements. In recent history, the Capitol Hill Group (the owner and former operator of the facility) claimed to be providing 30 parking spaces above ground and 147 in its underground garage. But an inspection in 2000 found that the lower level of the garage was flooded, and the upper levels were being used for storage of hospital equipment, and could not be used for parking. And a 2004 inspection by the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) found that the majority of MedLINK's parking spaces did not meet the legal minimum size required by the city. DCRA told MedLINK to develop a plan to re-stripe the parking spaces by May 5, 2005. SPNA has been trying to determine the city's progress in enforcing the parking requirement. SPNA will continue to monitor these new developments in the ongoing saga of the MedLINK facility. SPNA is working with the ANC and others to arrange a community meeting, hopefully in April, to provide an opportunity for SHA to explain its plans.

### MPD Fish Fry

On Friday, April 6th, 2007, the Metropolitan Police Department will host a Fish Fry at 1-D. Come to 415 4th Street, SW from 10:00am to 2:00pm to eat some good food and help a good cause. All proceeds will go toward MPD youth projects.

### Sign up for SPNA's Electronic Newsletter

You can receive the Stanton Park Neighborhood Association newsletter by email each month. The SPNA newsletter discusses the speaker for the next SPNA meeting, contains articles on a variety of topics related to Capitol Hill, and provides a calendar with the dates of ANC meetings and other community events. By signing up for the email list, you'll get the newsletter as soon as it comes out each month so that you can get time-sensitive material as soon as it is available. The emails often contain additional information that wouldn't fit in the newsletter, and there are occasional email alerts with late breaking stories after the newsletter has been printed. Your email address will not be shared with any other organizations, and you don't have to be an SPNA member to sign up. To begin receiving the SPNA newsletter electronically, send an email to [wsilag@hot.com](mailto:wsilag@hot.com). If you're already getting the SPNA newsletter by email, you don't need to sign up again.

### Free Tutoring Service Available Online

The DC public library provides access to an online service that provides free homework help for D.C. students in 4th to 12th grade, as well as first year college students. Tutors use instant messaging technology to provide interactive and immediate responses to questions about topics such as math, science, English and social studies. The tutors explain concepts and material and answer questions without simply providing the answers to a students' homework. The tutors (who have been screened and approved) include current, retired and substitute teachers; college and graduate students and others. There is no personal information shared between tutors and students, and sessions are recorded for quality assurance purposes.

The service is available daily from 2 pm until midnight, and there are no appointments necessary. To access the tutoring, go to the DC library web site at [www.dclibrary.org](http://www.dclibrary.org) and click on the icon for "Live Homework Help".

### Capitol Hill Listservs

There are a number of listservs that are available to facilitate communication and discussion among the Capitol Hill community. You can browse some of these discussions online, or sign up to receive regular updates via email. Several of these have to do with crime and public safety, while others deal with more general topics.

#### Police First District Residents

Capitol Hill is in the First District of the MPD. There is an MPD-sanctioned listserv to facilitate the sharing of information between the police and the neighborhood in the First District. First District Commander Diane Groomes often posts notes about significant public safety developments just hours after they occur, and responds to questions on an ongoing basis. To view the postings or participate, go to [groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/)

#### PSA 102 Residents

In order to promote community policing, the police districts are divided into Police Service Areas (PSAs). The western half of the Stanton Park neighborhood is in PSA 102. The NELink listserv provides information and neighborhood discussions about the police department and PSA102 in order to improve the quality of life and fight crime in the neighborhood. In order to join NELink, go to <http://groups.google.com/group/NELink>. There is a separate blog about the police, public safety issues, and PSA 102 meetings at <http://psa102.blogspot.com/>. Neither site is operated by the MPD.

#### ANC Residents

There are online discussion groups that serve as open forums for residents living in the boundaries of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 6A and 6C, although the sites are not officially affiliated with the ANCs. The site for residents of ANC 6A is <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/anc-6a/>. The site for ANC 6C residents is <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/anc6c/?yguid=140958728>.

## Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Registration Form 2006-2007

[SPNA Membership Year: September 1, 2006– August 31, 2007]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ (day) \_\_\_\_\_ (eve)

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  Would you like to receive the SPNA newsletter via e-mail?

Single Annual membership (\$10) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Household Annual membership (\$18) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Household Lifetime membership (\$250) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Tax-deductible SPNA scholarship donation ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**GRAND TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Want to get more involved?

Let us know if you'd be interested in working on any of these SPNA committees:

- Land use
- Environment
- Scholarship review
- Membership
- Newsletter/Web
- Annual dinner/special activities
- Traffic and Security Committee

Please make checks payable to SPNA. Send checks and form to:

SPNA  
P.O. Box 75085  
Washington, DC 20013-5085