

Let's give thanks  
for a lovely Fall



Volume 27, Number 3  
November 2003

## stanton park neighborhood association news

### CALENDAR

**NOV 27** **Thanksgiving**  
Best wishes and many thanks for this great community!

**DEC 1** **Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Meeting**  
Monday, 7:30 PM  
Northeast Branch Library, at 7th Street and Maryland Avenue NE.

**DEC 6** **Casey Trees Fall Tree Planting**  
Saturday, 9:00 AM

Meet at the Eastern Market Metro. For more information, go to: [www.caseytrees.org](http://www.caseytrees.org).

**DEC 10** **ANC 6C Meeting**  
Wednesday, 7:00 PM  
Capital Children's Museum, at 3rd and H Streets NE.

**DEC 11** **ANC 6A Meeting**  
Thursday, 7:00 PM  
Miner Elementary School, at 16th and F Streets NE  
Councilwoman Sharon Ambrose will be in attendance to discuss neighborhood issues, including PSA boundaries, and the YSA/Kramer Street youth home.

### 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 new SPNA Web site: [www.stantonpark.org](http://www.stantonpark.org)

### Neighborhood Services Focus of Next SPNA Meeting

Getting neighborhood services is the focus of the next Stanton Park Neighborhood Association meeting. Our featured speakers this month are Patrick Canavan, the Director of the DC Office

of Neighborhood Services, and Peter Jones, Ward 6 Neighborhood Services Coordinator. Please join us Monday, December 1, with your questions and ideas about neighborhood services!

### Community, Park Service Craft Agreement to Replace Stanton Park Playground

*By Jeff Johnson, Friends of Stanton Park*

Following a community meeting October 20, a top National Park Service (NPS) official has agreed to rethink NPS limits on a new design for the Stanton Park playground. The result is a welcome and surprising shift that may lead to a better playground and one in line with what community members want.

NPS Assistant Superintendent Gayle Hazelwood and NPS landscape architect Mike McMahon have agreed to several playground parameters sought by the community—among them removing curbs that surround the current playground equipment; replacing thorn bushes, which encircle the playground area, with an iron fence; and installing new, safer equipment suitable for children five years and younger. The playground equipment will be limited to the area within the park as it is now, but Ms. Hazelwood agreed that the new equipment will not be smaller than the current playground, while conforming to modern safety design requirements. It also appears that NPS funds and \$50,000 offered by Mayor Williams to help the project will cover the costs.

On November 12, Ms. Hazelwood, community representatives, and DC Parks officials, who have aided the community with valuable advice, agreed to a schedule to develop a new design. The design will be drawn up by December, presented to the Stanton Park community in January, and finalized in February. The goal is to

have the old playground removed and the new one installed during the Spring.

The Friends of Stanton Park who have worked on the project for years hope the new agreement will pave the way for a much better working relationship with NPS for this lovely park. There is much more work to be done—such as selecting exact equipment and working up a new design—but the community and NPS are now pulling together on a new design. If you want to get involved, contact Jeff Johnson at 546-0908 or [j\\_johnson@acs.org](mailto:j_johnson@acs.org).

### MedLINK Hearing Continued

On November 18, the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) heard initial testimony on SPNA's MedLINK parking appeal. At the hearing, DCRA admitted that when MedLINK applied for new Certificates of Occupancy, DCRA did not consider the number of employees at MedLINK, nor did they look at prior BZA orders on MedLINK. Instead, they looked at various residential uses in the zoning code and selected a "rooming house" as a similar use to set parking requirements, ignoring the fact that MedLINK is a skilled nursing center with a large staff. Additional testimony will be heard when the hearing resumes Tuesday, November 25.

# A Great Saturday in the Park with SPNA!

A good time was had by all at Saturday in the Park with SPNA, held October 25, 2003 in Stanton Park. The Kid Care kits were issued, thanks to photographer Bill Silagi, and the MPD officers from 1D who did the fingerprinting. The DC Department of Public Works and others sent knowledgeable representatives loaded with lots of information. McGruff sent his lion buddy D.A.R.E., daffodil bulbs were free for the taking, and every thirst was quenched thanks to Neb's Café at 201 Massachusetts Avenue NE and the Safeway on Kentucky Avenue. A special thanks to Commander McGuire (1D), Lt. Hedgecock (1D1), CHAMPS, Results the Gym, Councilwoman Sharon Ambrose, and to SPNA members for their attendance and support!



Drury Tallant and Sharon Ambrose trying to keep warm on a chilly day.



Information on everything from trees to the Stamp Act was readily available.



Photos by Bill Silagi



Fingerprinting can be fun!



We DARE you to mess with that lion!

## It's Never Too Early to Donate Dollars for Scholarships!

For those of you who like to do your charitable giving at the end of the year, now is the perfect time to donate money to the SPNA Scholarship Fund! Since 1991, SPNA has awarded 45 first-year scholarships to deserving DC high school students. Last year, we raised over \$8000, allowing us to help five great candidates with their first year's college tuition. It's easy to make a difference—just fill out the form below and send it in!

## Stanton Park Neighborhood Association Registration Form 2003-2004

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

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

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