



# May 2003 WNA Neighborhood Newsletter

## ❧ WNA April 22, 2003 Meeting Highlights ❧

### ❧ Guest Speaker ❧

**Mr. Johnny Barnes, Executive Director, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) National Capital Area** attended the meeting as the guest speaker. Mr. Barnes spoke about the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) use of surveillance cameras in the District. The cameras, located in various locations in the city, were installed with the purpose of preventing crime, such as terrorist activities. Mr. Barnes noted during the discussion that the surveillance cameras do not include speeding/red light cameras located at street intersections or ATM and bank cameras. He also mentioned that MPD plans to expand the surveillance network.

The ACLU opposes the use and expansion of the surveillance network because the cameras are ineffective in curbing crime. Mr. Barnes cited several studies conducted in the United Kingdom and cities within the United States that already have surveillance cameras in place.

Among other concerns, the ACLU believes the money spent on the maintenance and expansion of the network is better used to recruit and train additional police officers. In

addition, the cameras are subject to abuse and the privacy of District citizens will be compromised. Lastly, the cameras will discourage the freedom of expression and may prevent individuals from participating in events such as demonstrations and community activities.

Mr. Barnes urged citizens to write their Council Members to oppose the use of general surveillance police cameras in the District.

<http://www.dccouncil.washington.dc.us/>

For more information about the American Civil Liberties Union National Capital Area please call: 202-457-0800 or email: [cpr@aclu-nca.org](mailto:cpr@aclu-nca.org)

~Fundraising~

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** The First Annual WNA Garden Party Fundraiser will take place on June 22, 2003, 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the Westminster Playground located at 911 Westminster Street, NW.

The WNA Playground is an event site for the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities' International Festival. The event will celebrate the diversity and richness of the Shaw community. Martial arts, musical and arts entertainment, as well as a silent auction will be included in the Fundraiser.

Admission to the Fundraiser will be free and all proceeds will go towards the maintenance of the WNA Playground.

To volunteer for the event planning, please contact Tim at: [ir004286@mindspring.com](mailto:ir004286@mindspring.com).

To donate baked goodies and bottled drinks for the fundraiser, please contact Nicole at: [nrene156@aol.com](mailto:nrene156@aol.com).

~WNA Committees~

**Playground\*** Volunteers are needed to help with brickwork and lawn repair in the playground. Brickwork experience is not necessary. To help with these activities, please contact Mr. Lynn Johnson by email at [lynn@johnsonandpavuk.com](mailto:lynn@johnsonandpavuk.com).

~ **Masons' Bid for  
Parking Lot Approval  
Fails** ~

On May 6, 2003 the DC Board of Zoning Adjustment turned down the Masons' request to continue using their property located at the corner of Vermont and T Streets as an accessory parking lot.

After several attempts to reach an agreement regarding the Masons need for parking and the community's concerns about the use of the lot, the WNA formally opposed the use of the lot before the Zoning Board. During the proceedings, many residents filed letters and objections with the Zoning Board objecting the use of the property. WNA also retained the services of Johnson & Pavuk, who donated approximately \$10,000 of legal services in preparing and presenting WNA's opposition to the Zoning Board.

While this property has been used as a parking lot for 28 years, the property is and has always has been zoned for residential use.

During the DC Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing on May 6, 2003 the Board gave specific compliments to WNA for their case presentation. The Board noted how the Masons failed to comply with the prior Zoning Board Orders and how the character and aesthetics of the neighborhood make the use of the property as a parking lot no longer compatible.

The Board voted 4-0 to deny the parking lot application.

~ **2003 Spring Cleanup**



WNA, in partnership with the French Street Neighborhood Association (FSNA) would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2003 Spring Cleanup on April 19, 2003. We appreciate the efforts of every neighbor who took the time to clean the streets and alleys within WNA and FSNA's borders. The Cleanup was a smashing success!

## ❧ 2003 Vision Award ❧

On Friday, April 25, 2003 the Westminster Neighborhood Playground was honored with a 2003 Vision Award by the Committee of 100 of the Federal City. The Committee of 100 of the Federal City was formed to sustain the fundamental values derived from the tradition of the L'Enfant Plan and the McMillan Commissions—that give the Nation's Capital its distinction, beauty, and grace as a community. The award was presented at the Brooks Mansion in NE, Washington, DC. WNA was one of 10 recipients of the 2003 Vision Award.

<b>Tim &amp; Patsy Mack</b>	<b>Anne Marchand</b>	<b>Amoy McGhee</b>
<b>Misa &amp; Kerry Meyer</b>	<b>Maura &amp; John Moore</b>	
<b>Susan, Marquan, Andre Ousley &amp; Stillman Bruhier</b>	<b>Nicole Pasqua</b>	<b>Margie Perko</b>
<b>Phil Spaulding &amp; Lynn Coffin</b>	<b>Juan de la Vega Puente</b>	<b>Matthew Ruest &amp; Chad Koratich</b>
<b>Tania Shand</b>	<b>Tim Shannon &amp; Paige Van Wirt</b>	<b>Denise &amp; Brown Wilson</b>

## ❧ WNA Membership ❧

❧ **2003 WNA Membership Renewal** is upon us, so get that checkbook out! [Remember, you need to pay your dues every time you celebrate New Year's Eve.] Please make your check payable to "WNA" in the amount of \$15 per household (\$5 per senior citizen). Remember, your dues payment is tax deductible as a charitable contribution. You may either mail your check or just drop it in the mailbox at 924 Westminster St., Attn: Ms. Margie Perko, WNA Treasurer.

2003 WNA Membership		
<b>Chuck Baxter</b>	<b>Derek &amp; Sally Cole</b>	<b>Leonard Crumm &amp; Moses Lofton</b>
<b>Kevin Dailey &amp; Claire Donelan</b>	<b>Charles &amp; Doris Edwards</b>	<b>Lisa &amp; Mike Fauntroy</b>
<b>Philip Fornaci &amp; Michael Geller</b>	<b>Paul Hardy &amp; Patty Anderson</b>	<b>Loretta Johnson</b>
<b>Lynn Johnson</b>	<b>Holbback &amp; Kennickal</b>	<b>David &amp; Michelle Laird</b>

## ❧ Announcements ❧

❧ The first annual citywide D.C. *Fête de la Musique*, an internationally recognized music festival that marks the first day of summer, will be held in Washington, D.C June 20, 2003 – June 22, 2003. Fête, hosted by the D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, offers free concerts by professional musicians and spontaneous performances by amateurs and local artists. Local and national musicians will represent a wide range of genres including: jazz, salsa, gospel, classical, go-go, blues, Celtic, Latin, pop and rock. Indoor and outdoor venues include the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Theatre, Union Station, Smithsonian Institution, French Embassy, National Zoo and Malcolm X Park. For a complete schedule of events and venues go to: <http://dcarts.dc.gov>.

## ❧ Trees & Treebox Care ❧

As you know, neighborhood volunteers have been both watering our trees and caring for the treeboxes for the past several years. It is time to look at that list again and put on any new people that would like to provide this

service to one or more trees. This can be quite a daunting task when the tree and tree-box are not located in front of your house, but please give serious consideration to the many sites we have in our area where there is no one close to care for the tree and box.

Several neighbors have taken the time out of their busy schedules to perform this service in the past. Their names, slightly updated, are listed below. If you would like to take over a tree and box, please contact Lynn Johnson at 202/371-0962 or by email at: [lynn@johnsonandpavuk.com](mailto:lynn@johnsonandpavuk.com). If your name is on this list and you can no longer care for this tree or box, please contact Lynn so he can find a replacement. We will run this list again next month.

**T Street - South Side**

- 902 Polly/Lisa
- 904 Hagos Seyoum at 907
- 910/08 Tim Shannon @ 914
- 914/12 Tim Shannon @ 914
- 918 Dan Katz/April Fulton @ 916
- 924 Angela Fresne @ 924
- 928 Jeff/Lucia Seaver @ 930
- 930/32 Jeff/Lucia Seaver @ 930
- 936 [young tree]] No one
- 940/42 Mrs. Grant @ 940
- 944/46 Loretta Johnson @ 949

T Street - North Side

- 905 Polly/Lisa.
- 907 Hagos Seyoum at 907
- 911/13 Ron Massengal at 909
- 915 Jim/Maura Moore at 915
- 919/21 Niilante Mills at 919
- 923/25 Niilante Mills at 919
- 927/29 Denise Wilson at 927
- 935 Charles Dittrich at 935
- 939 Connie Rich at 939
- 941/43 Lamont/Glenn Hames at 941
- 947/49 Loretta Johnson at 949

Westminster Street - South Side

- 902 Kevin Dailey/Clare Donelan at 908
- 904 Kevin Dailey/Clare Donelan at 908
- 908 Kevin Dailey/Clare Donelan at 908
- 912 Kevin Dailey/Clare Donelan at 908

- 916 Romes Calhoun at 918
- 922 [empty box, but Lynn Johnson @ 922]
- 928 Michael/Denise Wardlaw at 926
- 932/34 Jacque Brower at 932
- 936 Jacque Brower at 932
- 944 John Brown at 944
- 948 Parnace Williams at 946
- 950 [Dead tree]
- 952 Mary Nelson @ 943

Westminster Street - North Side

- 1820 [9th St.] Dorothy/Scheera Whitaker
- 9XX (in front of playground) Kevin/Claire
- 9XX (in front of playground) Kerry/Misa
- 915 Kerry/Misa Meyer at 917
- 919 Kerry/Misa Meyer at 917
- 921/23 Marcos/Sundrea Ballestero at 923
- 925 Rachel at 925
- 927/29 Tim/Patsy Mack at 931
- 931 Tim/Patsy Mack at 931
- 933/35 Susan Ousley at 935
- 937/39 Susan Ousley at 935
- 939/41 Robert Bullock @ 941
- 943 Mary Nelson @ 943

S Street - North Side

- 907 Moses Lofton at 903
- 909/11 Holback Kennikal at 911
- 913/15 No one
- 917 Jack/Doris Edwards to keep clean
- 923 Ronnie McGhee at 919
- 927 Ronnie McGhee at 919
- 933 David Carl at 933
- 937 Analia Perez at 937
- 941 Darryl Coales at 941
- 945 Paul Hardy/Patti Anderson at 945
- 949 Emmanuel Blackwell at 949
- 1003 Lynn Boynton/Derek at 1003
- 1007/09 Stephen Carr at 1007
- 1013 Bob Holum at 1013

9th Street - West Side

- 1800 Boys/Girls Club at 1800
- 1802/04 [No one]
- 1806 Peaches
- 1812 (1<sup>st</sup> tree) Lisa at 1808
- 1812 (2<sup>nd</sup> tree) Patricia at 1812 (basement)
- 1824 [No one]
- 1828/30 Abraham Yacub at 1830
- 1836 [No one]

10th Street - West Side

1800 [young tree] –No one  
1802 [young tree] – No one  
1806 [young tree] – No one

10th Street - East Side

1801 [new tree] Emmanuel Blackwell  
at 949 S St.  
1801 [mature tree] Emmanuel Blackwell  
1803 Emmanuel Blackwell.  
1815 [mature tree] No one  
1817 [new tree] No one  
1817 [mature tree] No one  
1819 [new tree] No one  
1819 [new tree] No one  
1823 [mature tree] No one  
1831 [new tree] No one  
1833/35 [mature tree] No one  
1835 [mature tree] No one

☞ Please note the next Westminster Neighborhood Association Meeting will take place on *Tuesday, May 27, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.* in the Westminster Neighborhood Playground located at Ninth Street between S and T Streets, NW. If there is inclement weather on this day, the meeting will be held at 922 Westminster St., NW (in the basement). Mark your calendar now!

☞ Please contact Nicole at [nrene156@aol.com](mailto:nrene156@aol.com) if you would like a complete copy of April's WNA Meeting Minutes, monthly Treasurer's Report, or to announce a community event in the upcoming June WNA Newsletter.