

Mount Vernon Square

Neighborhood Association

Uniting our historic community since the 1970s

Jan. 2006

Next MVSNA Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 7:30 pm

Metropolitan Community Church

(Corner of 5th and Ridge Streets, NW)

Agenda: Nominations for 2006 MVSNA officers; Representatives from Shalom Baranes and Trammell Crowe will discuss plans for development of AV Restaurant site.

La Proxima Reunion

Martes, el 17 de Enero; 7:30 pm

Metropolitan Community Church

(calle 5th y Ridge, NW)

Para mas informacion sobre estos avisos o el Mount Vernon Neighborhood Association, por favor llame a (202) 737-0543

Graffiti Problem Addressed at November MVSNA Meeting

At the November MVSNA meeting, Officer Struhar with the D.C. Gang Intervention Partnership Unit spoke to residents about recent graffiti incidents in the Mount Vernon Square neighborhood. Sgt. Struhar downplayed the recent graffiti incidents as gang activity in our neighborhood, but rather "spill over" from a school-related incident. In the graffiti incidents, "5th-n-O" was spray-painted on public and private areas. The graffiti was largely confined to Ridge, 5th and 6th Streets.

Sgt. Struhar said residents should respond to graffiti incidents by taking the following steps:

1. Report to police. Call (202) 724-1424 and ask for the gang unit.
2. Document the graffiti with a camera.
3. Immediately paint over or remove graffiti. Graffiti on public property can be removed through the D.C. Department of Public Works (202) 727-1000. Sgt. Struhar said if the graffiti remains visible, it allows the problem to fester and could lead to additional graffiti.

Neighborhood News

Orange Caps on Patrol January 17

Join fellow residents for a stroll around the neighborhood after the MVSNA meeting on January 17. The purpose of the orange cap patrol is to be a visible and positive presence in the community in an effort to deter crime. Your participation is needed. Patrol will begin at the corner of 5th and Ridge Streets at approximately 8:30 pm.

Neighbors Gather for Holiday Celebration

Mount Vernon Square residents gathered on December 20 to share in some holiday cheer. Many neighbors brought their holiday confections to share. Many thanks to Si Kailian for coordinating. The holiday party was held in lieu of the monthly MVSNA meeting.

Join MVSNA Listserve

Residents are encouraged to join the MVSNA group listserv, which is designed to serve the community and promote discussion about neighborhood issues. To join go to: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/>.

Questions should be directed to niello8@yahoo.com.

Curbside Trash Reminder

Trash collection is Mondays and Thursdays. Place your trash in trash containers the night before. In an effort to deter rodents and raccoons, please use lids on trash containers and trash bags should not be placed directly on sidewalks.

Scoop the Poop

Dog owners are reminded to be responsible and pick up after their dogs in all public areas, especially in the grassy areas surrounding Washington Apartments.

Mount Vernon Square Neighborhood Recipient of New Trees and Sidewalk Repairs

In December, the D.C. city government installed a new brick sidewalk on the 500 block of L Street, NW and repaired the sidewalks on the south end of the 1100 blocks of 5th and 6th Streets, NW. The city also planted many new trees throughout the neighborhood. Thanks to the mild temperatures and adequate rainfall, these trees should get a good start despite being planted in the winter. Residents are encouraged to work together to ensure the survival of these young trees, as well as the trees planted in April thanks to the Casey Tree Endowment. For information about tree care please visit:

<http://www.caseytrees.org/>

Call for Nominations

Nominations for the 2006 MVSNA officers will take place at the next MVSNA meeting on January 17.

2005 MVSNA Officers

President

Tim Downey
1131 5th Street, NW

First Vice President

Si Kailian
5th Street
niello8@yahoo.com

Second Vice President

Eric Easter
New Jersey Avenue

Treasurer

Jeff Parke
5th Street

Corresponding Secretary

Camille Bonta
5th Street

Recording Secretary

Larry Matheson
Ridge Street

Lead Levels Down in D.C. Tap Water

In a letter to all D.C. residents, the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority (WASA) announced that the District's water is now in compliance with federal requirements for lead. The letter included tips on how to continue to enhance the taste and quality of tap water, including running the tap with cold water for 60 seconds before drinking or cooking if the water has been stagnant in the line for more than six hours. The letter also said that cold water should be heated on the stove for hot beverages or cooking. For more information contact WASA at (202) 787-2732.

Architect Highlighted in Area Newspaper

The Nov. 18-24, 2005 issue of the *Washington Business Journal* highlighted local architect Shalom Baranes. Baranes is teaming up with Trammell Crowe to develop the parcel of land currently occupied by AV Restaurant. In an interview with the newspaper, Baranes said that preservation is important to building a city because you are always building next to something that's already there. "Sometimes you're at the edges of design, sometimes in the middle, but it's all about the texture of the city," Baranes said. The article can be obtained at <http://www.bizjournals.com>.

Police Contacts

PSA 308 – Lt. Ralph Neal; (202) 673-6821

PSA 501 – Lt. George Caldwell; (202) 727-4503

PSA 101 – Lt. Lofton and Lt. McCoy; (202) 727-4610

Upcoming Events

January 9 Street Sweep Hiatus Begins
Street cleaning parking restrictions lifted

January 17 MVSNA Meeting
7:30 pm; Metropolitan Community Church.
Orange Cap Patrol to follow.

February 21 MVSNA Meeting

March 20 Street Sweep Resumes
Street cleaning parking restrictions enforced.

