

# MVSNA



# MOUNT VERNON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

[www.mvsna.org](http://www.mvsna.org)

May 2009

## Next MVSNA Meeting

**Tuesday, May 19th**

**7:30 pm**

**Yale Steam Laundry  
437 New York Ave NW**

*New York Ave between 4th & 5th  
in the Common Room*

### Agenda

- Public Safety Report - 1st & 3rd District Police invited
- New Construction 451-453 Ridge St NW
- MVSNA Goals 2009

## Community Calendar

- May 17** - *MVT Condo Tour*, 12-5pm, buy tickets @ 5th St Hardware, 1055 5th St NW or buy online [www.mountvernontriangle.org](http://www.mountvernontriangle.org)
- May 19** - **MVSNA Mtg, Yale Laundry, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm**
- May 26** - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm  
*Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton!*
- Jun 3** - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm
- Jun 3** - ANC 2C Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm
- Jun 9** - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm
- Jun 10** - ANC 6C Mtg. Heritage Foundation 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm
- Jun 11** - PSA 308 Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm
- Jun 16** - **MVSNA Mtg, Yale Laundry, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm**  
*Douglas Development 600 Block NY Update*
- Jun 30** - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm
- Keep up to date with community news & events!*
- Your Public Neighborhood Blog:** [lifein.mvsna.org](http://lifein.mvsna.org)
- Neighborhood listserve:** [groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/)
- Latest Triangle News:** [MVTriangle.blogspot.com](http://MVTriangle.blogspot.com)

## Message From the President

Last week, our Board of Directors met and compiled a list of goals to achieve during the 2009-10 term. There is much work to be done and MVSNA already has some good news to report.

The Association will redouble its efforts to address vacant property. This includes expanding our survey of the tax status of vacant property to include "the Triangle" area to ensure it is set at the appropriate higher rate. This will provide an incentive to sell, develop, or otherwise put vacant property into productive use. We will also focus on the vacant lots along I-395, which are dubiously owned by Bibleway Church and/or DC government, and we will continue to work with Douglas Development to move forward with their plans for the area bounded by 6th, 7th, K, & L Streets, and New York Avenue NW. The success of our past efforts can be seen most visibly on the 1200 Block of 4th Street, which now has five new homes constructed or underway that were vacant just two years ago... and more to come. You may have also noticed an article in Friday's *Examiner* discussing the DC government owned lot at 460 Ridge Street, which has now be cleaned up and will hopefully be regularly maintained in the future.

We will keep pushing hard on pedestrian safety with a focus on the dangerous intersection at 5th and New York Avenue NW. Although our previous efforts to make it possible to walk or drive through this intersection without fear of harm have been rebuffed by District Department of Transportation, or have still not come to fruition, this year we will advocate for installation of a landscaped median, a left turn signal at 5th Street, and removal or reduction of highway signage.

You may have noticed improvements in the last two weeks when walking through the neighborhood. Our spring cleanup included mulching many of the area's tree boxes, filling numerous bags of trash, mowing overgrown nuisance properties, and pulling weeds. Next up is obtaining the removal of the trash transfer station at 4th and L Street NW and urging Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs to remove illegal billboards, such as the one at 3rd and New York Avenue NW.

Addressing crime is also on the agenda. The Association will work with the city to take a multi-agency approach to rampant prostitution and drug use around the 1000 Block of 4th Street NW (between K and New York Avenue), including seeking a "no prostitution zone" and an MPD light truck, making the block a No Parking or Standing Zone, relocating McKenna's Wagon to a more appropriate nonresidential location, and implementing Orange Hat patrols.

We are going to have some fun too. In the months ahead, MVSNA will host a summer BBQ, a picnic day outside the Carnegie Library, and an awards night and holiday party. Our meetings will continue to be on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, but will be at the Yale Steam Laundry Lofts going forward, unless otherwise announced. All of this can only happen with your support and participation. Become a member. Join the board. Take a leadership role on an issue of interest to you. Let's achieve all our goals together and build a better community.

**Police Contacts**

**PSA 308**

Lt. Micah Pate - (202) 506-0743

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**PSA 101**

Lt. Gary Durand - (202) 698-0377

[Gary.Durand@dc.gov](mailto:gary.durand@dc.gov)

Lt. James "Bart" Dykes - (202) 904-6484

[James.dykes@dc.gov](mailto:james.dykes@dc.gov)

**Police Yahoo Groups**

[groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-3D/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-3D/)

[groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MPD-1D/)

[MPDC.dc.gov](http://MPDC.dc.gov)

**News in Brief**

Ridge Street Lot Has a New Owner

451-453 Ridge Street recently changed hands and ANC 2C approved the plan for a new 2 family flat. The developer will present plans at the next MVSNA meeting in advance of their appearance before Historic Preservation.



Neighborhood Cleanup a Success

Residents turned out in perfect weather to pick up trash, mulch treeboxes, and even mow out of control weeds with a handy borrowed lawnmower. Next neighborhood sprucing will be in October. Come on out!



**2009 Board of Directors**

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**At Large**

Lydia Goring

John Thompson

Merc Fox

Warren McBroom

[mvsna.org/contact/](http://mvsna.org/contact/)

We have an At Large vacancy on the MVSNA Board. If you are interested in serving please contact us. Many thanks to Paul Corsi for his service.

**Mount Vernon Triangle House Tour – May 17**

Mount Vernon Triangle Community Improvement District is hosting its inaugural Mount Vernon Triangle House Tour on Sunday, May 17, 2009 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. – benefiting Strive DC – a life skills and job training organization.

The Mount Vernon Triangle House Tour is a self-guided tour conducted in the "open house" style so you can come and go at your leisure. All buildings on the House Tour are within a short walking distance of each other, so you can start at any location along the tour – and you don't have to go in sequential order. Your ticket gets you admission into each home on the tour, a tour booklet full of useful information with a map, and a tea reception from 2:00-5:15 p.m. at CityVista Green.

The House Tour is designed to showcase the Triangle's new condos and lofts in their beautiful new buildings. Private residential condos will primarily be featured in the House Tour, which will include units in 555 Mass, The Sonata, Madrigal Lofts, The L, and The K. The final stop on the tour is a tea reception in the private park on the third floor of CityVista – Vista Green – for you to refresh and reconnect with friends.

**Tickets**

Tickets are \$15 each in advance at \$20 at the door. To purchase tickets in advance, you can visit 5<sup>th</sup> Street Ace Hardware, 1055 5<sup>th</sup> Street, NW (accepting cash, check, and credit card), or use PayPal at [www.mountvernontriangle.org](http://www.mountvernontriangle.org). Purchasers buying tickets in advance must go to the Will Call table to pick up their tour booklet on event day at 5<sup>th</sup> Street Ace Hardware at 1055 5<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. Tickets will be sold on event day for \$20 each at 5<sup>th</sup> Street Ace Hardware.

Everyone must have a ticket, including children. While there is no age restriction, we believe adults will primarily enjoy the House Tour. Please note that strollers, backpacks, and large bags are not allowed in any of the homes on the tour. While we love our pets, it is best to leave them at home. This event will go on rain or shine, and tickets are nonrefundable.



***The L at City Vista (440 L Street NW) will also have a bake sale on Sunday May 17th beginning at Noon until they sell out.***