

MVSNA



MOUNT VERNON SQUARE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

www.mvsna.org

May 2010

Next MVSNA Meetings

May 18th, June 15th

& July 20th

at 7:30 pm

Yale Lofts - 437 New York Ave NW

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

5/18 Agenda

- Steuart Development Company - 400/500 Blks of NY (This meeting will be focused on development)
- Approval of 2010 Goals & revised Bylaws
- Public Safety - 1st & 3rd District Officers invited
- Reports & Announcements

MVSNA meets regularly on the **3rd Tuesday** of the month at **7:30pm**. Meeting location is at the Yale Loft Condo, **437 New York Ave NW** in the lobby common room unless otherwise noted. MVSNA boundaries cover the Mount Vernon Square Historic District & the Mount Vernon Triangle. For more info please visit www.mvsna.org

Keep up to date with community news & events!

Your **Public Neighborhood Blog**:

lifein.mvsna.org

(that means **YOU** can contribute!)

Neighborhood listserv:

groups.yahoo.com/group/mvsna/

(instantly email ~500 of your closest neighbors!)

The Triangle blog - Essential reading!

mvtriangleblog.com

Meeting primer:

DNA/PSA 101 - 2nd Tues. Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm

MVSNA - 3rd Tuesday, Yale Condo 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

CCCA - Last Tuesday, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

ANC 2C - 1st Wed., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St. NW, 6:30pm

ANC 6C P&Z - 1st Wednesday, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm

ANC 6C - 2nd Tues., Heritage Found. 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm

PSA 308 - 2nd Thurs., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St. NW, 6:30pm

Don't know which Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) & Police Service Area (PSA) covers your house or condo?

Fear not! Handy maps available here:

mvsna.org/map/

Community Calendar

May 18 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

May 20 - MVSNA/PSA 308 Safety Walk, 5th & M, 7pm

May 22 - MVT CID Walking Tour, Carnegie Lib., 8th & K, 2pm

May 25 - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

Jun 2 - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm

Jun 2 - ANC 2C Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm

Jun 8 - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm

Jun 9 - ANC 6C Mtg. Heritage Found. 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm

Jun 10 - PSA 308 Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St NW, 6:30pm

Jun 15 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

Jun 29 - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

Jul 7 - ANC 6C Planning & Zoning, NPR, 635 Mass. Ave NW, 7pm

Jul 7 - ANC 2C Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 6:30pm

Jul 13 - DNA/PSA 101, Calvary Church, 8th & H Sts. NW, 7pm

Jul 8 - PSA 308 Mtg., Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th St NW, 6:30pm

Jul 14 - ANC 6C Mtg. Heritage Found. 214 Mass Ave NE, 7pm

Jul 20 - MVSNA Mtg, Yale Lofts, 437 NY Ave NW, 7:30pm

Jul 27 - CCCA, Kennedy Rec., 1401 7th Street NW, 7pm

~~~~~**Meetings generally break in August**~~~~~

Got a problem or a service request that hasn't been fulfilled? Contact your Mayor's Office of Community Relations (MOCR) reps:

#### **Ward 2**

[Christine.kidwell@dc.gov](mailto:Christine.kidwell@dc.gov)

[Francisco.Fimbres@dc.gov](mailto:Francisco.Fimbres@dc.gov)

#### **Ward 6**

[Shaeda.Ahmadi@dc.gov](mailto:Shaeda.Ahmadi@dc.gov)

## Message from the President

What we don't need is another surface parking lot in our neighborhood. However, that's what we have at 5th and Eye Streets NW, after a development project on the block that was formerly home to Fun Fair Video stalled in the current economic climate. I'm pleased to report that we are in the process of turning lemons into lemonade.

Over the past month, MVSNA has worked closely with the city (which owns the property), the parking lot operator (which has a 2-year lease), the Mount Vernon Triangle Community Improvement District Director Bill McLeod, Thais Austin of the 555 Massachusetts Avenue Condo Association, several ANC 6C Commissioners, and the future developers to bring life to the lot. We are in discussions with Diverse Markets to have a Sunday crafts and farmers' market at the site. We have also organized a series of outdoor movies for the community on Sunday evenings. At this stage, we are finalizing the plans and will soon begin fundraising. We are hopeful to make this idea a reality in about one month. (Also note that a bike shop will soon open on the 400 Block of I Street NW).

Due to the hard work of our Vice President Merc Fox and others, McKenna's Wagon plans to relocate its operations from 4th and L Streets NW to 7th and K Streets NW. We are pleased that McKenna's Wagon will continue to provide service to those in need of food in our community. The new location should alleviate concerns stemming from operating on a vacant lot that is adjacent to residences and directly across from apartments. The move is expected to occur in mid-June.

Finally, our thanks goes to Ward 6 Councilmember Wells for joining us at our April MVSNA meeting for an engaging discussion on issues ranging from removing the big green monster highway signs from NY Avenue, the Council's consideration of a new vacant property law, neighborhood development, and much more.

## Public Safety Walk

Thursday May 20th

Meet on the corner of 5th & M at 7:00pm

Please join your neighbors and officers from Police Service Area (PSA) 308 for a stroll through the streets and alleys of Mount Vernon Square. Our presence is a good deterrent for crime plus it's a fun community activity.

Dogs welcome!

As announced at the March & April meeting, MVSNA is moving towards applying for nonprofit 501c3 status, and to that end we need to make minor changes to our bylaws. Go to <http://www.box.net/shared/o7plfxz3xj> or [Click here to read](#). Draft copies will also be available at the May 18th membership meeting where we will take a formal vote.

Congratulations to Master Patrol Officer Tommy Barnes who is being honored on Monday May 17th as a finalist for the Cafritz Award for Public Service. MVSNA Officers were pleased to submit letters of support for this prestigious distinction.

### 2010 Board of Directors

#### President

Cary Silverman  
[carysilverman@comcast.net](mailto:carysilverman@comcast.net)

#### First Vice President

Merc Fox  
[Mercury.fox@gmail.com](mailto:Mercury.fox@gmail.com)

#### Second Vice President

DeeDee Slewka

#### Corresponding Secretary

Si Kailian

#### Recording Secretary

Jefferson Parke

#### Treasurer

Rickey Williams

#### At Large

Lydia Goring  
John Thompson  
Johnathan Cohen  
Warren McBroom  
Rob Amos

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

### Police Contacts

#### PSA 308

Lt. Jeffery Carroll - (202) 437-8198  
[jefferyw.carroll@dc.gov](mailto:jefferyw.carroll@dc.gov)

#### PSA 101

Lt. Eddie Fowler - (202) 425-2826  
[eddie.fowler@dc.gov](mailto:eddie.fowler@dc.gov)

Lt. James 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)

**Report all Crime!**  
**Dial 911 for ALL Crime**

**Need City Services?**  
**Call 311 for all City Services!**

**Feel like blogging about the neighborhood, but don't want the commitment of your very own blog? Post your musings at the *public* MVSNA blog! Just go to [lifein.mvsna.org](http://lifein.mvsna.org) and click the right side link to contribute!**

### Neighborhood News

#### Jemal leasing Square 451

Long term plans include a large mixed use office project on the 600 block of NY Ave NW but in the interim challenging market Douglas Development has leased several buildings. The Vincent Gray for Mayor campaign is occupying space on the 1100 block of 6th Street as is Miller's Copying Service which moved from 7th & M. Also District Crossfit is opening shop on the 600 Block of NY rounding out an ample selection of fitness options in our community!

#### Turn on the Lights!

Recently there has been an uptick in muggings in the area surrounding the Safeway, especially on K street and the 1100 block of 5th street. MPD reminds us to be aware of our surroundings when walking the streets, muggers look for people who are distracted. Also we ask that neighbors please turn on their front exterior lights at night to help illuminate the streetscape. Ace Hardware on 5th street sells timer devices and if you say "Fuzzy Wuzzy Wuzza Bear" at the register, you will get 5% off your purchase this month.

#### Call to ACTION-Save Morgan Street Facades

Recently there was an accident due to underpinning error at 216 Morgan Street NW. As a result, the 2nd floor of that house and 218 Morgan collapsed along with the party wall. The owner of 216, who was renovating this long vacant house to live in, has been communicating with the community and working to remedy the situation. However, DCRA intends swiftly raze both houses completely on Monday May 17th. MVSNA is urging neighbors to contact DCRA and demand that the city preserve the facades of these distinctive row-homes in our historic district as we have already lost so many buildings in our area already due to collapse or demolition by neglect. Please email: Linda Argo - [linda.argo@dc.gov](mailto:linda.argo@dc.gov)  
Tommy Wells - [twells@dccouncil.us](mailto:twells@dccouncil.us)  
Don Masoero - [don.masoero@dc.gov](mailto:don.masoero@dc.gov)

#### 4th Street Folly

Its only been a few weeks since DDOT installed beautiful new brick sidewalks on 4th St NW but it has been reported that WASA intends to tear up the freshly bricked 1200 block to install new water lines. Want to make your displeasure known? Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans is hosting a WASA forum on May 26th, at 6:30pm, Dupont Hotel, 1500 NH Ave NW.

#### Graffiti Grapevine

Neighbors recently reported new gang tags in the area on the MVSNA blog. Service requests have been submitted & MVSNA officers contacted property owners to remove the graffiti (and in the case of 473 NY Ave, trim the weeds). If you see graffiti, call 311 to have the city remove it.

#### Buddha Bar Opens

The Triangle has a swanky new venue for neighbors and visitors to kick back in. This week the much anticipated Buddha Bar opened its doors at 457 Mass Ave NW. The central feature is a massive statue imported from Indonesia which took 10 men to move!