

Georgetown C I T I Z E N S



Citizens Association
of Georgetown

VOLUME XL | ISSUE 4 | APRIL 2015

WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

YOUR ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION:

DC GRASSROOTS GOVERNMENT IN ACTION

BY CLARISA RINGLIEN *CAG Meeting Committee*

The next CAG meeting on Tuesday, April 14 will focus on Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2E, and will be held at the law offices of Foley & Lardner on the Potomac waterfront.

The District has 37 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions which are elected bodies serving two-year (volunteer) terms and constitute the citizens' critical advisory link to the local government. As a matter of law, DC government agencies are required to give "great weight" to decisions of the ANC. Thus, ANC2E has an important function for all of Georgetown and Burleith. ANC2E reviews all development and construction projections in the historic district and all local liquor licenses. It has also worked to improve parking and traffic, to repair streets and sidewalks, to gain a citizen voice into street closings for things such as utility cuts, road races and movie filming, to increase public safety, and to recognize outstanding contributions to the community. Our ANC has played a major role in the development of the Georgetown University Campus Plan and more recently had considerable impact on the renovation plans for the Ellington School.

There are currently eight members of ANC2E, each representing different areas of Georgetown and Burleith -- referred to as "single member districts" (SMD). They are: Chairman Ron Lewis, and fellow Commissioners Tom Birch, Kendyl



ANC2E Commissioners (from left): Thomas Birch, Bill Starrels, Ron Lewis, Ed Solomon, outgoing Peter Prindiville, and Jeff Jones. (Not pictured Kendyl Clausen, Reed Howard, Monica Roache)

Clausen, Reed Howard, Jeff Jones, Monica Roache, Ed Solomon, and Bill Starrels. The Commissioners also have designated fields of particular responsibility. Commissioners Lewis and Starrels handle transportation issues, Commissioner Birch typically represents the ANC in proceedings before the Old Georgetown Board, Commissioner Jones handles public utilities matters, Commissioners Starrels and Birch address Alcohol Beverage Control issues, and Commissioner Solomon is responsible for public safety. ANC 2E generally meets on a monthly basis, and its meetings are open to the public. ANC2E has recently received accolades from the Mayor's Office and others for being one of the best, if not the best, ANC in DC.

Please come to our April meeting and meet your Single Member District commissioner, hear how the ANC operates, and listen to issues in Georgetown and Burleith which are of interest to you. There will be a particular

emphasis on public safety. Our generous host, Foley & Lardner LLC, is located in Washington Harbour at 3000 K Street. The meeting will be on the 6th floor and begins with a reception from 7-7:30pm, followed by the program ending at 8:30. Bring your questions for Q & A -- and enjoy the stunning river view.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND YOU

BY JOHN RENTZEPIS

Co-Chair CAG Public Safety Committee

Did you hear about the two armed carjackings on P Street in February? As the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) wrote: "In both carjackings, a suspect approached an operator of a vehicle, and demanded the keys while displaying a gun. The victim in the 3100 block of P Street was able to drive off. The victim in the 2600 block of P Street complied and the suspect drove away in the victim's vehicle." Fortunately, the United States Park Police shortly thereafter observed the car, leading to an arrest and charging of the suspect. Incidents like these -- along with burglaries and car window smashings -- are reminders that violent crime is not a stranger



Above: ANC2E and Single Member District boundaries

“GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.”

- Henry David Thoreau

As a leader in Georgetown's real estate community, our firm proudly supports the Georgetown community. We are proud to sponsor the following events and organizations:

Citizens Association of Georgetown
Concerts in the Park
Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy
Friends of Book Hill Park Reception
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Friends of Rose Park

Friends of Volta Park
Georgetown House Tour (St. John's)
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President's LETTER



I am pleased this month to welcome Michele Stewardson to the CAG team. Michele is our organization's new Program and Communications Manager. She brings to the position strong writing skills and experience running all facets of a small business. As most of you know, we are a small office so tasks and responsibilities vary from day to day. However, from my point of view, having Michele in the office five days a week is a very important plus. In addition, she is the key person overseeing the CAG Public Safety Program. When you stop by the office or call, please introduce yourself to Michele.

Also this month, I want to bring to your attention the articles in this issue about our Public Safety Program. CAG has made a substantial investment in safety in Georgetown. Many neighbors support the program so that we can all feel a little safer. Please see the Public Safety Membership Form in the newsletter. If you are not already a member, please consider a tax-deductible contribution at a comfortable level to help keep this program running as in the past.

Several points of community interest: At a recent ANC2E meeting, the audience was introduced to John Fanning of the Mayor's Office. He gave us his telephone number (202-340-7229) and offered to be of assistance as needed. For example, he mentioned that you could call him and his office would arrange to have snow shoveled from in front of a senior's home. Hopefully we won't need that service anymore this year, but it is service that could be of great interest

to those who can't or shouldn't be shoveling walkways. Of course there was a bit of a chuckle from the group as people wondered how his office would know if it were a senior calling or just a lazy resident!

Another point of interest, which might be underway by the time you read this, is the proposed Ellington School partial demolition. It is scheduled to start in April. CAG, ANC2E and other interested parties are working formally with the school as the renovation of the school facility takes place.

If you read my newsletter letters or my columns in *The Current*, you know I love Georgetown. One cold winter night in March my husband and I were invited to Tudor Place to view some of George Washington's personal treasures that are housed there. What an amazing experience. We peered at the items at arm's length, while carefully standing back so that nothing could possibly go amiss. If you have the opportunity to take advantage of a Tudor Place program, I heartily recommend it.

Another property that CAG supports is the Jackson Art Center. Recently the non-profit organization of artists came to us and asked for our help as they work with the DC government to renew their lease. You might have noticed that the Center has

refurbished the windows in the building, using funds from dues and rent. They care for the building and want to stay there. And this spring they are promising to tackle the landscaping around the building on R Street. If you have an interest in landscape planning or gardening or know a professional who might donate their talents, please call Betsy Cooley at the CAG office at 202-337-7313.

Our newsletters always offer key information about our community and we hope it is of interest. On the calendar, and mentioned elsewhere, is the CAG community meeting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 14th. All the details are on the first page. It will be a great opportunity to meet your ANC2E commissioner. It is hard to believe that plans are underway for our May meeting, which is CAG's Annual Meeting, with the election of officers and the presentation of the annual community awards. Location and date will be available soon.

Happy springtime!

Pamla Moore, PRESIDENT



The CAG board at a recent monthly meeting: (from left) Vice President Bob vom Eigen, Victoria Rixey, Topher Mathews, Executive Director Betsy Cooley, President Pamla Moore, Treasurer John Richardson, Jennifer Altemus, Karen Cruse, Luca Pivato, and Hazel Denton. (Not pictured: Hannah Isles, Secretary Barbara Downs, and John Rentzepis)

DONORS TO THE 2015 PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

(AS OF MARCH 15, 2015)

Thanks to the generosity of the following people, CAG has raised over half of the required revenue for the 2015 Public Safety Program. We urge everyone else to contribute soon. Detailed information is on the website (www.cagtown.org) and you can also donate online. The form is also available in this newsletter. All donations are tax deductible.

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CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

2015 PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM CONTRIBUTION

~ All Donations are fully tax deductible ~

For example, a \$500 donation to the CAG Public Safety Program is equivalent to \$300 in after tax dollars assuming a combined federal and DC tax rate of 40%.

- _____ **Yes**, I/we will be a **GUARDIAN** of safety in Georgetown by making a tax-deductible donation of **\$5,000** for the program in 2015
- _____ **Yes**, I/we will be a **SENTINEL** of safety in Georgetown by making a tax-deductible donation of **\$1,000** for the program in 2015
- _____ **Yes**, I/we will be a **PROTECTOR** of safety in Georgetown by making a tax-deductible donation of **\$750** for the program in 2015
- _____ **Yes**, I/we will be a **DEFENDER** of safety in Georgetown by making a tax-deductible donation of **\$500** for the program in 2015
- _____ **Yes**, I/we will be a **CUSTODIAN** of safety in Georgetown by making a tax-deductible donation of **\$325** for the program in 2015

All contributors receive full program benefits

NAME (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY) _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (HOME) _____ **WORK OR CELL** _____

EMAIL _____

Check here if you have also included payment for your 2015 CAG membership dues in your check or charge total (\$55 for individuals, \$75 for families/couples).

Form of Payment (all donations and dues are fully tax-deductible):

- _____ Check (check number _____) Please make check payable to: Citizens Association of Georgetown
- _____ Credit Card: VISA _____ Mastercard _____
- Amount to be billed _____
- Card Number _____
- Expiration Date _____
- Billing address (if different from above - important!) _____
- Authorized signature _____

You may also donate online: www.cagtown.org and click on Public Safety Program

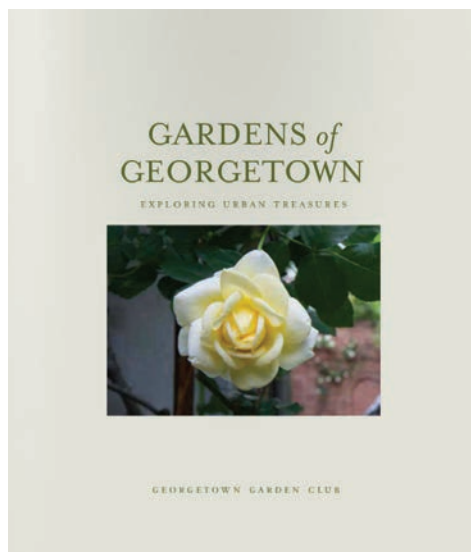
- _____ I/we do not want my/our names listed as a supporter(s) of the CAG Public Safety Program
- _____ I/we would like the CAG Guard to call and or stop by our house to introduce himself
- _____ I would like to learn more about becoming a Public Safety Block Captain

CAG welcomes your comments and suggestions: _____

Please send this form with payment to Citizens Association of Georgetown, Suite 200, 1365 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007 or fax to 202-333-1088.

New Book: Gardens of Georgetown

BY LEE HARRISON CHILD *Georgetown Garden Club*



Above: *Gardens of Georgetown* Book Cover.

Gardens of Georgetown, rolling off the presses in time for the annual Georgetown Garden Tour on May 9th, celebrates the gardens of the village for which it was named. It touts their beauty and their variety while paying homage to the gardeners and those who walk the paths, feel the dappled light, and breathe in the sweet garden air. Photographed with remarkable sensitivity by Georgetown native Jenny Gorman, with an inspiring text by Edith Schafer, some 38 gardens are highlighted –

including their pools and fountains, fences and walls, walkways and raised beds.

This stunning new book brings to life espalied fruit trees as well as those that weep with grace, overflowing pots with reds and purples and fuchsia, and roses that climb and statues that dance.

“Our (Georgetown) gardens reflect our ecumenical, eclectic, all embracing selves” says Edie Schafer, whose prose coupled with her extensive knowledge of gardening and longtime love affair with Georgetown encourages the reader to go slowly, spend time, and return often. Her words flow gracefully, complimenting Jenny’s strikingly intimate photographs. Through her lens clearly, this seasoned photographer is somehow able to capture the unique character of each garden space, defining it in color and form and giving it breath.

The book is the creation of the Georgetown Garden Club, which was founded in 1924, and is one of 200 garden clubs that are part of the Garden Club of America. Early members of the Club took their mission to beautify Georgetown seriously, planting flowerbeds around the Children’s Hospital, the Home for Aged Women, and the Georgetown Library. They waged war against unsightly billboards, paid for footpaths along Rock

Creek, beautified school grounds, planted elm trees along Q Street, and provided May baskets to the Georgetown Senior Center.

In the 1970s, they created a landscaped terrace along the C & O Canal, installed a colonial garden at Dumbarton House in 1979 and a habitat garden at Volta Park in the 1990s. For the last 15 years the Club has sponsored the Georgetown Garden Tour, which offers a unique opportunity to step inside some of Georgetown’s most beautiful gardens, many of which are included in *Gardens of Georgetown*.

All proceeds from the tour, as with the book, are returned to the greening of Georgetown. Over the years the Club has contributed over a half million dollars to beneficiaries including Book Hill, the Georgetown Public Library, Georgetown Waterfront Park, Montrose Park, Volta Park, Rose Park, Tudor Place, Trees for Georgetown, Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy and the Student Conservation Association.

Gardens of Georgetown will be available for sale at the Georgetown Garden Tour and online at the GGC’s website: . Books are \$45 or at a reduced rate when purchased with a tour ticket before May 1 (ticket \$30, book \$40). You may also call 202-625-1175 to purchase a book. georgetowngardenclubdc.org

BIGGER & BETTER: GEORGETOWN ARTS 2015



Artist Dariush Vaziri with his portrait of Andrew Kohut

The 6th annual Georgetown ARTS 2015 successfully showcased the talents of Georgetown artists at House of Sweden February 12 – 15. The show’s opening reception on Thursday evening broke records, attracting 486 people and generating the sale of more than a dozen art works.

The art show featured 100 works by 38 Georgetown residents and artists who have studios in Georgetown. Some artists are young professionals while others are lifelong painters or teachers. A few of the artists exhibit nationally in other galleries.

Works of art varied in composition, scale, and subject matter, from colorful abstract works

to delicately painted water colors of Italian landscapes. Jennie Buehler did a masterful job of coordinating and hanging the show.

“Every year is surprisingly different, and that is what is most interesting and exciting about this exhibit,” said Laura-Anne Tiscornia, chair of Georgetown ARTS 2015. “The show attracts new artists, as well as repeating artists, and to see all the different pieces come together and play off one another is remarkable.”

The show’s “artist talks” this year featured dynamic speaker Peggy Sparks, director at Artist’s Proof Gallery, who provided an overview and interpretation of the art work displayed and urged people to support local artists.



Artist Wendy Plotkin-Mates



Jennie Buehler hanging the show with help from Bonzai and Clarisa Rienling



Art Show Chair Laura-Anne Tiscornia (left) with artist Fabiano Amin (center) and show curator Jennie Buehler

THANKS TO OUR ARTS 2015 SPONSORS:

House of Sweden
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Cynthia Howar
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Occasions Catering
Bonsai Fine Arts
Atmosphere Lighting
The Phoenix
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Washington Framers' Workroom
Pearson's Wine and Spirits
Potomac Wine and Liquor
Clayborne Decorators, Inc.

Eco TIP

PAY BILLS ONLINE

By some estimates, if all households in the U.S. paid their bills on line and received electronic statements instead of paper ones, we'd save 18.5 million trees every year, 2.2 billion tons of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, and 1.7 billion pounds of solid waste! Just do it!

— LEE CHILD
Georgetown Garden Club

CONCERTS IN THE PARKS KICKED OFF AT GEORGE TOWN CLUB

The Concerts in the Parks committee held its annual kick-off party fundraiser at the George Town Club on March 12th. The George Town Club played host to an enthusiastic crowd of neighbors and friends who were clearly ready to celebrate spring. Attendees enjoyed food, drinks and a live performance from the Satin Doll Trio. Thanks to the extensive host committee, the event was a great success. The proceeds from this annual fundraiser will help underwrite the cost of producing Georgetown's favorite summer Concerts which is free and open to the public in beautiful Volta and Rose parks.

In other exciting Concerts news, there may be a star of the NBC hit series "The Voice" in our midst. The May concert from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Sunday, May 17, in Volta Park will feature Georgetown singer songwriter Rebecca McCabe accompanied again this year by the fantastic Human Country Jukebox Band. The band includes member Jack Gregori, who is currently competing for "Team Adam" (Adam Levine) on the wildly successful show, "The Voice." In addition, there will be fun 'May Day' activities and tasty treats for the whole family.

Next, grab your dad and his favorite picnic fare for the Sunday, June 14, Father's Day concert in Volta Park. In addition to great music, we will provide all kinds of other special activities just for the dads. Finally, beat the summer heat at the last Concert of the season that will be held on Sunday, July 12th in Rose Park.

The 2015 season promises to be among the best yet thanks to the generosity of loyal sponsors and the dedication of our hard working committee, including: Hannah Isles, Jennifer Altemus, Robin Baker, Betsy Cooley, Renee Esfandiary, Kelly Doolan, Jessica Heywood, Kathleen Jenkins, Michelle Korsmo, Amy Kuhnert, Leslie Maysak, Elizabeth Miller, Erin Mullan, Tina Nadler, Ginny Poole, Shannon Pryor, Jennie Reno, Colman Riddell, Reagan Smith, Erin Sobansky, Elena Tomkins, Madeline Wade, Dorothy Williams and Trish Yan.

Looking forward to seeing you in the park this summer!

Georgetown Garden
T O U R

SATURDAY MAY 9, 2015
10 AM TO 5 PM

TICKETS \$35

Tickets can be purchased the day of the tour at Christ Church
31st and O Streets, NW
Washington, DC

Online:
www.georgetowngardentour.com

WWW.GEORGETOWNGARDENTOUR.COM

PUBLIC SAFETY AND YOU

Continued from pg. 1

to Georgetown.

Public safety is an important part of what CAG addresses in the neighborhood and CAG works closely with the MPD to monitor and reduce crime. Within minutes of the MPD broadcasting the armed carjacking event, CAG block captains were e-mailing residents to alert them. In addition, CAG and detectives at the MPD partnered to review available footage of the incident on the 2600 block of P Street. How? CAG operates a video camera program and one camera is located on that block.

But CAG does much more. Besides liaising with the MPD and maintaining the block captain and camera programs, CAG also continues to devote substantial resources to its guard program. Five nights a week, the private security firm Securitas provides two guards who patrol Georgetown in marked vehicles with flashing lights. Their watchful eyes help deter criminal activity as they drive the streets and

alleys of our neighborhood, ready to contact the MPD when trouble arises. As part of their duties, both guards also provide individualized services to the neighborhood. For example, residents may request that a guard check on their exterior doors and windows while on vacation, pick up newspapers and flyers, and provide a safety escort between car and home. The guards also will pay special attention to specific blocks or alleyways if a resident feels there is suspicious activity.

This vital program helps keep all of us and our property safe, yet the program, including guard salaries and vehicle expenses, is completely dependent on contributions from the community. See the list of 2015 donors on page 4. Indeed, without strong financial support from Georgetowners, the Public Safety Program, and especially the private

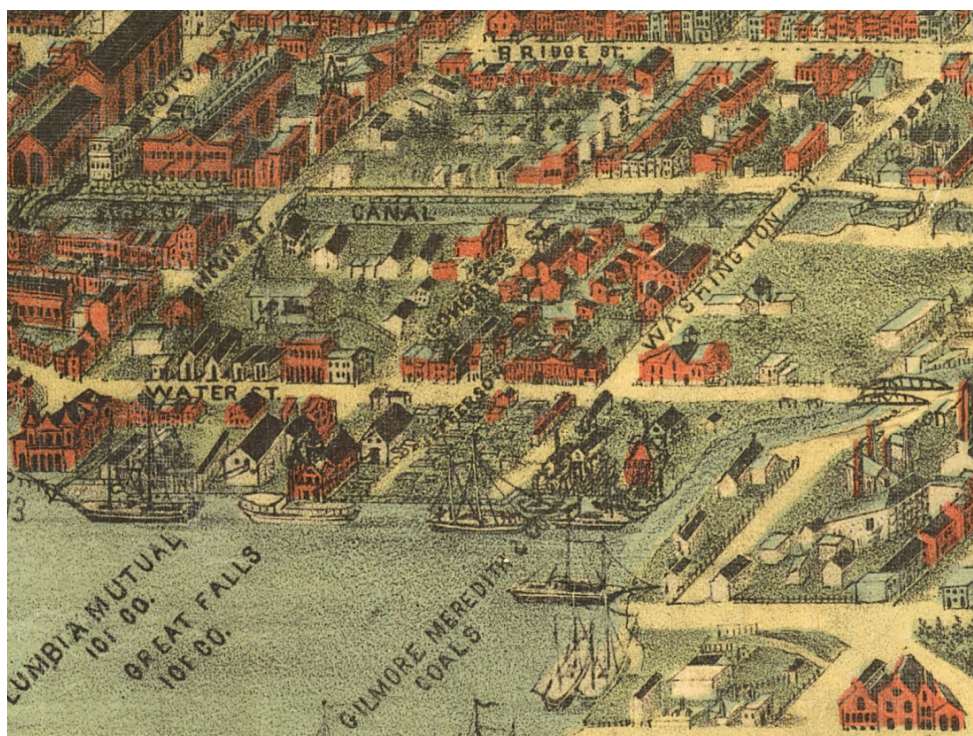
guard component, simply could not be sustained. And as the two carjackings show, our neighborhood continues to be a target for criminal activity, both violent and non-violent. Please help CAG continue and ideally expand both this important service and the camera program, by joining your neighbors and donating to the Public Safety Program. If you have already been a part of the program in past years, please renew your donation today. Use the form provided here or donate online at www.cagtown.org. All donations are tax-deductible. Thank you!



Chip Dent, John Rentzepis, Pamla Moore, and Rich Hinds getting the word out on Public Safety donations

FROZEN IN GEORGETOWN

BY WALTER GROSZYK



This is an excerpt from a birds-eye view of Washington, sketched “from nature” in 1883 by Adolphe Sachse. The view is of the Georgetown waterfront between High Street (Wisconsin Avenue) and Rock Creek, and between Bridge Street (M Street) and Water Street (K Street).

When I first studied this birds-eye map of Georgetown, I was surprised by the number of ice houses along the waterfront. There were three: the Knickerbocker Ice Co., at the foot of Potomac Street (and not shown in the excerpt); the Columbia Mutual Ice Company, at the foot of Congress Street (31st Street); and the Great Falls Ice Co, near Jefferson Street (now Thomas Jefferson Street). The ice house buildings can be readily identified as these were uniformly painted white (or yellow) to reflect the sun’s rays.

Near the right edge of the map, at the foot of Washington Street (30th Street), is

the coal wharf of Gilmore, Meredith, & Co., agents for the Cumberland and Pennsylvania Railroad. The coal for this business was likely off-loaded from canal boats that had passed through the Georgetown locks. A second larger coal wharf was between Market Street (33rd Street) and Frederick Street (34th Street). Coal for this wharf was transported over a fan of timber trestles that ran from the canal bank down to the river. Canal boats would unload coal at 34th Street, and avoid the Georgetown locks.

Along the map's left edge, the red brick building is located where the current popular fountain is in the Georgetown Waterfront Park. The building was the office and possibly

a waiting room for the Inland and Seaboard Coasting Co., a steamship line previously known as the New York, Alexandria, Washington, and Georgetown Steamship Co. The name mirrors the destinations of its twice-weekly steamship sailings.

The Knickerbocker Ice Co. was the largest purveyor of ice in the latter 19th Century. Its ice came primarily from the Hudson River, shipped by boat to ice houses along the East Coast. The ice houses were timber, double walled, with the cavity between the walls filled with sawdust or wood shavings for insulation. These materials were also used to insulate ice while it was being shipped.

The 'ice business' was created by the 'ice king', Frederic Tudor of Boston. In the early 19th Century, Tudor succeeded in shipping ice from Massachusetts ponds (including Walden Pond) to Europe, the Caribbean, even India. Perhaps the most famous brand was Wenham Lake Ice, from a lake that is now part of the water supply for Salem and Beverly in Massachusetts. Wenham Lake Ice became a purveyor to Her Majesty, Queen Victoria. The company's shop on the Strand in London would feature a large block of ice in the window. The ice was so pure and clear that a newspaper placed behind the ice could be read by passersby on the street.

House Tour MARKS SPRING IN GEORGETOWN

The Georgetown House Tour will be held from 11am-5 pm Saturday, April 25, featuring many of Georgetown's beautiful homes and gardens. House tour ticket price includes a parish tea in Blake Hall at historic St. John's Episcopal Church, (2-5 p.m. 3240 O Street) which will feature homemade tea, sandwiches and sweets. The houses are within walking distance and can be visited in any order you choose. The event has an 84-year-old history and is touted to be the oldest such house tour in the nation. The first Georgetown House Tour was in 1931 and tickets were \$1. Today more than 300 volunteers make the event a success and it has attracted more than 1,000 visitors from many different states.

The event begins with the Patron's Party on Wednesday, April 22, which kicks off the Georgetown Spring social calendar. This year's party will be at the home of Deborah Windsor, 2613 Dumbarton Street, from 6:30-8:30 pm. Proceeds benefit the St. John Episcopal Church ministries to homeless adults and children, the unemployed, senior citizens, and DC school children. For more information on tickets visit www.georgetownhousetour.com or call St. John's Parish at 202-338-1796.

NUMBERS TO KNOW

REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR CRIMES:

For emergency and non-emergency situations call 911. Be sure to relay details such as height, clothing, car make/model.

FREE EMERGENCY MEDICAL HELP:

The Georgetown Emergency Response Medical Service (GERMS) provides 24 hour-7 days a week free quality emergency services and transportation to the residents of Georgetown. For help, call 687-HELP (687-4357).

REQUEST CITY SERVICES:

See a street light out? Broken sidewalk? Other problems in Georgetown? Report it by calling 311 or using the DC City Services website: <http://311.dc.gov>.

To report clogged or flooded storm drains, visit the DCWASA site: www.dcwasa.com/report_problem.

Be in the Know

ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING ON YOUR BLOCK!

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2E MEETING SCHEDULE

April 30, May 4 and June 1, June 29 (for July),
no August meeting, August 31 (for September)

The ANC agenda, including a list of all residential and commercial properties applying for concept or permit approval, is usually available the Friday prior to the meeting date.

By going to the ANC2e website – www.anc.2e.com – you can be informed about properties on your street.

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

1365 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20007
202-337-7313 / Fax: 202-333-1088
Email: cagmail@cagtown.org
Web: www.cagtown.org

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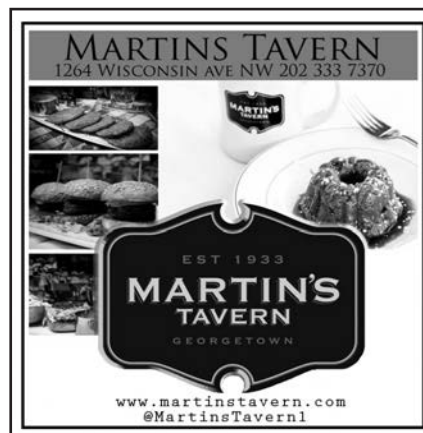
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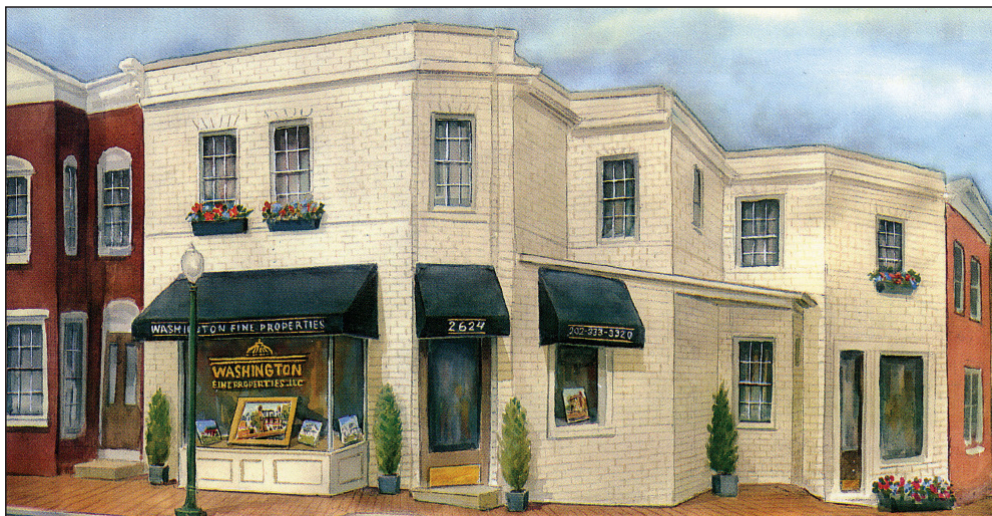
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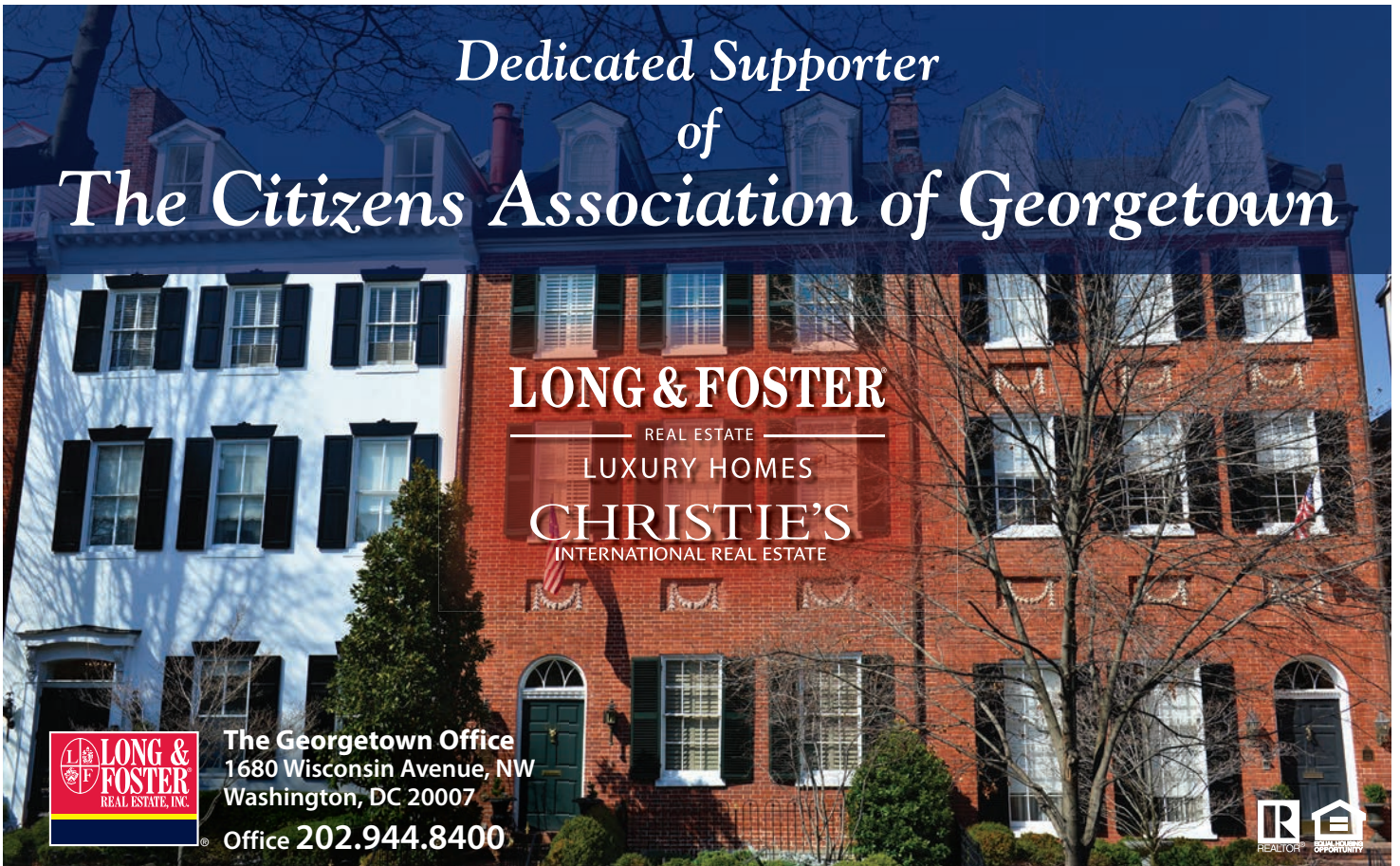
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