



CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2016

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Georgetown Rocks AT THE FOUR SEASONS

CAG's Annual Gala—Saturday, October 22

Jennifer Romm, Gala Committee

Get ready to rock at the 2016 Georgetown Gala, CAG's annual event that brings together over 400 residents, organizations, businesses, and politicians to celebrate our amazing community and support CAG's mission of

CONTINUED PAGE 7



Kristin and John Cecchi and Robert Pincus (seated) along with Mark and Sally Ein, Roxanne Little, Chris and Dana Tavlarides (not pictured) are the chairs of the 2016 Georgetown Gala. Here, Kristin and John host an August committee meeting at their home: (l-r) Daria Jackson, Beth Webster, Leslie Maysak, Jennifer Altemus Romm, Adria Stiglitz, Jennifer Peacock, Katie Shannon, Krista Johnson, and Florence Auld. (Complete committee list at cagtown.org/gala)

GET SCHOOLED!

CAG Hosts Meeting on Hyde-Addison and Ellington

Hannah Isles, CAG Board

Tuesday, October 18

7pm: Reception; 7:30pm Program
St John's Church – 3240 O Street

For several years, Georgetowners have hearing about renovations planned for our local public schools – Hyde-Addison Elementary School and Duke Ellington School for the Arts. Part of a city-wide effort to modernize DC public schools, it is important because a well-planned improvement project can enhance the quality of education and contribute to the vitality of the neighborhood.

Hyde-Addison Elementary School, at 3219 O Street, enrolls about 316 students (40% of which are in-boundary) in grades Pre-K3 through 5th grade. For the past five years, a School Improvement Team (SIT), with representatives from the school, parents, local residents and the DC Department of General Services (DGS) have been hashing out plans to increase enrollment to 400 students with the addition of four classrooms. Upgrades include a gym/larger cafeteria, media center, science lab, and music and art rooms. It took years for the project to go through Georgetown's design review process. Recently, DCPS made significant changes to the original plans and has identified Meyer Elementary School, at 9th and Euclid Streets NW, as a likely location to re-locate the students to during the construction phase – estimated to last at least two years.

Duke Ellington School, at Reservoir Road and 35th Street, enrolls 525 students in grades 9 through 12. Their massive project, now underway, has had many challenges. According to the DC Auditor, the project is already \$107 million over budget and the timeline continues to be extended.

Come to CAG's meeting to hear the latest news about the renovations and discuss the impact on our neighborhood. A tour of Hyde will be offered.

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- Henry David Thoreau

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President's LETTER



Now that stifling August is behind us, we look forward to an exciting, and hopefully cool, fall season of programs, parties, fundraisers, and the CAG Gala. Trees for Georgetown will begin the fall season with its annual celebration on September 21 at Prospect House located on 3508 Prospect Street, NW. The Prospect House is one of the few freestanding, late-eighteenth-century mansions remaining in Georgetown, and it makes a wonderful venue for the party. Please support our program to keep our streetscapes shaded with healthy trees.

Following on the heels of the Trees fundraiser, the Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park will be celebrating on September 22 at its 10-year anniversary party, hosted by the Honorable Jay and Mrs. Sharon Percy Rockefeller at their residence at 2121 Park Road, NW. In partnership with the National Park Service, the Friends group contributes to the upkeep of the park by planting new spring and fall flowers, maintaining and upgrading the infrastructure, and creating vibrant new ways the public can enjoy Georgetown's iconic waterfront.

The big event in the fall is the CAG 2016 Gala on Saturday, October 22 at the elegant Four Seasons Hotel. The theme for this event is Georgetown Rocks! Appropriately, CAG

has retained the Rocket Band to perform rock 'n roll music! CAG depends to a large degree upon our members and supporting businesses to contribute to this event, which supports the activities of our committees that work on public safety, historic preservation, fighting aircraft noise, and Alcohol Beverage Control licensing of restaurants and clubs, which are granted subject to a template agreement that restricts noise that otherwise can impose burdens upon nearby residents. For further information about the Gala, please visit CAG's website at: www.cagtown.org/gala.

In addition to the fundraisers, CAG is supporting other initiatives that impact our community. The Georgetown Community Partnership is comprised of representatives from Georgetown University, the District of Columbia, CAG and organizations representing Burleith and Foxhall Village. CAG has approved the draft Georgetown University Campus Plan for the period of 2017 to 2036.

The DC Fair Skies Coalition is comprised of civic associations from Foggy Bottom, Georgetown (CAG), Burleith, Hillandale, Foxhall Village, Colony Heights, Palisades, and Woodland Normanstone. The Coalition is advocating in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia for less dis-

ruptive aircraft noise from departures and arrivals at Reagan National along flight paths that do not fly directly over Georgetown and our adjoining communities. In order to fund the legal process, the Fair Skies Coalition is seeking donations to press our case against the FAA. You can make your donation by visiting our website at: www.cagtown.org; and find the link to DC Fair Skies.

Bob vom Eigen, PRESIDENT

UPCOMING CAG MEETINGS

Meeting on Hyde and Ellington

Tuesday, October 18

St John's Church – 3240 O Street
Reception and tours of Hyde at 7pm,
program at 7:30pm

CAG's Annual Georgetown Gala

Saturday, October 22

The Four Seasons
2400 Pennsylvania Ave.

ANC Candidates Forum

Monday, October 24

7:00pm – 8:30pm

Dumbarton House – 2715 Q Street

CAG Members: Who We Are & What We Want

Karen Cruse, CAG Board

There are over 1300 of us. Some of us are old, some are young, and many are in between. Some have been in Georgetown for decades. Others are still looking for dry cleaners, locating Cady's Alley, and discovering the delights at Thomas Sweet. What we all have in common is membership in CAG, although our reasons for joining are as varied as our demographic.

A few months ago, CAG set about examining those reasons in order to determine how we can keep our organization strong, vital, and relevant. A questionnaire was sent out. We learned some interesting facts.

We were happy to find that, over all, the response to our operation was positive. Members expressed satisfaction with our many programs and felt that our limited resources are appropriately allocated. How-

ever, as would be expected, interest in and importance given to the different programs varied among members.

CAG's efforts with regard to public safety generated very positive feedback. Almost half the respondents identified the Security Patrol Officers among their top three priority

CONTINUED PAGE 5

Rixeys join CAG's new Legacy Society

Louise Jacob, CAG Programs

Victoria and Douglas Rixey live on Georgetown's west side. They are partners in Rixey-Rixey Architects, based in Georgetown. They met in college, married, garnered three masters' degrees, and established their residential design practice in the 1980s. Victoria is an active CAG Board member and is co-chair of the 2017 Georgetown Garden Tour. Douglas has been a Trustee on the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown for the past ten years.

Victoria told CAG: "We have worked in Georgetown for more than thirty years, and always knew it was a special community but when we moved here from Arlington, we were convinced we'd really found home. We first joined CAG fifteen years ago, and I volunteered to help with the newsletter. From that start, we've met so many fabulous friends and neighbors, and become so involved in the community. I am now a past president of CAG, and I am still active on the board and on the historic preservation committee.

Explaining CAG's importance to Georgetown, Douglas added: "The Citizens Association of Georgetown enriches and protects our community in so many ways, from creating a close-knit neighborhood through



Douglas and Victoria Rixey

the Concerts in the Parks, to lobbying for residents' interests with Georgetown University and the Old Georgetown Board. It is an

We felt it was really important to make a legacy gift to CAG in our wills to ensure the vibrancy of our community.

incredibly dynamic organization. Victoria and I felt it was really important to make a legacy gift to CAG in our wills to ensure the vibrancy of our community."

Victoria summed up the couple's decision: "CAG's work is amazing and it is made possible by many volunteers and donations.

From my first days with the organization, the staff has grown, the office is bigger and better, and CAG's programs have grown, probably four-fold. We have been loyal CAG members for all these years, but Douglas and I wanted to make legacy gifts that will have a more profound impact, supporting the core mission of CAG: history, community, and advocacy. It may not sound glamorous, but ensuring that the organization can pay rent, hire excellent staff, and keep expanding programs as our village moves into the future is really important to us."

To find out more about CAG's new Legacy Society, phone CAG at 202 337 7313 or go to www.cagtown.org/PlannedGiving.

EcoTip

WANTED: UNUSED MEDS

About 30% of medicines are unused. It's known that prescription medicines flushed or poured down the drain will pollute aquatic life while contaminating our food and water supplies. What to do then with those unused drugs? Sponsored by the National Prescription Take-Back Initiative, local police stations provide a safe and responsible way to dispose of drugs twice a year. The next Take-Back Day is October 22, 10am-2pm, Second District Station, 3320 Idaho Avenue. Just do it!

— LEE CHILD
Georgetown Garden Club



Public Safety chair John Rentzepis (I) welcomes new Public Safety patrol officer Jerry Miles. An experienced Securitas security officer, Jerry, who recently worked at Dumbarton Oaks, is eager to meet Georgetown residents. Watch for Jerry, who replaces longtime security officer Tesfaye Terefe, as he patrols the streets of Georgetown in his CAG vehicle five nights a week to help keep our community safe and secure.

CAG MEMBERS: WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE WANT
continued from page 3

programs, and Security Cameras were cited by a third. Similar percentages (35% and 44%, respectively) feel additional resources should be committed to these two programs.

Georgetowners are proud of our green canopy, so it is no surprise that Trees for Georgetown was extremely popular, with almost 43% of survey takers choosing it as a top three priority. A third would like to see even more resources dedicated to this effort.

Community and the sharing of information obviously rank high. Monthly meetings and the GeorgetownForum listserv were among the top three favorite programs about a third of the time. The Newsletter merited a similar designation on 53% of the surveys.

The Concerts in the Park series was a popular choice for 20% of respondents. CAG's other programs – Oral History, Art Show, Gala, and Merchants Discount – had their own adherents, although to lesser extents.

To help CAG best fulfill its role as advocate, the survey asked about several important issues. Unsurprisingly, and as reflected in the popularity of the Guard and Camera programs, the chief concern was with safety. Approximately 60%

of respondents listed safety among their priority issues and felt more interaction with the Metropolitan Police Department is warranted. Georgetown's ongoing war on rats also scored high among the concerns. It was mentioned in almost half the surveys, again with requests for additional resources. Rounding out the perennial Big Three, traffic and parking issues were cited by more than a third of the respondents, with requests to increase resources devoted

to the problem.

CAG's mission of historic preservation was recognized by three-in-ten members, who considered advocacy in historic preservation matters and representation in development and construction projects among our most important functions. Advocacy efforts in combating airport noise merited about the same level of importance. CAG's involvement working with Georgetown University, MedStar, District agencies, and businesses to limit negative impacts on the community received kudos.

An extremely important part of the survey was the additional comments submitted by respondents. Comments covered everything from dog leash laws, to structuring of meetings, to criticism and praise of the Security Patrol program, to a call for more young professionals. The well-articulated thoughts of these members will be carefully considered as we plan for an even better association.

And who are these members with opinions, suggestions, and wants? A few have lived in Georgetown for less than a year (insider tip for the newcomers: try the Butterbrick-le ice cream at Thomas Sweet). A quarter

have been residents for 2–9 years, and an equal number for 10–19 years. Twenty percent

have called Georgetown home for 20–29 years, and 25% have seen the changes that occurred during their impressive 30+ years in the community. A whopping 83% read the newsletter often (hello to our loyal readers!) and half frequently use our online GeorgetownForum listserv. Three-quarters have donated to support a CAG program or activity, and two-thirds have attended meetings. We are diverse. We are active. We are opinionated. We are Georgetowners.

We are diverse. We are active. We are opinionated. We are Georgetowners.

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Annual Celebration

September 21, 2016

3508 Prospect Street, NW

Please join us at Prospect House, one of the few freestanding, late eighteenth century mansions remaining in Georgetown. The house was built in 1788 by Revolutionary War hero and wealthy tobacco merchant Gen. James Maccubbin Ligan. John Templeman, an eminent member of the Georgetown community, bought the house in the 1790s and welcomed President John Adams there in 1800. In more recent times, President Harry Truman's secretary of defense, James Forrestal, lived in the house and often entertained foreign dignitaries there.

For tickets and information, phone Kelly Stavish at 917-374-6278 or email treesforgeorgetown@gmail.com.

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ADDITIONAL DONORS TO THE 2016 PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

(March 11 through September 2, 2016)

Thanks to the generosity of the following people, CAG has raised more of the required revenue for the 2016 Public Safety Program. We urge everyone else to contribute soon. Detailed information is on our website (www.cagtow.org) and you can donate online, or call the CAG office or send a check. All donations are tax deductible.

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GU's Campus Plan Progress

Jennifer Romm, CAG Vice President

The Georgetown Community Partnership (GCP) agreed to move forward in the process of adopting the draft GU 2017 – 2037 Campus Plan. This draft is similar to the draft presented to the community on June 6, 2016 with a few tweaks based on comments received. The university's goals are new, high-quality green spaces, a more developed residential living-learning community, and a more pedestrian-friendly campus. We see these goals as helping to reduce any negative impacts the University might have on the residential community. The University has agreed to maintain the undergraduate and graduate student enrollment caps that are in the 2010 plan. They are currently not at capacity in grad student enrollment and will gradually increase those programs over the next 20 years. They have agreed to reduce the traffic and parking impact on the community. And they will move an additional 244 undergraduate students out of the surrounding neighborhood.

While the plan isn't perfect for any one party, it was devised in a collegial atmosphere and we are confident that through the GCP we can handle any adverse impacts that might arise. If for some reason the GCP cannot reach consensus on an issue, the plan includes a structured check in procedure in which any party can go back to the Zoning

Commission for help in resolving an issue.

MedStar is eager to move forward on its plans to renovate and expand the aging hospital building. This will start with building a significant addition to house a new Emergency Department among other things. Since the hospital is on the GU campus, it must be included in GU Campus Plan. When the campus plan is filed, MedStar will simultaneously file their Further Processing Application, which includes details on their design, construction schedule, transportation management, and other issues relevant to the Zoning Commission

The CAG Board and the ANC voted to endorse the plan. GU hopes to submit this plan (pursuant to the MedStar underground parking which goes to OGB in September and any transportation issues raised by DDOT in Sept/Oct) to the Zoning Commission in early September.

The Zoning Commission's intent in regulating campus facilities is to promote well planned and designed educational campuses, encourage long term facilities planning, minimize negative impacts on the surrounding residential areas, and provide consistency and transparency to the campus planning process.

For a complete view of the 2017-2037 plan visit campusplan.georgetown.edu

GEORGETOWN ROCKS *continued from page 1*

preserving and improving Georgetown. This year's theme is "Georgetown Rocks," and Chairs John and Kristin Cecchi, Mark and Sally Ein, Robert Pincus and Roxanne Little, and Chris and Dana Tavlarides are planning a rockin' evening with cocktails, a high end silent auction, an exceptional menu, and dancing to renowned East Coast cover band, The Rockets. Back by popular demand is the CAG Candy Bar to accompany dessert and cigar enthusiasts can lounge fireside at the Cigar Bar.

Make sure to check out the silent auction, which offers weeks in Paris, Aspen, and Vail. There will be a chance to bid on an Election Night Party, a one-of-a-kind Italy experience with Via Umbria, Leadership Coaching, a Wellness Package, some fine wine, a catered rooftop party, and more! Visit www.cagtown.org/gala-auction for more details.

So gather your friends and neighbors, don your rock n' roll black tie (leather anyone?), and join us for a spectacular evening.

Invitations were mailed in early September and tickets are on sale now – www.cagtown.org/gala

Round — & about

A large-scale pen and ink mural of the C&O canal by local **Artist Sidney Lawrence** has been installed at **il Canale Restaurant ... 1789 Restaurant** and **The Tombs** have reopened after being closed this summer for renovations ... Development firm Thor Equities will begin construction on the old **Latham Hotel** at 30th & M to create a luxury hotel with retail space and a partially enclosed rooftop deck, now that a settlement agreement has been reached with neighbors and the ANC ... Signs are up for **&pizza** going in at Wisconsin and N at the old Five Guys location ... **Georgetown University** opened a new 144,000-square-foot Athletic Center... **Grace Street** is becoming a real foodie destination: **Grace Street Coffee Roasters** and **South Block Juice Co.** have opened in their shared space across from Chaia Tacos and will soon be joined by **SundeVich sandwich shop**.



CAG's Public Safety program was on full display at the MPD 2D's National Night Out, held this year on GU's Healy Lawn on August 2. Here Audrey Rentzepis, daughter of Public Safety co-chair John Rentzepis, helps John and CAG's Louise Jacob, along with several CAG block captains, meet local MPD officers and distribute CAG's popular flyers "Light Up Georgetown" and "Information on Security Cameras"

Update on 'Gateway to Georgetown'

Zoning Commission to Rule on EastBanc's Plans for Prime Site

Walter Groszyk, *Historic Preservation Committee*

In July, the DC Zoning Commission reviewed EastBanc's proposed building at 2715 Pennsylvania Ave. Designed by noted Portuguese architect Eduardo Souto de Moura, the modernistic building will have seven residential units and a ground floor restaurant. The Zoning Commission

deferred a vote on the project until its September meeting. Several commissioners voiced concern about the proposed penthouse, and a chimney that rises nearly five feet above the penthouse.

Earlier this summer, both the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) and the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) approved the building in concept. The building's location, abutting Rock Creek Park, means that the site is subject to the Shipstead Luce Act and CFA review. CAG twice provided the OGB with extensive comments on the building's massing, design, and materials. Many of CAG's concerns were echoed by the OGB during its early reviews of the proposed building.

The building's site is perhaps the most challenging in Georgetown. The lot is small, irregularly shaped, bounded on the north and south by major thoroughfares, and on the east and west by National Park Service (NPS) land. CAG's Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee discussed at length, and without success, whether an alternative design, more representative of 19th or late 18th century Georgetown, made architectural sense. (Replication can become parody, as evidenced by a late 20th century bank on Wisconsin Ave done in faux Federal style, where the requisite stylistic symmetry is



In 1886, the Peck Chapel, a mission church providing vocational training to disadvantaged youth, occupied the current "Gateway to Georgetown" site at 27th and Pennsylvania Avenue.

retained yet the proportions are not — and the result, in my opinion, is grotesque.)

In 1886, socially minded members of the Covenant Presbyterian church in downtown DC built the Peck Memorial Chapel on the Eastbanc site. The chapel was oriented west, toward Georgetown. Appended to the chapel was a simply styled, two-story vocational school; the back end, so to speak, which was oriented toward the West End. The Peck Chapel was a mission church, providing vocational training to minorities and disadvantaged youth living in Georgetown's East End. (Much of this neighborhood was later razed by the Federal government to eliminate the visual blight that might offend those traveling along the newly built Rock Creek Parkway.)

The photograph reveals that the chapel itself was largely sited on what is now a NPS pocket park, while the gas station occupied the school's former location. In 1938, the chapel and school were sold to the Rotary Club, who used it as a Boys Club. Ten years later, the Boys Club (which became Jelleff), having outgrown the building, sold the property and decamped for elsewhere in Georgetown. The chapel and school were demolished in 1951, and the current gas station built subsequently. As the gas station was built after 1950, it is not considered to be a contributing building in the Georgetown Historic District.



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GEORGETOWN COMMUNITY DAY

where the neighborhood and university come together to celebrate our shared community

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH | 11:00AM - 1:00PM
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S FRONT LAWN

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Free burgers and hot dogs
- Face painting artist
- Balloon artist
- Moonbounce
- Photos with the Georgetown mascot
- Community fair with giveaways and samples from local businesses, organizations, and University departments

Join the Georgetown community for a day of fun and family-friendly activities!



Memories: SUMMER CONCERTS 2016

Our May concert was rained out, but June and July went off without a hitch. Hundreds of neighbors and friends came out to hear the Weathervanes in Volta Park on Father's Day and the Walk-



Lead sponsor Jamie Peva of Washington Fine Properties (along with Nancy Taylor-Bubes), gave a terrific bow tie demonstration for dads at the June Father's Day



The July concert, sponsored by TTR Sotheby's, drew a record crowd on a beautiful evening in Rose Park

2016 Concerts Presenting Sponsors

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Dedicated committee member Michelle Korsmo welcomed neighbors and thanked the band and our generous sponsors




TTR Sotheby's distributed balloons and tshirts



Candace Mosely (center) from sponsor Georgetown University, had kids hand-decorating cookies, while Louise Jacob and Ginny Poole offered CAG t-shirts and info

aways in Rose Park July 10th. Concertgoers enjoyed treats from Haagen Daaz and Sprinkles cupcakes and activities including t-shirt decorating, face-painting, and balloon creations.

Huge thanks as always to our sponsors – Friends of Rose Park, Friends of Volta Park, Georgetown Events, Georgetown Floorcoverings, Georgetown University, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, National Mosquito Control, Palantir, and our 2016 Presenting Sponsors TTR Sotheby's and Washington Fine Properties.






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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

- Sat Sep 17** **Georgetown University Annual Community Day** This event is organized each year by the Georgetown Community Partnership and brings together the University community and the neighborhood community around food, music, games and fellowship.
- Wed Sep 21** **Trees for Georgetown Annual Celebration** For tickets or to become a sponsor email treesforgeorgetown@gmail.com
- Thu Sep 22** **Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park** Celebration of the 10th anniversary of Georgetown Waterfront Park at the home of Senator Jay Rockefeller and Mrs. Sharon Percy Rockefeller. CAG members will receive a mailed invitation. Questions to Barbara Downs at 337-3373.
- Thu Sep 29** **Grace Episcopal Church "Music on the Lawn"** Marshall Keys, sax and Herman Burney, bass. Bring a picnic or buy something from the on-site Dog Tag Bakery concession. 1041 Wisconsin Ave. Gates open at 5:30pm, with music from 6 to 7:15pm. Suggested donation for each event is \$10.
- Fri Sep 30** **Mount Zion 200th Anniversary Dinner Gala** at Washington Marriott Georgetown, 7pm. www.mtzionumcdc.org/200th_anniversary
- Sat Oct 1** **Taste of Georgetown** Eat your way through some of the neighborhood's best restaurants while supporting the important homeless services work of the Georgetown Ministry Center. www.TasteOfGeorgetown.com
- Tue Oct 4** **ANC 2E October Meeting at Georgetown Visitation**, 6:30pm. Heritage Room, Main Building. 35th St at Volta Place NW. www.anc2e.com/meetings.html
- Tue Oct 18** **CAG Community Meeting:** Local Schools at St John's Church, 3240 O Street. Hear the latest news about the Hyde-Addison and Duke Ellington renovations and discuss the impact on our neighborhood. Reception and tours of Hyde at 7pm, program at 7:30pm.
- Sat Oct 22** **National Prescription Take-Back Day** 10am–2pm at Second District Police Station, 3320 Idaho Avenue. A safe and responsible way to dispose of unused prescription drugs.
- Sat Oct 22** **Georgetown Gala** at the Four Seasons, Georgetown
- Sun Oct 23** **St John's Concert Series: Unites States Air Force Strings** 5pm at St Johns Episcopal Church, 3240 O Street. Join us for a family-friendly, fun, and FREE performance including an exciting multi-dimensional experience by the innovative Strolling Strings. www.stjoinhsgeorgetown.org
- Mon Oct 24** **CAG Community Meeting: ANC Candidates Forum** at Dumbarton House, 2715 Q Street, 7–8:30pm. Moderated panel with candidates. Audience will have the opportunity to submit written questions.

PLANNING AHEAD

- Tue Nov 1** **ANC 2E November Meeting** at Georgetown Visitation, 6:30pm. Heritage Room, Main Building. 35th St at Volta Place NW. www.anc2e.com/meetings.html
- Sun Nov 13** **St John's Concert Series: Seraphic Fire** 5pm at St Johns Episcopal Church, 3240 O Street. Seraphic Fire brings its "crystalline artistry" (Gramophone) in "Jewels From Paris" with two French masterworks, the Faure and Durufle Requiems, in concert with acclaimed GRAMMY award-winning concert organist, Nathan Laube. www.stjoinhsgeorgetown.org



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