



# CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

*Newsletter*  
SUMMER 2017

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## Georgetown Gala Co-chairs Announced

The CAG Gala committee, chaired by Jennifer Romm, met May 31st at the home of Michele Evans to introduce the chairs of the 2017 Georgetown Gala: Michelle Korsmo, Colman Riddell and Amy Stroh, and to begin planning the event, which takes place on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at the Four Seasons Hotel in Georgetown.



*Co-chairs: 2017 Gala Co-Chairs Michelle Korsmo, Amy Porter Stroh, and Colman Riddell*

*Committee: Colman Riddell, Ada Polla, Helena Lehman, Constance Chatwick-Taylor, Florence Auld, Nancy Miyahira, Darla Jackson, Lisa Koches, Pamela Hinds, Cathy Kerkam, Michele Evans, Michelle Korsmo. Not pictured: Amy Stroh, Tina Nadler, Lee Murphy, Jennifer Romm, Leslie Maysak, Pamla Moore. Photo by Jennifer Romm*



*The Walkaways*

## COOL OFF AT CONCERTS IN THE PARKS

Erin Mullan, *Concerts Co-Chair*

The traditional Father's Day concert in Volta Park Sunday June 18th, presented by Compass Realty, features local band The Walkaways. Join us Sunday, July 9th at Rose Park, 5:30-7pm for the last of our summer concerts – local group The MarketBand will perform popular, folk and Americana music featuring original content and concepts and some awesome covers. We'll have treats and activities for the whole family, including free Sprinkles cupcakes and Haagen Daaz ice cream. Order a picnic dinner from Via Umbria and pick it up at the concert, or plan to buy dinner from the Rocklands food truck. Bring your neighbors and friends for a great community event.

### MANY THANKS TO OUR INCREDIBLE SPONSORS

for their support of our 15th Season of Concerts in the Parks!

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- Henry David Thoreau

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# President's LETTER

While attending my 50th reunion at Wesleyan University, I was inspired by the programs that were offered there. CAG also has programs and citizens that deserve continuing recognition. The annual meeting on May 23 at the Dumbarton House was well attended. The officers and CAG board members were approved for another year, and there were awards made to members of the Georgetown community. The Belin Award was presented to Jennifer Romm for her dedicated work on the CAG Gala Committee and her leadership on the Georgetown Campus Plan and the Georgetown Community Partnership. The William A. Cochran Award for exceptional efforts to protect and enhance the community's parkland was awarded to June Libin, Edith Schafer and Lee Child on behalf of the Georgetown Garden Club. The Martin-Davidson Award to businesses that have contributed significantly to the community was presented to Michael Rankin of the TTR/Sotheby's. The Charles Atherton Award for exceptional service by a dedicated public-sector professional for outstanding

work preserving and protecting historic Georgetown was awarded to Kevin Brandt of the National Park Service.

We had good news on May 18 with the approval of the West Heating Plant design plan by the Commission on Fine Arts. Other obstacles may arise, including the decision by the Mayor's Agent in connection with the demolition of the three walls of the building. However, even though the West Heating Plant is a contributing building to the Georgetown historic district, the building is decaying, highly contaminated with hazardous substances and unfit for human habitation. The three walls need to be replaced.

We enjoyed the May 21 performance at Volta Park, presented by TTR Sotheby's featuring Rebecca Magnusson and Human Country Jukebox – all the children found ice cream, balloons and other treats which brought cheer to all who attended. We will have a second program at Volta Park on Sunday, June 18, presented by Compass Realty with the Walkaways performing. The final concert will be held on Sunday, July 9 at



Rose Park with the The Market Band. Both concerts begin at 5:30 p.m.

Aircraft noise remains a serious problem for residents along the flight paths through Georgetown and the adjoining communities, and solutions have not been implemented. The Fair Skies Coalition has proposed alternative routes for departures and arrivals at Reagan National Airport, but no consensus has been reached by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authorities and the participants at the round table. Hopefully, a solution can be reached in the near future, and the revised routing can be implemented as soon as possible.

Bob vom Eigen, PRESIDENT

## SAVE THE DATE *Georgetown Gala*

Saturday, October 21, The Four Seasons

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## EcoTiP

WEEDS BE GONE!

### All natural herbicide recipe:

In a good quality spray bottle add 2 cups white vinegar, 1/2 cup salt, and a pinch of dish soap. Mix well so salt dissolves. Spray onto those pesky weeds. If the sprayer gets clogged, try 50/50 vinegar/water. No harsh chemicals!!

— LEE CHILD  
Georgetown Garden Club



# Aspects of Georgetown:

## SUMMER THOUGHTS

Edith Schafer

A wave breaks when it is half a wave length in depth, or a maybe this is just what I remember from science in school. If you are going to the mountains this summer you will not need this information, you may not need it anyway. If you are planning to hang 10 in a place where the long combers are rolling in, as with most of the information in this column, check it for accuracy.

Because this is really about summer. Where would we be without it? We would be pinched,

drained, starved and certainly leached of joy. (This is written after a long cool rainy spring, we don't know what comes next.)

All those years in school have taught us that there is school and there are vacations. The demarcation line between them is stark and powerful. True, we don't think much about time this way anymore, but the habit lingers. So each fall brings a cleaned slate, or a somewhat refreshed slate anyway.

We really do seem to get away from it all, and after we have been in a summer place a while we need to come home. So the system works and even if the time away is not that long, It's

different, a change, and that's what counts.

So this is about splendor in the grass and glory in the flower. Enjoy them while they last. Wintry winds will come again.

In the meantime here is what John Leonard, longtime critic and writer for the NY Times and other literary venues wrote:

In the cellars of the night, when the mind starts moving around old trunks of bad times, the pain of this and the shame of that, the memory of a small boldness is a hand to hold.

Okay, that's enough of that. Now back to splendor in the grass and glory in the flower.

## PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

John Rentzepis, *Public Safety Co-Chair*

Several new CAG security cameras were recently put into service in our neighborhood. Chip Dent, who serves on the Public Safety Committee, oversaw the design and installation (by M.C. Dean) of three camera systems located at 34th and Prospect Street. This is the location of the Down Dog Yoga studio and CAG is very grateful for DDY's support of placing cameras at a major exit point from Georgetown. Two of the systems are relatively inexpensive consumer-level cameras (Arlo Pro) and CAG is field-testing them to ascertain if they have suitable reliability and resolution (during both night and day) to recommend them to the community. For residents who have recently installed or are considering installing an exterior camera on their house, the D.C. Government has made funding available to rebate residential addresses up to \$200/camera with a maximum rebate up to \$500/address. For details, look up "DC private security camera incentive program" using your favorite search engine.

Also noted at the Annual Meeting was the close partnership between

the Metropolitan Police Department and CAG. Captain David Sledge and Officer Antonia Atkins have been very proactive in notifying me and other members of the community of crime and safety concerns in Georgetown. To cite one example, MPD deployed a number of officers to Water Street after neighbors recently raised the alarm about drag racing occurring there at all hours. This led to more than ten citations and arrests and put a hold on this dangerous and reckless behavior.

Hopefully most readers have seen the white Securitas vehicle with the flashing roof-top lights patrolling Georgetown. This car is driven by Security Officer Jerry Miles (both of which are funded by donations to the CAG Public Safety Program) who plies the streets five nights a week keeping look-out for criminal activity. Officer Miles also provides assistance to Public Safety members who need an escort to/from their residence or would like him to pick up flyers and newspapers and check doors while members are away from home. Officer Miles is reliable, friendly, and dedicated and I encourage you to say 'Hello' next time you see him driving on your street.

Lastly, thank you to all Block Captains for keeping your neighbors informed and for being diligent in helping to safeguard our village!



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# CAG ANNUAL MEETING:

## *Honors and Elections*

The CAG annual meeting drew nearly 130 people to Dumbarton House on May 23rd. Many new and prospective members were welcomed at a reception preceding the meeting, which featured refreshments from The Grilled Oyster Company.

Bob vom Eigen introduced the CAG Board and thanked all the Committee chairs. John Lever (Historic Preservation), John Rentzepis (Public Safety), Richard Hinds (Aircraft Noise), and Betsy Emes (Trees for Georgetown) reported highlights from the past year for their respective committees.

DC Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity Courtney Snowden, in her first speaking engagement at a CAG event, provided updates on job creation and other initiatives from the office of her newly created position.

Councilmember Jack Evans made remarks including an update on Metro, Hyde & Ellington school projects and aircraft noise. He noted that the Mayor has allocated \$200,000 for a new aircraft noise study.

The prestigious Belin Award was presented to Jennifer Romm for her expert and dedicated work in preserving the historic character of Georgetown. Edith Schafer, June Libin and Lee Child of the Georgetown Garden Club were

honored with the William A. Cochran Award for “exceptional efforts to protect and enhance the community’s parkland and architectural resources.” The Martin-Davidson Award to a business that has contributed significantly to the community was presented to Michael Rankin of TTR Sotheby’s International Realty and accepted by his business partner Jonathan Taylor.

The Charles Atherton Award for exceptional service by a dedicated public-sector professional for outstanding work preserving and protecting historic Georgetown was presented to Kevin Brandt of the National Park Service for his efforts on behalf of the restoration of the C&O Canal.

Polly and David Brooks of Appalachian Spring received a special appreciation award for dedicated and distinguished service to the Georgetown community and the CAG Block Captains were also given special recognition for their role in preserving the security and safety of the neighborhood.

CAG officers and four directors for 2017-2018 were elected: Bob vom Eigen, President; Jennifer Altemus Romm, Vice President; Hazel Denton, Secretary; John Richardson, Treasurer; and directors Karen Cruse, Barbara Downs, Hannah Isles, and John Rentzepis. Treasurer John Richardson reported on the financial condition of the organization.



*Jack Evans, Kevin Brandt, and Bob vom Eigen*



*Jack Evans, David and Polly Brooks of Appalachian Spring, and Bob vom Eigen*



*Legacy Society: John Rentzepis, Pam Moore, Cookie Cruse, Hazel Denton, John Richardson, Pamela and Richard Hinds, Jennifer Romm, Victoria Rixey, Bob vom Eigen*



*CAG Block Captains with Jack Evans and Bob vom Eigen*



*Karen Daly of Dumbarton House*



# MUSIC AND FUN AT MAY CONCERTS

CAG's Annual Concerts in the Parks series got off to a great start May 21st with a performance by Rebecca (McCabe) Magnusson, backed by Human Country Jukebox, at Volta Park. TTR Sotheby's and our other fantastic sponsors brought all kinds of treats and activities, and many concert attendees enjoyed the new picnic baskets offered by Via Umbria specifically for the concerts (see page 9 for details).



## NEW CAG MEMBERS WELCOMED AT DUMBARTON HOUSE

Lisa Koches, *Membership Chair*

On May 23, CAG board members, officers and committee chairs spent time greeting new members of CAG at a special reception held prior to the annual meeting allowing new members the opportunity to meet fellow members, learn about our programs and ask questions. Quoting one of the newcomers, "We just moved into Georgetown and thought this was the best way to become familiar with the community. Everyone is so welcoming!"

As CAG members, we know this is true. CAG indeed has wonderful events such as Concerts in the Park, Historical Talks and a fabulous Gala. But more importantly, CAG is a source for community updates, pertinent issues in Georgetown and referrals to local resources. To be a member of CAG means you are taking the initiative to make Georgetown a better place. Yes, it does take a village to make our village the best it can be.

There are approximately 4200 households in Georgetown ranging from condos to large

historic homes. Our current membership is roughly 1200, which means less than 50% of the homes belong to CAG. If you do not belong to CAG, I have a few questions for you. Do you enjoy seeing the beautiful trees that adorn our streets?

Do you feel safer walking in Georgetown knowing that we have extra private security? Do you and your family enjoy the entertaining Concerts in the Parks? If you answered yes to even one of these questions, then you should be supporting CAG!

My guess is that you answered yes to all of them. Please know that we can only provide these programs with funds that include revenue from our modest dues.

So please, JOIN NOW! You can do it online, by phone or by mail. Don't wait until the next function when you say, "This was great! We really should belong to CAG."

Enjoy the summer and we hope to see more of you next fall.

[cagtown.org/membership](http://cagtown.org/membership)

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# COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS APPROVES CONCEPT DESIGN FOR WEST HEATING PLANT REDEVELOPMENT

Walter Groszyk

On May 18th, the Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) unanimously approved concept designs for converting the West Heating Plant (WHP) on 29th St. into residential condominiums, and transforming the former coal yard into a publicly accessible park. The CFA is a Federal agency, with purview over development of the property under the Shipstead-Luce Act. The Old Georgetown Board is a subordinate entity to the CFA, and the Commission's vote ended the Board's current review of the design.

As CAG noted in its letter to the Commission supporting the concept designs, May 2017 marked the 68th month of CAG's engagement with numerous governmental bodies on the disposition and re-development of the

property. CAG is very pleased that the project is moving forward.

Sir David Adjaye, the architect, and Laurie Olin, the landscape architect, led the development team's presentations. They were complemented by Paul Goldberger, renowned architecture critic and emeritus trustee of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and Joel M. Silverman, a construction consultant from New York.

Mr. Silverman described the worsening deterioration of the brick walls on three sides of the building, some of which is caused by rust-jacking. Rusting steel expands and this can crack and displace the adjacent brick. The damaged brick and loosened mortar allows more moisture to enter the wall, creating even more rust. Mr. Silverman opined that continuing deterioration could create a future public safety hazard

as the walls become increasingly unstable.

Elizabeth Meyer, vice-chair of the Commission, remarked that during her five years on the Commission, no project had engendered as much public comment.

The Commission asked that the design be more creative and innovative, and not seek to be a literal evocation of the present structure. The Commission felt the park design was too "suburban," and should reflect more of Georgetown's industrial heritage. Next steps are for a revised concept to be presented to the Commission in July, followed by a review by the District's Historic Preservation Review Board. This near-term schedule culminates with a public hearing conducted by the Mayor's Agent on the permit application to demolish three sides of the heating plant.

## TREES FOR GEORGETOWN IN ACTION

Betsy Emes, *Trees for Georgetown Chair*

So far this Spring, 68 new trees have been planted.

### PRACTICE 25 TO STAY ALIVE.

Please make sure our new trees receive 25 gallons of water (1.5 inches of rainfall) each week in times of little or no rainfall. Simply fill up the 25-gallon slow release watering bag at the base of the tree when it starts budding in the spring through the autumn months, when the leaves begin to fall.

If a new tree is planted in front of a neighbor's who is away or you plan to be away for an extended period of time, especially in the summer, please try to make arrangements to have the tree watered.



### SAVE THE DATE

*Sunday, September 10, 2017*

Trees for Georgetown's Garden Party

*At the home of Calvin & Jane Cafritz*

## DONATIONS NEEDED TO COMBAT AIRCRAFT NOISE IN DC

Don W. Crockett

Residents in Georgetown and neighboring communities are justifiably disturbed and angered by the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) decision to move the 70 year-old historic northern flight path from Ronald Reagan National Airport away from the commercial district of Arlington, Virginia, and across the Potomac River to Georgetown and its neighboring residential neighborhoods. That unlawful

transfer took place in the spring of 2015, without any notice to the District of Columbia or its residents.

Concerned citizens groups including CAG established the D.C. Fair Skies Coalition to oppose the flight path changes and to raise the necessary funds for the appeal. Recently DCFS persuaded the City Council to allocate funds for a study of aircraft noise in DC and suggestions for mitigating it. The Mayor has included \$450,000 in the budget for that study and the contractor has commenced work on it.

The residents' appeal to the D.C. Circuit Court has now been fully briefed and is awaiting oral argument by a three-judge panel of that Court.

Essential legal representation is expensive and the Coalition has not yet raised the funds necessary to cover those costs. Therefore, the Coalition is asking all residents who will benefit from having the flight path moved back to Arlington, to make a generous contribution to defray the costs of this essential litigation. Contributions can be made at [cagtown.org/dcfairskies](http://cagtown.org/dcfairskies).



# 100<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY OF JFK

Hazel Denton

On Monday afternoon, May 29, a special celebration was held at Martin's Tavern, with a champagne toast to JFK. A presentation was made by Kim Ciftci to Billy Martin IV of the famous photo of JFK driving through Washington on a rainy afternoon, taken by his mother, Claire C. Ciftci. "I gave my Mom a pocket camera and she took it everywhere with her." Thus she caught the well-known photo of JFK, which will now hang in the Kennedy Booth. Following this celebration, several participants walked up to Holy Trinity Church for a Memorial Mass. The priest invited reminiscences from the congregation, and about twenty people took turns standing up and sharing anecdotes. The afternoon was very much a celebration of JFK in his neighborhood.



Billy Martin IV with the photo of JFK from Kim Ciftci

## 'DIG THEY MUST' OR THE SAGA OF GEORGETOWN'S SEWERS

Walter Groszyk

Although Ed Norton (sometimes known as Art Carney) was a sewer worker, he was certainly familiar with Con Edison's ubiquitous signage as the utility perpetually excavated the streets and sidewalks of his New York City: "Dig We Must". While DC Water is not adopting similar signage, the utility is embarking on a months-long reconstruction and repair of sewers in west Georgetown. And it is necessary work.

The sewer pipes of west Georgetown are old; some date to about 140 years ago, and the installation of the first sewers in the District. Their condition is often rated fair at best, and poor at worst. The work will generally involve re-lining, grouting, and cleaning the sewers, and is scheduled to be mostly complete by early 2018.

The reconstruction is the good news; the bet-

ter news is that most of the work can be done without digging up the streets or sidewalks. Sewers will be accessed via existing manholes, which allows for long stretches of sewers to be repaired from a single entry point.

However, excavation will occur in the 3300 block of O St., mid-block. Repair of the sewer at this location requires digging a pit 10 feet by 12 feet by 20 feet. DC Water has stated that all the cobble pavers will be carefully removed, numbered, and re-installed in the street in their original setting once the repair is completed.

These sewer repairs are not part of the Green Infrastructure (GI) installations that were proposed for west Georgetown under a consent decree to abate the stormwater runoff from Georgetown's combined sewers into the Potomac River. The first phase of GI installations will occur outside the Georgetown historic district, primarily in Burleith. Under the consent decree, DC Water is to evaluate

the effectiveness of this first phase before commencing final design of a large stormwater retention tunnel under the Potomac River.

DC Water is also undertaking the final phase of a reconstruction of the Upper Potomac Interceptor (UPI) sewer. This major sewer runs along the Capital Crescent trail, Water St., and K Street to a pumping station at about 27th and K streets.

Several years ago, this sewer had two major failures, spilling a large amount of sewage between the Washington Canoe Club and the Foundry Branch tunnel (at the juncture of Canal and Foxhall roads.) Also, a recent inspection of the UPI sewer revealed it had been cut through at 30th and K streets. This probably occurred many decades ago, and possibly is an artifact of the initial construction in 1917. The cut represents a loss of integrity and affects the hydraulic flow of effluent in the sewer. Excavation to access this section of the UPI sewer is underway.

## Oral History at Pinstripes April 25th

Pinstripes hosted CAG's April meeting with an oral history panel moderated by Emmy-winning author and journalist Carol Joynt. Oral History chair Cathy Farrell MC'd the event, which included long-time (current and former) Georgetowners Stuart Kenworthy, Ella Pozell and brother and sister raconteurs, Vernon Ricks and Barbara Ricks Thompson. The Oral History program is perennially one of the best attended CAG meetings of the year.



Crowd pic: (L-R) Carol Joynt, panelists, and Oral History Chair Cathy Farrell (far right)



Panelists Stuart Kenworthy, Ella Pozell Vernon Ricks, and Barbara Ricks Thompson



# SUMMER CONCERTS IN THE PARKS SERIES

## PICK UP YOUR PICNIC TO GO AT VIA UMBRIA!

Pick up your picnic to go in store or at the park 30 mins before the show. We have five different options for you to pick from. Orders may be placed online, in store, or via phone, and will be available for pickup on the day of the concert. Add a bottle of wine, bottled water, or chips when you pick up in store. Cancellations will not be accepted.



### BASKET FOR ADULTS | \$30 SERVES 2

#### ❑ BASKET OPTION 1

Porchetta sliders (2)  
Red cabbage salad  
Chips  
Crostatata



#### ❑ BASKET OPTION 2

Meat and cheese (with baguette)  
Marcona almonds  
Chicken liver pate  
Macedonia (fresh fruit salad)



#### ❑ BASKET OPTION 3

Ham & cheese croissants (2)  
Carrots and celery with white bean dip  
Lentil salad  
Chocolate chip cookies



#### ❑ BASKET OPTION 4

Vegetable pasta salad  
Tomato, arugula pesto, mozzarella panino  
Truffled popcorn  
Madeleine cookies



### BASKET FOR KIDS | \$12

#### ❑ BASKET OPTION 5

Ham and cheese slider  
Carrot sticks  
Chips  
Chocolate chip cookie



#### 2017 CONCERT DATES:

Sunday, May 21/Volta Park/5:30 to 7pm

Sunday, June 18/Volta Park/5:30 to 7pm

Sunday, July 9/Rose Park/5:30 to 7pm

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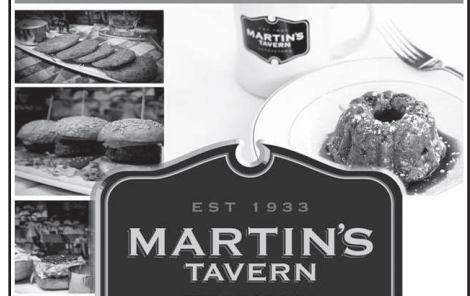
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# CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

## CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

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Trees for Georgetown: Betsy Emes

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## COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

**Sun June 18 CAG Father's Day Concert in the Parks** featuring The Walkaways at Volta Park, 5:30-7pm

**Thu June 29 ANC 2E Meeting** at Georgetown Visitation, 6:30pm. Heritage Room, Main Building, 35th St at Volta Place NW. [www.anc2e.com/meetings.html](http://www.anc2e.com/meetings.html)

**Sat July 1 Happy Birthday, America** at Tudor Place 10am-12pm. Celebrate Independence Day, salute our nation's service members, play traditional American outdoor games, tour verdant garden "rooms," make patriotic crafts like a traditional whirlingig toy, and of course, savor patriotic sweets. All ages welcome. Tudor Place Member Child: \$7, Non-Member Child: \$10, Adult Chaperone: \$5, FREE for veterans and military families.  
[www.tudorplace.org/programs/74/happy-birthday-america](http://www.tudorplace.org/programs/74/happy-birthday-america)

**Wed July 5 First Wednesday Concert at St John's Church Concerts** featuring the Lively-Fulcher Pipe Organ are held on the First Wednesday of the month from October through June. The concerts begin at 12:10 p.m., are free of charge, and last about 35 minutes. [stjohns-dc.org/music/first-wednesday-concerts](http://stjohns-dc.org/music/first-wednesday-concerts)

**Sun July 9 CAG Concert in the Parks** featuring The MarketBand at Rose Park, 5:30-7pm

**Sat July 23 English Country Dance in DC** (ECD in DC) at Dumbarton House ECD in DC provides regularly scheduled dance classes with practices two Sundays a month from 1-3pm in the Bellevue ballroom of Dumbarton House. All are welcome to attend class and no experience (or partner) is necessary, just the desire to have fun and dance! \$5 per person. [ECDinDC@yahoo.com](mailto:ECDinDC@yahoo.com).  
[dumbartonhouse.org/event/english-country-dance-class-3](http://dumbartonhouse.org/event/english-country-dance-class-3)

**Thu Aug 3 Reptiles Alive!** at Georgetown Library at 1pm. Friendly and professional wildlife presenters will entertain audiences of all ages with funny animal stories and facts while showcasing a colorful variety of exotic animals. Corner of Wisconsin and R.

**Tue Sep 5 ANC 2E Meeting** at Georgetown Visitation, 6:30pm. Heritage Room, Main Building, 35th St at Volta Place NW. [www.anc2e.com/meetings.html](http://www.anc2e.com/meetings.html)

## FARMERS MARKETS

**Wednesdays Rose Park Farmers Market** Wednesdays 3-7pm. Corner of 27th and O.

**Saturdays Glover Park & Burleith Farmers Market** Saturdays 9am-1pm. Hardy Middle School parking lot on Wisconsin at 34th across from Safeway  
[www.community-foodworks.org/glover-park](http://www.community-foodworks.org/glover-park)

**Sundays Palisades Farmers Markets** Sundays 9am-1pm. 48th Place at MacArthur Blvd.  
[www.palisadesfarmersmarket.com](http://www.palisadesfarmersmarket.com)

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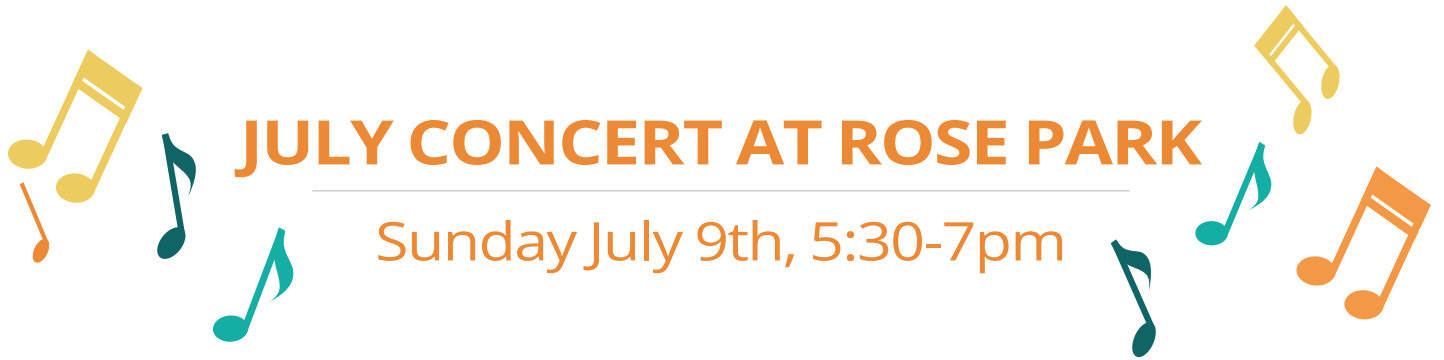
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## JULY CONCERT AT ROSE PARK

Sunday July 9th, 5:30-7pm

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