

FOXHALL News

foxhall.org

FCCA Calendar

Next General Meeting

Same Date, New Place!!!

Wednesday, April 22 at 7PM

Topic:

Discussion with Rep. Wattenberg
Update on Palisades Village

Location: Palisades Library, 4901 V. St NW

Need a ride? Contact Bob Avery

Upcoming!!

Spring Fling/Hardy Park Cleanup, April 25th

Airplane Noise Meeting
Community Roundtable with Congresswoman Norton, location TBA, May 5th 630-830pm

Next Membership Meeting

Discussion with Ward 3 School Board Representative Wattenberg

John Bray

Ruth Wattenberg, sworn in as the Ward 3 representative on the D.C. State Board of Education in January 2015, is coming to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association meeting April 22, 2015 to meet with residents about the direction of public education.

Wattenberg, a longtime denizen of D.C. and public education advocate, won a four-way race in the November 2014 election to fill the seat. (ruth4schools.com)

Public K-12 education is in a state of change nationwide, in Ward 3 and in the Foxhall community, with the decisions of policymakers having direct

and substantial impact for families.

Where will our children go to school? What will they be learning? Who will lead instruction? How will the effort be supported? Whose voices will carry the day?

The state education board views its mission as providing “policy leadership, support, advocacy, and oversight of public education.” The board’s work covers issues such as establishing academic standards and graduation requirements, as well as academic performance accountability tied to requirements of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, or No Child Left Behind.

Authority over facilities, operations and budget moved out of the board’s hands with the establishment of mayoral control over public schools in 2007.

Wattenberg’s two children attended Janney Elementary, Deal Middle and Wilson Senior High. She chaired Deal’s Local School Restructuring Team in 2009-2010, and earlier Janney’s Spanish committee, which brought Spanish instruction to the school.

She serves on the Board of Trustees of the Core Knowledge Foundation, a national organization that advocates for a curriculum rich in history, geography, science, and the arts. She spent many years at the American Federation of Teachers, including as editor of its quarterly magazine *American Educator*.

Palisades Library Book Sale!

The Friends of Palisades Library will hold a one day only Spring Stacks Book Sale on Saturday, April 25, 10 am to 4 pm at the Palisades Library, 4901 V St NW. Come down to check it out!

2015 FCCA Membership Update

As you can see from the membership list posted on the back page of this newsletter, we are off to a strong start in our 2015 FCCA Membership Drive. Actually, we are close to 80% of our projected totals for the year. This is very exciting!

Membership in our association runs according to the calendar year, so it is imperative that we keep our association strong by encouraging new members, or those renewing, to join us early in the year. We are fortunate to live in a wonderful neighborhood, one with many attractions and attributes, most importantly, the people who live here. To best maintain our quality of life, we need an active and strong citizens’ association. The number of members we represent is a clear indication of our strength.

2015 will bring many challenges. We need a unified and powerful front to work with the various agencies of the government, the several private schools in our area, developers, and businesses. Your membership support is very important. To join, please fill out the membership form on the back of this newsletter, or go to our website, www.foxhall.org. Questions? Please contact Jessie Kane at jmkane87@aol.com. Thank you.

FCCA Board

Bob Avery, President, Police, and GU Liaison

338-3834, ravery@starpower.net

John Bray, Secretary

337-4115, 1ja.bray@gmail.com

Andy Reuter, Treasurer

536-4895, Cell 664-6107, areuter@qedgrouppllc.com or cyberrobbie@yahoo.com

When possible, please contact the appropriate FCCA Board Member directly to discuss issues and concerns—Focus Areas are listed after the board member’s name. General issues can go to Bob Avery

Conrad DeWitte, At Large

202-780-6591, 3D09@anc.dc.gov

Alex Dietrich, Bike & Transportation Liaison

361-548-4537, alexannedietrich@gmail.com

Paul DonVito,

Historic Preservation & Listserve Liaison

625-0329, pauldonvito@rcn.com

Tracy Gabriel, Open Spaces & School Liaison

917-710-4928, tracysayegh@gmail.com

Ann Haas, At Large

333-2635, ahaas212@comcast.net

Jessie Kane, Membership

365-0132, jmkane87@aol.com

Peter Kimball, At Large

321-1234, peter.kimball@isscorporateservices.com

Jeff Koch, At Large

841-3202, JeffKoch@JeffKoch.com

Caitlin Mackenzie, Young Families Liaison

333-3126, mackenziecl@verizon.net

Sara Paulson, Aging-in-Place & Palisades Village Liaison

333-0797, sara.paulson@gmail.com

Andrea Ramirez, Airplane Noise Liaison

919-667-4491, andrea.havens@gmail.com

Frank Staroba, Friends of Hardy Liaison

342-1130, fstaroba@verizon.net

Peter Van Allen, Colony Hill Liaison

333-0586, peter@vanallen.org

Karen Volker, German Embassy Liaison

957-9554, karenvolker55@gmail.com

FCCA Administrator

Brittany Aguilar, Administrator

Britt.aggie@gmail.com

FCCA Newsletter Submissions

Send to britt.aggie@gmail.com by May 31 for the next newsletter. Generally submissions should be under 300 words, but longer pieces may run by advance arrangement.

Who Do You Call?

City-Wide Call Center

To request free bulk trash pickups, report dumping in alleys, rat problems, and a host of other issues, call 311.

DC Animal Shelter 576-6664

Police and Fire Departments

Call 911 for both emergency and non-emergency Police matters, including noise after 10 PM.

PEPCO

Power Outages 877-737-2662

Street Lights Out 269-0855

Washington Gas 624-6049

Ward 3 City Council Member

Mary Cheh, mcheh@dccouncil.us

Our ANC Commissioners, Stephen Gardner, sgardner.gardnerlaw@gmail.com

and Conrad DeWitte, 3D09@anc.dc.gov

Illegally Parked Cars

Report cars obstructing sidewalks or displaying suspicious guest parking permits by calling 311.

Questionable Construction Projects

To report construction proceeding without required permits or that appears to violate code, call DCRA at 202-442-4400 and they will send an inspector very quickly. For work that appears to be contrary to the guidelines in the Historic District call Frances McMillen, 202-442-8839 or frances.mcmillen@dc.gov.

Problem Party Noise after 10 PM

Please call the Police at 911. There are significant fines and the possibility of a criminal record for violators.

Georgetown 24/7 Community Hotline

Report student activities that negatively impact our community at GU’s 24/7 Hotline, 687-8413

Going out of town?

Email Officer Mcelwee to check on your home periodically at anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov

Join the FCCA Listserv!!

Keep up-to-date with all happenings in our community by joining the FCCA Listserv. Register today at **foxhall.org!**

Scheduled BZA Meetings

Share comments and concerns so they can be aired at the Board of Zoning meetings—public meetings that institutions are required to schedule with local communities according to their agreements with the BZA. Email or call Ann Haas (ahaas212@comcast.net) to get email reminders of meetings or to ask that your issue be discussed.

GDS 6:30 pm, Library

May 5, 2015

Lab 6:00 pm

May 12, 2015, Main campus, 4759

Reservoir Road

St. Patrick’s 7:00 pm

July 21, 2015, MacArthur campus (corner MacArthur & Ashby)

February Meeting Notes

Mary Cheh Current Projects

1. Oversight hearings. Mayor will send a budget around March and then these budgets will be distributed amongst the oversight committee – Rep. Cheh will review the budgets pertaining to the committees that she’s on.
2. Euthanasia bill introduced. The law has already passed in Oregon, of less than 1,000 people who sought it never actually used it – but they wanted to have the choice. Will have to wait until later in the year to explore the bill.
3. Waste Modernization Act. Composting program, recycling electronics.
4. Smoking Restriction Amendment. Getting rid of smoking in playgrounds, parks.
5. Food policy issues council
6. Taxis/Ubering, transportation bills
7. Zoo Incidents. They will shut down some of the zoo entrances during periods of high incidents and will start using magnetometer.

Hardy Park Spring Cleanup and Focus Group

Frank Staroba

Hardy Park Spring cleanup April 25th, 9am – 12pm at the Hardy Park and Recreation Center. Please bring work gloves, hedge trimmers, shovels, spades, and other gardening tools to help spruce up our neighborhood park for spring. After the hard work, enjoy the spring fling.

Friends of Hardy Park (FOH) is discussing improvements to Hardy Park and Recreation to serve and strengthen our community in the long-term. Please join this discussion by participating in one of the following focus groups of key park users and potential users:

Parents of Children and Young Adults

May 16, 10:30-11:30

Hardy Rec Center

Adults

May 16, 12:00-1:00

Hardy Rec Center

We also welcome new volunteers to Friends of Hardy; we meet monthly and welcome all.

To participate in the focus groups, just show up; contact Frank Staroba at (202)-342-1130 for more information about this project or volunteering with FOH.

The Lab School Construction Update

Wendy Jennis

Notwithstanding the extreme cold this winter, construction crews were able to continue working on The Lab School's new high school building at the school's Reservoir Campus. The first phase of the construction, relocating the utilities, has been completed. This was a complicated activity as many of the utility lines ran through the middle of Whitehaven Parkway. With that phase done, White-

haven has been patched, and traffic is flowing in two directions all day.

Under Clark Construction Company's supervision, over the last month or so, workers excavated the site, hauled away most of the dirt, and drilled piles. The sides of the hole have been secured with wooden boards (lagging) and tie backs, and work on the building's foundation is underway. Concrete trucks will be a fixture every day from now until June, as crews pour footings and then foundation slabs. Later this month, work will begin on the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems.

Once the foundation is completed, look for rapid progress as the building begins to show itself above ground level.

For regular updates on The Lab School's construction, visit its Campus Building Project webpage at www.labschool.org/campusbuilding. For questions about The Lab School or the construction project, please contact Wendy Jennis, Director of Community Relations, at wendy.jennis@labschool.org.

On another subject: The Lab School's Spring Fair, "The Dragon's Lair," will be held on Sunday, April 26 from 11 am to 3 pm in the parking lot at 4759 Reservoir Road, NW. All are welcome! There will be games and rides, a terrific flower sale, and entertainment with a DJ – activities for the whole family! Please join us at the fair.



FCCA Spring Fling at Hardy Par and Recreation Center

Sponsored by the FCCA, Friends of Hardy, and Palisades Village.

Celebrate Spring with your neighbors on Saturday, April 25th between 11-2 PM. Join your neighbors for great food, live music, fun activities for kids and a moonbounce.

Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share. Delicious bites provided by Foxhall Catering, music by the Palisades Band, drinks provided by Palisades Village. Volunteers still needed to help with all aspects of the event – please call Caitlin at (202) 577-8770 to volunteer. Come celebrate spring with your neighbors!

Burgeoning Wilson High School's Budget Woes – And the Murky Big Picture

John Bray

At Wilson High School, fast-rising enrollment is being met with a budget cut, setting off a scramble in the school community. School community leaders are pushing for more funding, while school officials prepare to cut staff and programs, and increase class sizes. The school's 2015-16 budget of \$15.6 million represents a \$309,600 cut from the current year, according to the public school system's school budget figures. With projected enrollment of 1,878, up 170 students, the funding amounts to about \$8,306 per student.

Leaders of the school's Parent Teacher Student Organization and the Local School Advisory Team say the school is well passed its original building census of 1,550 students, as well as its revised census of 1,660, and that packing in more students with less support only jeopardizes the order essential for student development and safe and productive community interaction.

For the coming year, according to parent group leaders, the projected enrollment used for the budget trails what they anticipate by at least 85 students. The school has an interim principal, Greg Bargeman, who moved into the role in the wake of the abrupt mid-year departure after about six years of Principal Pete Cahall over conflict with DC Public Schools Chancellor Kaya Henderson's office about issues that included school progress. Bargeman says that the lagging funding tied to enrollment has a cumulative effect over multiple years that exacerbates the cut in store for the coming year. The Foxhall Community Citizens Association area is within the enrollment boundary for Wilson. Wilson is located in Ward 3, but its enrollment reaches across the city, with students from all zip codes attending the school, according to parent leaders. School officials, to relieve enrollment pressure, say they plan to tighten policies for out-of-boundary student attendance at Wilson.

In a budget guide statement for 2015-16, Henderson promises to "invest heavily in high schools." "High school improvement will be a multi-year project, but we are excited to begin the process of ensuring that all our high

school students have great opportunities," Henderson states. The rationale and fairness of the budgeting for high schools is foggy, with gyrations in budgets showing the school system exercising substantial discretion in how it allocates money. School budget allocations for the coming year leave Wilson with less funding per pupil overall than two magnet high schools with admissions tests located near the Foxhall community, School Without Walls and Ellington School for the Arts.

A special funding allocation for so-called "at-risk" students was new for the current school year, an added wrinkle to the more traditional designations of students targeted for extra funding, such as those with disabilities, students who are non-native speakers of English and have limited proficiency, and students who qualify for free or reduced price meals. Under D.C.'s Fair Student Funding & School-Based Budgeting Amendment Act of 2013, at-risk students are homeless, in foster care, qualify for Temporary Assistance for Needy Families or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (food stamps), and high school students who are one year or more older than the expected age for the grade. The law called for at-risk funding to be allocated proportionally based on enrollment of qualifying students. Ward 3 D.C. Councilmember Mary M. Cheh, who is seeking additional funding for Wilson, released a statement that the school had been shortchanged for at-risk funding for 2014-15. Wilson should have received \$713,097, or \$2,079 for each of the 343 students considered at-risk. But the school only received \$384,600, or \$1,121 per at-risk student.

The DC Fiscal Policy Institute -- working with Code for DC, a volunteer group of data analysts -- posted a report on its website showing the distribution of the at-risk money across the city. Among the findings, the analysis showed that Ward 7 schools, with 18 percent of the city's at-risk students, received only 11 percent of the at-risk funding. According to a report from the Institute, the schools have flexibility in how they spend the money. The Institute found that the money went to "initiatives that were already planned, but were not necessarily targeted to improving the performance of at-risk students."

A "small share" of the money, the Institute says, also went to comply with a D.C. law that says schools cannot lose more than 5 percent of their budget from year to year. Henderson says some schools were overfunded for at-risk

students for the 2015 fiscal year. The chancellor's 2015-16 Budget Development Guide stated that programs would be harmed in redistributing over \$40 million in at-risk funding and money could not "in good conscience" be taken back to meet needs of underfunded schools. Henderson stated that, to find money to reinvest in underfunded schools, about \$15 million was cut from the school system's central office, causing a "modest" reduction in force, and certain per pupil funding was pared at schools with smaller concentrations of at-risk students, moves deemed as the least harmful course.

The Institute found that at-risk funds for Wilson for the current year totaled \$384,600, or \$1,121 per at-risk student, with 20 percent of the students at-risk. Wilson's proposed budget for the coming year shows \$1.1 million in at-risk funds, with 31 percent of the students at-risk.

How are some of the nearby high schools fairing with their budgets? School Without Walls, a magnet high school located downtown by the George Washington University campus, faces a budget cut of about \$130,000 for a total budget of \$5.3 million for the coming year. The school has a projected enrollment increase of three students for a total enrollment of 588 students. That amounts to overall per pupil funding of \$9,013, about \$700 more than Wilson. At-risk funding for the current year for School Without Walls High School was not shown separately by the Institute. The school's budget for the coming year shows \$164,600 in at-risk funds, with 15 percent of the students at-risk. Ellington School for the Arts, also a magnet school located at the corner of Reservoir Road and 35th Street, faces a budget cut of about \$21,100 for a total budget of about \$6.2 million.

The school has a projected enrollment increase of 12 students for a total enrollment of 527. That amounts to overall per pupil funding of \$11,764, about \$3,458 more than Wilson.

The Institute found that Ellington received \$51,500 in at-risk funds this year, or \$468 per student, with 21 percent of its enrollment at-risk. The school's budget for the coming year shows \$323,700 in at-risk funds, with 33 percent of its students at-risk. Both School Without Walls and Ellington have lower percentages of students with disabilities and

so-called English Language Learners than Wilson, according D.C. public school system figures for 2013-14.

Wilson's free and reduced price meal population for was 31 percent, while the figure for School Without Walls was 20 percent, and Ellington was 40 percent. Regarding the enrollment mix by race, the 2013-14 DCPS figures show Wilson as being 46 percent black, 17 percent Hispanic/Latino, 25 percent white, 8 percent Asian, and 4 percent multiple; and Ellington 76 percent black, 10 percent Hispanic/Latino, 9 percent white, 3 percent Asian, and 2 percent multiple; and School Without Walls 43 percent black, 10 percent Hispanic/Latino, 36 percent white, 5 percent Asian and 7 percent multiple. Regarding performance on DC CAS, the standardized student performance test, DCPS figures posted with school profiles show Wilson, in math, with 8 percent of students performing Below Basic, 23 percent Basic, 47 percent Proficient, and 22 percent Advanced, and, in reading, 10 percent Below Basic, 19 percent Basic, 40 percent Proficient, and 30 percent Advanced; Figures show Ellington, in math, with 3 percent Below Basic, 23 percent Basic, 68 percent Proficient, and 5 percent Advanced, and, in reading, 3 percent Below Basic, 21 percent Basic, 45 percent Proficient, and 31 percent Advanced.

Figures show School Without Walls, in math, with 1 percent of students Below Basic, 2 percent Basic, 39 percent Proficient, and 59 percent Advanced, and, in reading, 0 percent Below Basic, 1 percent Basic, 28 percent Proficient, and 72 percent Advanced.

A petition drive to support Wilson is at <http://www.petition.com/petitions/save-wilson-high-school.html>.

FCCA Membership as of April 10, 2015

Patron

DeWitte, Conrad
Georgetown Day School
Georgetown University
Kern, Melissa & Bill Deegan
Lab School of Washington DC
St. Patrick's Episcopal Church & Day School

Advocate

Avery, Robert & Katherine Samolyk
Brown, Bill & Pat
Bunting, Bruce & Jessie Brinkley
Cammack, Therese
Christie, Jeff & Paula
Fishkin, Nate & Jane
Milam, Sally & Jim
Pastor, Margaret
Paulson, Sara & Arne
Polk, Scott & Karen
Reuter, Andrew
Rippeteau, Darrel & Judith
Schubert, Jane & Robert Woolfolk
Smith-Swisher Family
Squires, Greg & Margot
Teller, Roger & Susan May
Valenzuela, Arturo & Katy Mudge

Sponsor

Bicknell , Noel & Caitlin MacKenzie
Board, Elizabeth & Bob Hines
Bond, Garland ("Boo") & Jodi
Bowers, Joel & Sue
Cimburek, Susan & Shaun Gehan
Cogar, Joanne
Conn, Jackie
Crooke, Vicki & Elliott
Donahue, Aimee & Eddie
Foster, Stephen M.
Gabriel, Tracy & Christian
Iwanicki, Michael & Germana
Kentz, Andrew & Ellen
Kilby, Gene & Christine
Lane, Jan

Lawson, Mallory
Maco, Lisa & Paul
McEnery, Rosemary & Kevin
O'Connell, Michael & Bob Mikolitch
Rose, Karen & John Desrocher
Schellinger, Dieter & Jessie Kane
Schwartz, Jean Pierre & Helga
Sterling, Lisa & Jamie
Straub, Terrence & Elizabeth Shepard
Taylor, Paul & Hilit
Van Allen, Barbara & Peter
Vicini, Stefano & Mariarita
Volker, Karen & Kurt
Wolf, Christopher & James Beller
Zucchi, Dario & Gianna

Household

Adkins, Lise & Tom Murphy
Anderson, Scott & Lida Fitts
Andonyadis, Avyeris & Elly
Anninos, Paul & Christine
Anonymous
Arundel, Tom & Kara
Assuras, Thalia & Mike Johnson
Bailey, Michael & Mari
Barry-Ortwein, Ann & Carolyn
Berk, Steven & Jennifer Chandler
Blakely, Judith
Bown, Chad & Rebecca
Boyd, Henry Lee & Markovist Wells
Bray, John & Leslie
Buck, Molly
Cannon, Holly & John Guttman
Caride, Julieta & Jose Merino
D'Amelj, Cristian & Francesca Daverio
DeMuth, Tom & Janet Mann
Dietrich, Alex
Donahue, John & Beth
DonVito, Paul & Charlotte
Dornsife, Cinnamon & Charles Barber
Elting, Jeffrey & Maureen
Farkas, Adam & Renata
Fitzgibbons, Peter & Shima
Fowler, Maika & Thomas
Gabor, Robert & Aye Aye Maw
Gillis, Richard & Carol
Guttman, Ron
Haas, Ann
Hafez, Ziad & Aida
Harbold, Alexandra & Mike

Heintze, Achim
Hirshon Family
Holman, Robert P., Bradley Dennis,
Rokusek Robert
Hungerford, Thomas & Maria Floro
Hurt, Adrienne
Huve, Gerard & Sang-ae
Ives, Donna & Gerry
Jablon, Cara & Robert
Jewett, Richard
Jones, Bruce & Elizabeth Cousens
Juarrero, Alicia
Kimball, Peter & Leslie
Kirshbaum, Michael & Gina Price
Klusman, Susan & Larry
Koch, Jeff & Patty Stolnacker
Kruvant, Cathy & Ken
Lanman, Charlie & Mary
Lopez, Siria & W. Joseph Strugala
Magrath, William & Susan Shen
Malkani, Ravina & Naresh
Manukian, Edward & Margo
McKenna, Dolly & John
Mete, Mihriyexcem
Miliaras , Saskia & Chrysanthos
Miller, Brandon & Chai
Pattamasattayasonthi
Mu, Menghua
Nicholson, John & Marnie
O'Hara, Katie & Jim
Oblaender, Carsten & Britta
Peasley, Carol
Popkin, Richard & Karol
Ramirez, Andrea
Ratigan, Elizabeth
Ross, Malcolm & Daphne R.
Rovani, Evelyne
Sakazaki, Melody
Savage, Don & Pam
Scheinman, Amy
Shaw, Sarah
Shutzer, Jamie & Jenny Morgan
Siciliano, Robert
Silard, Kelly & Debbie
Smart, Janice
Stanley, Florence
Staroba, Arden & Frank
Steele, John
Tobey, Stephen & Julie Haidemenos
Tucker, Gene & Dolly

Ward, Paul & Rick Roldan
Wellstein Family,
Wolf, Susan
Wood, Lisa
Zodeh, Oli & Shazi
Zucchi, Samantha & Filippo

Senior

Barton, Terry & Jay
Bateson, William & Martha
Beg, Joan
Bhagat, Ved & Sudesh
Bordonaro, Robert & Barbara
Bourdaudhui, Robert & Susan
Bray, Howard
Brown, Chris & Mary Rollefson
Corrado, Barbara & Ernest
Drake, Colette & Avery
Duignan, Carolyn & Milan Valuch
Green, Karen & Steve Novosel
Greenwood, Bill & Marsha
Greer, Douglas & Annette
Griffin, MaryAnn
Groat, Donna & Gary
Guthridge, Daniel W.
Harou, Patrice & Berengere
Harris, Cory & Randy
Hass , Patricia
Nicholson, John & Janet C.
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Donation

Fowler, Maika & Thomas
Greer, Douglas & Annette
Snyder, Timothy & Arlene
Silard, Kelly & Debbie

Pay by check or go to www.foxhall.org and join or renew using PayPal!

Thank you for your support!

If you would like to talk about how your interests might mesh with the FCCA's current needs for volunteers - including newsletter delivery and attending ANC meetings - let us know!

Sure, call me!

Membership Form for the Calendar Year

Members must reside within FCCA area, be present, and be over 18 years of age to vote at meetings. Memberships are for the calendar year. Please make checks out to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA c/o Andrew Reuter, Treasurer, 4400 Volta Place, NW, Washington, DC 20007 or bring to a meeting!

Standard Memberships

- \$25 Household
- \$15 Senior Household
- \$25 Non-Resident

Booster Memberships

- \$250 Patron
- \$100 Advocate
- \$50 Sponsor
- Donation \$ _____

Names (LAST, First, as you wish listing to appear, Ex: DOW, Jane & John Smith)

Complete Mailing Address _____

Home Phone _____

Email Address for FCCA Updates _____

Date _____