

# FOXHALL News

[foxhall.org](http://foxhall.org)

## Next Meeting

The next FCCA meeting will be on Wednesday October 25th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Hardy Rec Center, 45th & Q St. This will be an in-person meeting.

The meeting will feature Commander John Branch of MD 2D engaging us in a discussion of the challenges in DC public safety. The Commander previously served as the Commander in Ward 8 so he is uniquely qualified to lead the discussion. This is our opportunity to both learn and voice our concerns and opinions. Please join us. All are welcome.

## Update on New Medical/Surgical Pavilion

Michael O'Connell and Hulit Taylor

In recognition of a historic \$50 million philanthropic gift to the pavilion project by Grant Verstandig, and the Verstandig Family Foundation, the new medical/surgical building has been named the Verstandig Pavilion.

As you may have noticed, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital has made significant progress on the grounds around the Verstandig Pavilion with the installation of grass, trees, and walkway lights in the space along Reservoir Road and on campus between the Pavil-

**'Medical Pavilion' con't on Page 4..**

## Lab School Updates

Marty Cathart

The Lab School of Washington is in full swing and we hope the sights and sounds of our wonderful students back on the Foxhall Campus bring some joy to our neighbors.

I am the new Director of Community Engagement at Lab and I work closely with our Head of School Kim Wargo to ensure our positive connection with our neighbors and to address any concerns that may arise. While you are always welcome to reach out to Kim, you may also contact me with any concerns or updates.

I have heard from several of you with thoughtful ideas and suggestions that we have acted upon and we welcome your outreach. We pride ourselves on being good neighbors.

For those of you who may be new to the neighborhood, The Lab School of Washington is one of the first schools in the country designed entirely to educate

**'Lab Updates' con't on Page 3..**



## Join the FCCA Listserve!!

Keep up-to-date with all happenings in your community, such as developments with the schools, issues before ANC, community parties, recommendations for repairment, etc. by joining the FCCA Listserve. For more information and to join, check out: [groups.io/g/FCCAlistserve](https://groups.io/g/FCCAlistserve)

## In Memory of Paul Ward, 1962-2023

Paul Ward, The Village Landscaper, died suddenly on September 12th. His passing is a great loss to his family, many friends and all in our community.

For many years, Paul was a fixture in our neighborhood. He and his landscape company, along with his beloved dog, Bella, beautified many a village home. As an expert horticulturist, he combined those skills with an artistic eye for landscape design. Paul brought those same skills to all the volunteer work he did keeping our neighborhood looking colorful and lush in the summer, with his plantings gracing the medians and Q St circle, and joyously decorated in winter with holiday lights. And, of course, his own garden was always impeccable.

Many of you will remember Paul

**'Paul' con't on Page 4..**

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.

## FCCA Board

**Bob Avery, President and Police Liaison**  
338-3834, raverydc@gmail.com

**Carter Beach, Clark Place Liaison**

**Vipul Bhagat, Treasurer**  
vipbhagdc@gmail.com

**Conrad J. DeWitte, Jr., Secretary and GCP Steering Committee Representative**  
321-1700, cjdewitte@hotmail.com

**Paul DonVito, Historic Preservation & Listserve Liaison**

**Nikki Farison, Community Events & Welcome Committee**

**Ann Haas, At Large**

**Janet Nash, At Large**

**Michael O’Connell, GU/Medstar Construction Liaison**  
202-765-4973

**Sara Paulson, Aging-in-Place, Palisades Village Liaison, & Chair of the Foxhall Call Box Restoration Committee**

**Katherine Samolyk, At Large**

**Annie Selak, Pre-K Liaison**

**Peter Van Allen, DC Fair Skies & Colony Hill Liaison**  
peter@vanallen.org, 202-333-0586

**Tom Wolfe, Friends of Hardy**

## FCCA Administrator

**Brittany Aguilar, Administrator**  
britt.aggie@gmail.com

**FCCA Listserve**  
FCCAlistserv+subscribe@groups.io

## FCCA Newsletter Submissions

Send to cjdewitte@hotmail.com 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

Go to 311.dc.gov or call 311 to request free bulk trash and yard waste pickups, and to report burned out street lights, illegal dumping, graffiti, cars obstructing sidewalks or displaying suspicious guest parking permits, and other issues.

**DC Animal Shelter** 202-576-6664

### Police and Fire Departments

Call 911 for both emergency and non-emergency Police matters.

### Georgetown 24/7 Community Hotline

Report student activities that negatively impact our community including noise after 10 pm at GU’s 24/7 Hotline, 202-687-8413

### PEPCO

Power Outages 877-737-2662  
Street Lights Out 202-269-0855  
Washington Gas 202-624-6049

### Ward 3 City Council Member

Matt Frumin, [mfrumin@dccouncil.gov](mailto:mfrumin@dccouncil.gov)

### Ward 3 Mayor’s Liaison

Matthew Barclay, [matthew.barclay@dc.gov](mailto:matthew.barclay@dc.gov), 202-340-7853

**Our ANC Commissioners**, Marilyn Nowalk, [3D06@ANC.DC.GOV](mailto:3D06@ANC.DC.GOV), and J.P. Szymkowicz, [jp.szymkowicz@anc.dc.gov](mailto:jp.szymkowicz@anc.dc.gov). For more information, go to [anc3d.org](http://anc3d.org).

### Foxhall Village Historic District

Planning to work on the exterior of your Foxhall Village home? See work going on that seems contrary to our Historic District guidelines? Please call or email our DCHPO rep, Anne Brockett, (202) 442-7600 or [anne.brockett@dc.gov](mailto:anne.brockett@dc.gov). Historic District Guidelines can be found at [http://foxhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/FVHD\\_Design-Guidelines.pdf](http://foxhall.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/06/FVHD_Design-Guidelines.pdf)

### Going out of town?

Email MPD Officer Tony McElwee to check on your home periodically, [anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov](mailto:anthony.mcelwee@dc.gov).

### Join the FCCA Listserve!!

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## Scheduled Meetings with Local Private Schools

Share comments and concerns so they can be aired at these public meetings that institutions are required to schedule with local communities according to their agreements with the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

**Lab School**—at 6:00 p.m.

**January 8 , 2024**, Virtual Zoom

**March 11, 2024**, Virtual Zoom

Zoom link: <https://labschool-org.zoom.us/j/85019924860>

**May 13, 2024**, Reservoir Campus

**St. Patrick’s**—at 6:30 p.m.

**January 16, 2024**

## MacArthur High School Update

Janet Nash

The former Georgetown Day School site on MacArthur Boulevard is now the new MacArthur High School (“MHS”). Its inaugural school year began on August 28, 2023, with approximately 200 ninth and 50 tenth graders enrolled. Students living in the Hardy Middle School boundaries were given the choice to attend MHS or Jackson-Reed High School. Other Ward 3 students from Alice Deal and Oyster-Adams Middle Schools were given priority on the Lottery Program for MHS to help relieve overcrowding at Jackson-Reed. District-wide students were welcome to apply as well. The school’s website is <https://dcps.dc.gov/macarthur> and the modernization of MHS website is <https://sites.google.com/dc.gov/dcps-facilities/modernizations/MacArthur-high-school>.

**‘MHS’ con’t on Page 2..**

**...‘MHS’ con’t from Page 2**

By 2026-27, DCPS plans to expand enrollment to 800 students, grades 9-12. (While enrollment is set at 800, the facility will be designed to accommodate about 900 students.) On October 5, 2023, DCPS held a virtual meeting hosted by Dr. Mark Dixon, DCPS Engagement Manager, Facility Planning and Design, which I attended, laying out the construction periods for expanding and remodeling the facility; 2024/25 for analyzing building concepts, 2025/26 interior construction remodels will occur, 2026/27 exterior building construction will be undertaken, and in academic year 2026/27 all upgrades will be completed. DCPS has yet to reveal the architectural plans for the facility expansion (projected cost of \$85 million), but various concepts have been submitted in formal bids. The final decision on the proposed facility modifications and development will be made public in November or December.

MHS’s founding principal, Dr. Harold McCray, Jr., attended the DCPS meeting and has spoken publicly about the strong academic opportunities available at MHS, including AP courses, leadership opportunities, science, sports, art, and music offerings. Several MHS parents also attended the meeting and registered their children’s positive experiences at MHS. However, they expressed reservations about MHS’s ability to match the range of Jackson-Reed’s academic offerings and extra-curricular activities. Dixon admitted that it is unlikely an indoor auditorium or outdoor amphitheater will be part of the expansion.

One major issue not addressed by McCray or Dixon is the limited public transportation available for current and future students to reach MHS

and return home. Now, only the D6 bus is available near the MHS campus. During the DCPS meeting, Eric Goulet, Ward 3 Member of the DC Board of Education (and resident of Palisades), raised the public transportation problem and inquired about the lack of a DCPS “traffic study” to assess the transportation options for the projected 800 students. Dixon didn’t know why there hadn’t been a traffic study; apparently, these studies are conducted to eliminate frowned-upon increases in student commute times. Lastly, Goulet let it be known that he viewed the expansion to 800 students as excessive given the neighborhood’s far western location with few public transportation options.

Dixon stated that he will be holding periodic meetings- the meeting dates and times will be posted on the DCPS and modernization of MHS websites.

**...‘Lab Updates’ con’t from Page 1**

children with language based learning differences (dyslexia and ADHD). We opened in Dupont Circle in 1967, moved to Palisades in 1983 (now serving grades 5-12) and opened our Foxhall Campus in 2008 to house our lower school program, now serving 80 students in grades 1-4.

You are all invited to watch our Annual Halloween Parade of costumed students and teachers at approximately 1:30 pm on Tuesday, October 31, beginning on the front lawn of the Foxhall campus at 1550 Foxhall Road NW.

For Adults and older children: You are all welcome to attend an upcoming performance of our Upper School Students in our beautiful new Reservoir Campus Theater – 4759 Reservoir Road NW.

Lab’s Upper School Drama Club is proud to announce our fall production of *The Laramie Project* on Friday and Saturday, November 17th and 18th. Patchworked together from hundreds of interviews, *The Laramie Project* explores the reactions of sixty real-life characters at the epicenter of one of the country’s most heinous anti-gay crimes, examining the depth of human hatred and the heights of compassion and love. Over the last several decades, this important theatrical work has been performed at countless high schools, universities, and community theaters, and Lab is proud to bring this show to our stage. Ticket information will be available soon on the Foxhall Community Citizens Association Listserv.

We also host quarterly Community Meetings jointly for the Foxhall and Palisades communities to meet with Kim Wargo, our Head of School and Ann Feeley, our Chief Financial and Operations Officer to ask any questions, and hear updates from them.

Following is the schedule for the rest of the school year.

**Monday, January 8, 2024 @ 6:00 pm**  
on zoom

**Monday, March 11, 2024 @ 6:00 pm**  
on zoom

Zoom link: <https://labschool-org.zoom.us/j/85019924860>

**Monday, May 13, 2024 @ 6:00 pm**  
in person on the Reservoir Campus

Marty Cathcart  
The Lab School of Washington  
Director of Community Engagement  
[marty.cathcart@labschool.org](mailto:marty.cathcart@labschool.org)  
202 244-2209

**...‘Medical Pavilion’ con’t from Page 1**

ion and Darnell Hall.

You might have also noticed that Entrance 1 is now open to pedestrian traffic only. No unauthorized vehicular traffic is allowed until further notice.

Most exciting, the hospital is planning to “go live” on Sunday, December 10, 2023, when they will begin seeing patients in the new Emergency Department! The next day, Monday, December 11, surgeries will be performed in the state-of-the-art operating rooms. It is anticipated that all moves, including transferring inpatient units to the Pavilion, will be completed by Tuesday, December 12.

Over the next two months, MedStar Georgetown will be conducting multiple activities to prepare for opening the Verstandig Pavilion. These include addressing final construction “punch list” items inside the building, conducting staff orientation and training to ensure patient safety and workflow efficiency, and preparing for regulatory inspections.

**...‘Paul’ con’t from Page 1**

sitting in his chair at the top of his stairs waving to all who walked by, and at Halloween dispensing candy to the kids, and ‘airplane size’ beverages to the adults! We’ll all miss his gregarious manner, wonderful smile and infectious laugh.

At his memorial service, Paul’s niece suggested that we “plant our favorite flowers, bush or tree in our yards in his memory. He loved them all!”

All in all, Paul was a very talented man who, in the truest sense, understood what it meant to give back to your community, and to be a man of faith as well. He will be greatly missed.



Photo of Paul Ward by Deborah McGrath

**Pay by check or go to [www.foxhall.org](http://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 Vipul Bhagat, Treasurer, 4435 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 \_\_\_\_\_