Newsletter of the Foxhall Community Citizens Association April 2025

FOXHALL News

foxhall.org

FCCA General Meeting, Wednesday April 23rd 6:30-8 PM at Hardy Park Rec Center, 4500 Q Street NW

Agenda

- Police Report
- Guest Speaker: Doctor Harold McCray, Principal of MacArthur High School will discuss the school's progress and take questions.
- Open comments period for meeting attendees to bring up issues and concerns in our area.

All people in the neighborhood are welcome, whether or not you are a member!

The February 2025 General Meeting

We were pleased to have Councilmember Matt Frumin join us to discuss challenges facing the District in the coming year. He stated that the elimination of home rule is very unlikely because it would require at least 60 votes in the US Senate. However, reductions in revenues are a serious concern for FY 2026. [Editor's note: The Mayor's office announced a delay in the submission of the proposed FY 26 budget to the Council (originally scheduled to arrive on April 2), because of pending legislation to reverse cuts to DC funding in the Federal Budget. For a discussion, go to https://mattfruminward3.com/.]

Matt Frumin and JP Symkowitz, ANC3D07 at the FCCA Feb meeting. Photo by Katherine Samolyk

WE ARE PLANNING THE FCCA 2025 SPRING FLING! THE DATE AND TIME WILL BE ADVERTISED ON POSTERS AT HARDY PARK, FLIERS POSTED AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD, AND ON THE FCCA LISTSERV. Join the FCCA Listserv! Just send an e-mail to: **FCCAlistserve+subscribe@groups.io** and say, "I want to join the listserv."

Officer McElwee presented his crime and public safety report and fielded numerous questions and comments. (See Crime and Public Safety below.) Contact information for both the councilmember's office and our 2nd District MPD can be found on page 5.

Crime and Public Safety

By Katherine Samolyk

Officer McElwee reported on crime and public safety issues for PSA 205 (which includes all of ANC3D) during February at the February FCCA General Meeting and at the March 5th ANC3D meeting. Theft from vehicles was the most common offense, but the vast majority of these took place in the upper Mass Ave area, particularly around the Spring Valley retail area. However, a backpack was stolen from a vehicle on Foxhall Rd. Please make sure you do not leave valuable items in your car in plain view! Officer McElwee reported a burglary at the 4800 block of MacArthur Boulevard on February 22nd at 3:22 a.m. Two males kicked in a glass door of a business and stole some items from inside the business. A witness who lived in the building observed the subjects fleeing the scene in a silver sedan along MacArthur Blvd. On February 5th, the MPD arrested 38-year-old Reginald Calloway who was charged with several burglaries, thefts, and destruction of property incidents. One of the burglaries was committed on June 20th, 2024, on the 4700 block of Foxhall Crescents. **(continued on page 2)**

(Crime, Continued from page 1)

A second took place on October 28th, 2024, in the 4400 block of P Street. A theft also took place in the 5600 block of MacArthur Boulevard. Officer McElwee reminded residents about the DC security camera rebate program which allows residents to receive rebates for up to 3 cameras ($200 for the first camera, $200 for the second, and $100 for the third). Cameras must be able to store footage of recordings so that MPD can access footage for investigations. Of 548 moving violations cited in a 30-day period, most were for red-light running. Officer McElwee noted that there is a speeding camera behind the flashing lights on Foxhall Rd. Some people in our neighborhood may have seen the accident on Foxhall Rd on the evening of February 27th. One of the two vehicles involved was overturned on the median just south of Reservoir road. In spite of the severity of the collision there were no serious injuries, and no one received a ticket. Finally, Officer McElwee reminded residents that the MPD has a "ride along" program that allows you to go on a patrol for up to four hours to experience first-hand what our officers do.

ANC3D Meeting Notes

By Katherine Samolyk

Councilmember Matt Frumin's Office: DCs Chief Financial Officer (CFO) released his office's revenue forecast for fiscal year 2025-26 in March. There is a predicted $342 million drop in revenues in each of the next 3 years, which will exacerbate challenges in terms of coming up with expenditure proposals for the Mayor's budget. According to DCPS school budgets, released in early March, Ward 3 schools "seem to have their needs met so far. " However, cuts to Federal Department of Education funding would adversely impact funding for education programs that serve disadvantaged students.

German Embassy: Kai Spicher, the head of Administration at the German Embassy, reported that there was a lot of earth removal in February. The embassy received complaints, including some relayed by Marylyn Nowalk (our ANC3D06 commissioner), about dump-truck traffic and workers in vehicles that were parked with their engines running on cold days. DC law prohibits vehicles from remaining parked with the engine running for extended periods.

Georgetown University (GU): Cory Peterson (AVP, Community Outreach) reported that the hotel on the GU campus is being renovated after being used for dorm space and hopefully will be reopened next Fall. Anyone can stay there. He also said that the Georgetown Faculty Club is being turned into a restaurant. Finally, GU is promoting a program called The Maker Hub Neighbor. GU is looking for people in local communities to participate by teaching students how to be "more of a maker," literally in the sense of learning a skill (even something like sewing). J.P. Szymkowicz (our ANC3D07 Commissioner) noted that his wife Lauren has taught in the program and that it is really great for students and faculty. [Editor's Note: Lauren's bio can be found on the Program's webpage at https://library.georgetown.edu/makerhub/makerneighbor.]

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April 2025 Newsletter Editor: Katherine Samolyk,
Website Manager: Katherine Samolyk

Contact the FCCA at foxhall@myyahoo.com or leave a phone message at 202-338-3834.

Palisades Village Thanks their Foxhall-MacArthur Neighborhood Volunteers

By Erica Blanton

Palisades Village would not be the same without the help of Foxhall area residents supporting the older adults in the neighborhood. Alicia Juarrero helped put together the paperwork that brought Palisades Village to life in 2007. For over 10 years, Bob Bourdaud'hui has made the social events special; bringing together talented cooks and founding the Palisades Pan Handlers (which cater for large gatherings of Palisades Village members as well as more intimate gatherings with special guests like authors and ambassadors). William Bateson won our handyman award last year for minor repairs he has done for members over the years. Larry Klusman won the award for the most patience. Whether it is driving someone to an appointment, fixing their printer, or taking bartending orders, he is unflappable. Jan Smart and Terumi Gale have lent their skills to events and hands-on activities. Bob Siciliano comes out every year to help at the House Tour sales. MaryAnn Griffin was recruited to lead the book group. Janet Tersoff's Excel and business skills have been fully utilized in the office – when a strange request comes in, she often takes care of it. Mary Gaughan has found new skills as a graphic designer and is part of the team organizing the annual fundraiser, a large house tour. Arne Paulson took his background in finance and made the organization fiscally sound during his time on the board of directors. Three of our current board members hail from the Foxhall area– our president, Nephelie Andonyadis, our secretary, Sue Bowers, and Charles Lanman.

If you want to find out how you can help, please join us at the Volunteer Orientation on April 24 at 10:30 to learn about the ways that you can contribute. Last year we provided almost 1000 rides to older adults and a variety of other services. Please join us at the Art Show on May 3-4 at the Yellow Barn Studio in Glen Echo (See Neighborhood Events on page 5. For more information call 202-244-3310 or go to www.palisadesvillage.org.

Photo Courtesy of Erica Blanton

Meet your neighbor: Cindy Huang

My name is Cindy Huang and I am the Founder of Chia Chinese Learning. I moved to the area with my husband in 2023. My husband used to work as a Naval Engineer and now works as a real estate investor and financial advisor. Our connection to this neighborhood began through teaching. While teaching at schools like WIS, Key Elementary, and The River School, I fell in love with the community. In early 2023, my husband and I found our perfect home on lower MacArthur Boulevard and decided to settle here long-term. We love the peaceful, family-friendly atmosphere and the easy access to Georgetown, the waterfront, and trails for biking and hiking. We love the mix of the people who live here—many individuals from all over the world who bring diversity and culture. I am thinking of hosting an international potluck inviting all our neighbors!

I grew up in China and came to the US for my graduate school in 2017. Before that, I worked in Romania, Morocco, Malaysia, and Cambodia. In 2017, I pursued a graduate degree in international education development at the University of Pennsylvania. This path led me to Washington, DC after graduation, where I joined Whittle School & Studios as a Chinese immersion teacher. There, I embraced project-based and experiential learning, discovering a more engaging way to teach Chinese beyond traditional rote methods.

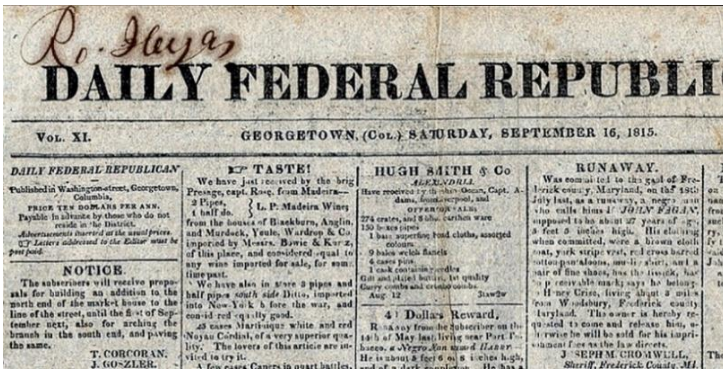
Photo courtesy of Cindy Huang, who joined the FCCA Board this year.

But the more I taught at schools in the area, the more I noticed a gap in Chinese language education in DC--especially for elementary students--and a lack of internship opportunities in Asia for high school students. So, I embarked on my efforts to create a program based on the belief that language learning should be immersive, practical, and fun! Encouraged by the enthusiasm of students and their parents, I founded Chia Chinese Learning in 2022, Today, we offer weekend classes, after-school programs, summer immersion camps, and high school internships in Asia to help students build language skills while gaining cultural exposure.

Local History: Slavery in Early Georgetown
By Katherine Samolyk

This month marks 163 years since the Emancipation of Slaves in DC on April 16th, 1862, so I thought it appropriate to do some research into this dark aspect of our local history. Slavery was well-established in the Colony of Maryland when the Maryland Assembly established Georgetown in 1751.

Slave Life: When the fight for independence ensued in 1776, African Americans made up over a third of Georgetown's population. Most of these individuals were slaves. By1800, there were 1,449 slaves and 277 "free Blacks" among the population of 5,120 in Georgetown and nearby areas. The scale of slavery in our country's history and the deplorable conditions that most slaves endured are well documented. Historical accounts, however, paint a somewhat different picture of slave conditions in early Georgetown than on the plantations and farms in rural areas. According to C.R. Gibbs, a local historian and author, slavery in our area "generally consisted of Africans working in skilled jobs as hired workers, who had to turn their wages over to slaveowners. These slaves lived away from the owners, wherever the master provided quarters: lofts, stables, attics, alleys, or shacks." But the interactions within the urban population created social pressure to treat slaves more humanely than in rural areas. And enslaved Black people interacted with free Blacks, as Black neighborhoods, churches, schools, and other institutions were established.


DAILY FEDERAL REPUBLI

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DAILY FEDERAL REPUBLICAN

NOTICE.

TASTE!

HUGH SMITH & Co

RUNAWAY.

1815 Georgetown Newspaper article about a runaway slave.

The Slave Trade: On the other hand, due to the importance of Georgetown as a mid-Atlantic port, the city thrived as a center of the slave trade and slave auctions. Numerous articles document Georgetown locations—often taverns--where slave auctions were held. One place where slave auctions were held is the red brick building at 3276 M Street NW, the site of the Old Georgetown Market. Remnants of "slave holds" remain in the building's cellar. Additionally, as a major trading port, free Blacks faced the risk of being abducted and sold into slavery, as recounted by Solomon Northop in his famous autobiography "Twelve Years a Slave."

The May 30, 1939 Washington Daily Newspaper reports on the slave holds at 3276 M Street NW

Legislation: In 1809, the English Parliament outlawed slavery in its colonies (subject to enforcement of course). The framers of the US Constitution allowed slavery to become a feature of our early democracy, so that southern states would ratify the Constitution. Although slaves were "property," southern states wanted slaves to be counted as "people" for the purposes of representation in Congress; and thus, each slave was counted as two-thirds of a person in determining the number of Representatives a state would have in the US Congress.

Slave Ownership: It is well known that important figures in our country's history owned slaves, including prominent people in Georgetown. Institutions owned slaves. Georgetown University, founded in 1789, used proceeds from plantations and selling slaves to fund the institution. At Georgetown Visitation, established as a school for girls in 1798, students as well as nuns brought their slaves to work at the school. In what is now our neighborhood, (after the Revolutionary War) General James McCubbin Lingan used slaves to work his farm Harlem Heights (which comprised the area in our neighborhood west of Foxhall Road). Henry Foxall (who owned Spring Hill Farm, which became Foxhall Village in the 1920s) also owned slaves. But because of Foxall's strong Methodist beliefs, he is said to have treated his slaves more humanely than many others-- ensuring that they learned a trade, keeping families together, and caring for his slaves into their old age. One source reports that by 1812, Foxall had manumitted (had freed) all of his slaves.

See: Donovan, Jane. 2017, Henry Foxall: Methodist. Industrialist. American; The Washington Informer, 2019, Hidden in Plain View: The Overlooked History of Black Georgetown; Ecker, Grace, 1951. A Portrait of Old George Town.

Neighborhood Events

Author Talk with Dr. Maurice Jackson-Georgetown Library April 24th from 6PM-7PM. Dr. Jackson (Georgetown University) will talk about his new book, Rhythms of Resistance and Resilience, which tells the story of Black musicians and athletes who achieved success in the face of discrimination, bringing people together in the District of Columbia, and furthering the cause of Civil Rights. The event is free to the public. Contact: 202-834-3557 for any additional information.

Art Show at the Yellow Barn Art Studio at Glen Echo: Saturday May 3rd and Sunday March 4th from 12:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Location: 7300 Macarthur Boulevard, Glen Echo MD.
At this event, artists from the neighborhoods served by the Palisade Village will offer their art for sale to benefit the mission of Palisades Village, a non-profit, volunteer organization that helps older residents live independently in their residences. There is no admission fee, and free parking is available on the lower area of Glen Echo property (the north parking lot near the historic Clara Barton House). You'll have a nice stroll through a wooded area to the Yellow Barn Studio which is off to the left once you approach the carousel. Look for signs! For more information, contact John Stiner at jstiner@breckdesign.com.

Lab School Happy Hour: Monday, May 12th from 5:30-6:30pm 1550 Foxhall RD NW (Old Hardy School).
Hello, neighbors of the Lab School of Washington.
You are invited to join us for a Happy Hour at our Foxhall Road campus on Monday, May 12th from 5:30-6:30pm. (Note: new time). Mingle with neighbors, enjoy a cocktail and light appetizers, and learn a bit about your Foxhall neighbor, The Lab School of Washington. We look forward to sharing a bit about our history, our unique mission, and our amazing students. See the beautiful artwork of our Lower School students and leave with some "Lab Swag" that you can actually use! We hope to see you there.
Kim Wargo, Head of School

Kreeger Museum First Studio: Art, Story, and Workshop, April 19th, May 17th, June 28th, and July 26th, 10:00am-11:00am, 2401 Foxhall Road, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007
Young artists ages 3-5 and an adult companion are invited to spark their imagination as they explore the paintings, sculpture, and architecture of The Kreeger Museum. This program will include a museum tour, story time, and a hands-on art making experience. April's theme is "Our Natural World" in celebration of Earth Day! Please note due to room capacity, no more than one adult companion is allowed per child. Register here: https://www.kreegermuseum.org/programs/first-studio.

Conversations at The Kreeger Museum, Monday June 2nd from 11:00 am- 12:00 pm, 2401 Foxhall Road, NW, Washington, D.C. 20007. *Conversations*, a program for individuals with mild to moderate memory disorders and their caregivers, provides a forum for dialogue and connection through art and music. The free hour-long program includes an interactive gallery talk and a musical component. The experience is designed to stimulate reflection, reduce stress, and increase communication and sociability. Advance registration is required. To reserve a space for the program, please visit: https://www.kreegermuseum.org/programs/conversations.

Neighborhood Resources: Who Do You Call?

Call 911 for emergencies to reach police, the fire department, or to report health emergencies.

City-Wide Call Center: Go to 311.gov or call 311:
- To report addresses where walks have not been shoveled.
- To request free bulk trash and yard waste pickups
- To report burned out streetlights,
- To report illegal dumping, graffiti, cars obstructing sidewalks or displaying suspicious guest parking permits,

Visit dpw.dc.gov to find changes to trash and recycling collection schedules and other useful information.

2nd District MPD Headquarters
3320 Idaho Ave NW, Washington, DC 20016
(202) 715-7300
Going out of town? Our 2nd District MPD Headquarters has Amazon lockers outside where you can have packages delivered. You can also email MPD Officer Tony McElwee if you want him to check on your home periodically, anthony.mcelwee@dc.go

Mayor's office: Ward 3 Liaison
William Owen Cox, William.cox@dc.gov
202.340.7853 (Mobile)

Ward 3 City Council Member
Matt Frumin, mfrumin@dccouncil.gov
https://mattfruminward3.com/
Office contact phone: (202) 724-8062

Our ANC3D Commissioners
Marilyn Nowalk (ANC3D06), 3D06@ANC.DC.GOV
J.P. Szymkowicz (ANC3D07), jp.szymkowicz@anc.dc.gov

PEPCO
- Power outages: Call Pepco's 24-Hour Outage Report Line at 1 (877) 737-2662.
- For downed wires, call Pepco immediately at (877) 737-2662 and press two (2).
- Streetlights Out: 202-269-0855

Newsletter Submissions: We welcome contributions to our newsletter! Anything of interest to the neighborhood is fair game If you want to discuss an idea—please reach out! Katherine Samolyk, ksamolyk@msn.com.

We want to thank everyone who has contributed dues thus far for 2025 (as of April 12th). Membership dues pay for the printing of the newsletter and neighborhood events (which we would like to have more of!) The FCCA is committed to fostering connection and promoting the welfare of the Foxhall-MacArthur neighborhood. We hope you will join us!

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To correct your houseld name or if your household's name is not listed, please e-mail ksamolyk@msn.com

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 our to the Foxhall Community Citizens Association. Send to FCCA c/o Robert Avery, Treasurer, 4442 Greenwich Parkway NW, Washignton, 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)

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Home Phone

Email Address for FCCA Updates Date