DC MPD Chief Lanier Meets with CAG

DC Metropolitan Police Chief Cathy Lanier will speak at the CAG meeting on October 15. Mayor Fenty named Commander Cathy Lanier as Chief of Police last November – one of his first appointments. An advocate of community policing, Chief Lanier’s goals are to “tailor the best practices in community policing to DC’s neighborhoods” and “change the culture of the MPD from reacting to crime, to building and sustaining safe neighborhoods.” She will talk about recent developments in our area, including the new Police Service Area (PSA) arrangement.

Commander Lanier has been with the MPD for over 16 years and previously served as the Commanding Officer of the Office of Homeland Security & Counter-Terrorism. Working out of the Office of the Chief of Police, she had the lead role in implementing coordinated counter-terrorism strategies. Prior to that, Lanier served as the Commanding Officer of the Department’s Special Operations Division (SOD) for four years, where she

Continued on page 4

CAG Gala on October 12

Dust off your dancing shoes, grab your pearls or boa, and come celebrate the roaring 20s at the annual CAG Gala on Friday, October 12, at historic Evermay. The world famous Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra will entertain us with dance music of the era. The mansion will be transported back to 1923, the year F. Lammot Belin purchased Evermay and saved it from demolition. Guests are encouraged to don period-themed or black tie attire. There will be a lavish buffet, lively Charleston contest and full bar (no Prohibition here!).

We’ll pay tribute to wonderful citizens, Ev & Joan Shorey for their pioneering effort in establishing our Block Captain and Neighborhood Guard programs, and Elizabeth Miller for producing our fabulously successful Summer Concert Series. A not-to-be-missed silent auction will feature stays at the Four Seasons and Ritz Carlton, Marc and Fred Maroon prints, an Hermes scarf, personal training sessions, and certificates from local restaurants, spas, shops and private clubs.

We are very grateful to our lead sponsors: the Evermay Society, M.C. Dean, BB&T, Clydes, Eastbanc, GU Hospital, Opus East, Securitas Security Services USA, Wachovia Wealth Management, and Capital Restaurant Concepts. We appreciate the important support of Fidelity & Trust, Flying Colors Broadcasts, The Georgetown Current, Georgetown University, and The Georgetowner.

Tickets are $175/person and $150 for CAG members. Call 337-7313.
I had the good fortune this summer to travel the breadth of this country and back across Canada. The huge open spaces and big skies took my breath away. Yet, I could only be reminded how precious we find the little open space and sky not blocked by towering buildings we have here. And how we must continue to lobby to protect what we still have.

Our Historic Preservation Committee, led by Barbara Zartman, is constantly at the forefront of this issue. In fact, as recently as June, we met with representatives of the Office of Zoning and the Office of Planning to present a case for developing a zoning overlay for Georgetown. We were told then that no new overlays would be created during a two year moratorium for a complete zoning code rewrite.

At that time, CAG requested that certain provisions be incorporated in any new zoning mechanisms and that the agencies provide relief from high impact projects during the freeze. Those provisions included limits on increase in lot coverage. Yet on September 10, new regulations were passed that allowed accessory buildings, (i.e. detached garages, sheds or pool houses) special exceptions that could increase lot coverage to up to a total of 70%. Think about what this has the potential of doing to Georgetown and many other communities in the District.

CAG has opposed this action and will continue to confront the creeping loss of our valuable open space. Georgetown is our community and we will remain vigilant that our voice and concerns be heard.

Community Input
Community input should be part and parcel of decisions that have a great and lasting impact on the surrounding neighborhood. We commend the District Department of Transportation for holding public meetings and for creating a community task force for the Georgetown Transportation Study. We will be requesting that community representatives be part of an advisory commission for the zoning rewrite as well.

Lack of community input certainly came into play regarding the potential development of the West End library. Soon after the emergency legislation was passed by City Council to allow the building project, the CAG Board sent a letter to Councilman Jack Evans stating opposition to the lack of community input. We also provided testimony at Council hearings. We felt the

Historic Preservation Committee members discuss zoning map (left to right: Barbara Zartman, Denise Cunningham, Nola Klamberg, Leslie Kamrad and Louise Brodnitz).

West End/Foggy Bottom residents should have been part of the process from the beginning.

We will work with surrounding communities to see that local sentiments are taken into consideration on issues that greatly impact our neighborhoods and our quality of life.

A Community Celebration
I urge you to attend the CAG Gala on October 12 at Evermay. The proceeds of this event are our major source of association funding. Among other things, these funds enable CAG to maintain a centrally located office staffed three days a week by a dedicated and skilled executive director, office assistant and bookkeeper. In tandem with a team of committed volunteers, Executive Director Betsy Cooley, Office Assistant Beth Nielsen, and Bookkeeper Larae Marsh, make sure all the initiatives the Board and committees are working on actually get done….sending the letters, fielding the member calls and keeping everything on track. The Gala celebration is an incredibly enjoyable way to ensure those wheels keep turning. A very big thank you to Gala chair, Jennifer Altemus and her entire committee, who tirelessly and with great creativity, have fashioned a memorable evening. We also are most grateful to our generous corporate sponsors. Send in your responses now. It’s going to be an evening you don’t want to miss.

Denise R. Cunningham
More of “What’s Going on Up There?”

The sloping streets of Georgetown give a special dimension to the impact of rooftop additions. Most often what is on a roof is air-conditioning or heating equipment. Careful siting can often minimize the visual impact, but as any trip down Wisconsin Avenue will prove, items that are not visible from M Street, can be completely visible on a southward drive. The roof of the Georgetown Inn is a good example. Sometimes screening is possible using lattice or other wood screens, but newer replacement units are often larger and more powerful – and more difficult to obscure.

Even residential properties present challenges. Ground-level placement of HVAC units is not frequently approved by the Old Georgetown Board and the Commission of Fine Arts, although sometimes a large property can find a way to obscure such ground-level equipment and avoid burdening neighbors with the noise of compressors.

More often it’s on the rooftop. The OGB will work with homeowners (or their architects) to find the best resolution from among the sometimes meager options. For example, flat roofs often have parapets that can hide equipment effectively.

One other option to complement HVAC equipment is solar panels. Those same flat roofs may offer ideal locations for panels. Any such work must be coordinated with PEPCO, which participates in The Green Power Connection Team. The contact is either gpc-south@pepco.com or by telephone at 202-872-2040.

There are regulations about what can be placed on the roof of any building – beyond the 18’ height limit on roof structures. It won’t surprise anyone that these regulations have been interpreted differently by different parties, and even by the same zoning authority when the membership on the panel (the Board of Zoning Adjustment) changes.

There is consistent agreement that when something is placed on a rooftop, it must be set back from exterior walls by the same measurement as the height of the rooftop structure. The questions come in when “exterior” is defined. For detached buildings, the answer is simple. For semi-detached or row houses, it had previously been deemed to include the side walls of the house with the rooftop structure. One recent BZA ruling (now on appeal to the DC Court of Appeals) found that the side walls were not “exterior” and that a rooftop addition could run from one side lot line to the other. The impact on the adjacent homes is significant, as is the aesthetic impact.

Rooftop additions are not allowed to be for residential use. A cabana, thus, could be added to a rooftop pool, but it could not be used as a dwelling.

We are beginning to see applications for commercial properties that include “green” roofs. Not all buildings – especially historic ones – can handle the weight and hydrology of green roofs, but where it can be accommodated, it offers both aesthetic and environmental benefits.

Just think of walking up from K Street and seeing, not rusted metal rooftop equipment, but cascades of green. What a concept.

—Barbara Zartman, Chair, CAG Historic Preservation & Zoning Committee

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managed members of the Emergency Response Team; Explosive Ordnance Unit; Aviation and Harbor Units; Horse Mounted and Canine Units; Domestic Security Unit; Special Events/Dignitary Protection Branch; and the Department’s Civil Disturbance Units. During her tenure as the SOD Commander, she established the agency’s initial Homeland Security/Counter-Terrorism Branch and created an agency-wide chemical, biological, radiological response unit known as the Special Threat Action Team.

Commander Lanier spent more than 10 years of her career in the Uniform Patrol Division. As the Commander of the Fourth District she created the Latino Liaison Unit. She has also served as the Commanding Officer of the Department’s Major Narcotics Branch and Vehicular Homicide Units in the Special Services Bureau.

Lanier has a B.A. in criminal justice studies from the University of the District of Columbia and a Masters Degree in Management from Johns Hopkins University. She also earned a Master of Arts in homeland security and defense from the Naval Postgraduate School. She has been honored for her law enforcement and homeland security work, and holds a Top Secret Clearance with SCI Access.

Please join CAG in welcoming MPD Chief Lanier to our community. She is eager to hear residents’ concerns and answer questions at the October CAG meeting.

Screen on the Schoolyard

October 19 • 7 pm • Hyde

Doors open at 6 pm for picnics and play time for all of Hyde Elementary, Georgetown Families and Friends

Featured Film: It’s the Great Pumpkin, Charlie Brown premieres at 7 pm.
Also Premiering: Anthony J. Hyde School: 100 Years of Excellence
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Top Chefs, Wines and Blues Music Highlight Taste of Georgetown

The annual Taste of Georgetown benefit for the Georgetown Ministry Center will be from 11 am to 4 pm on Saturday, October 13 along Wisconsin Avenue. Featuring a New and Old World wine pavilion, children’s activities, and the sounds of Blues Alley, participating restaurants include 1789, Agraria, Cabanas, Café Bonaparte, Chadwicks, Chez Mama-San, Filomena Ristorante, Hook, La Chaumiere, Kafe Leopold’s, Martin’s Tavern, Mie N Yu, Morton’s The Steakhouse, Red Ginger, Rugby, Seasons, and more.

A celebrity guest panel, including Marc Silverstein, host and celebrity chef of Food Network’s “The Best Of”; Nycci Nellis, publisher and CEO of TheListAreYouOnIt.com; Amanda McClements, food writer and publisher of Metrocurean; and a Washington CityPaper restaurant rater will decide the Taste’s best appetizer, best entrée, best display, and best dessert. Attendees will also have the chance to vote for their favorites.

Wine tastings are free of charge, individual food tasting tickets are $5, and a packet of five tasting tickets is $20. Taste of Georgetown tickets are available for purchase at the event or through www.tasteofgeorgetown.com.

About the Georgetown Ministry Center
Founded in 1987, the Georgetown Ministry Center’s (GMC) primary objective is to assist clients off the street and into safe, secure housing. GMC provides homeless outreach services that include psychiatric, housing, and job placement assistance as well as showers, laundry, and mail services. For more information, visit www.georgetownministrycenter.org.

Free Friday Concerts at Georgetown University

“Friday Music” is a free concert series every Friday at 1:15 in GU’s McNeir Hall.


October 19: World-Acclaimed Chamber Ensemble The Verdehr Trio performs works by contemporary American female composers.

October 26: Renowned Violinist Sarah E. Geller performs Stravinsky’s Divertimento, Beethoven Sonata No. 1 in D Major, and Sarasate’s Malaguena and Habanera.

For more information call 687-6933 or go to: http://performingarts.georgetown.edu/.

NEWSBYTES
The Marine Corps Marathon is going to skip Georgetown this year; the course will go out Canal Road and then back along the Whitehurst to 27th Street, due to Rock Creek Pkwy reconstruction (more information at: http://map.mapnetwork.com/event/dc/marinecorpsmarathon/). Check out the new P & C Art Store, selling framed prints and posters, on Wisconsin Avenue. Have you heard, the popular Circulator bus plans to resume a K Street route, but will also continue the current Pennsylvania Avenue/M Street up Wisconsin Avenue route. Rumour has it that the entire Hotel Ralph Pucci/Basta Pasta Restaurant (slated to replace the Georgetown Inn), along with a renovated Latham Hotel/new Apple Store project has fallen through, and the hotels are for sale again. A new kids store, The Magic Wardrobe, has opened on the 1600 block of Wisconsin Avenue. Want to see David Beckham (his photo, that is)? Visit The Bean Counter on Bookhill, where he went for coffee while in DC for a game, to see a picture of the coffee barista with Beckham. Le Pain Quotidien, serving lite French fare, has opened on M Street across from the Four Seasons. Knew Gallery has closed. Chef Barton Seaver is planning to open a New England-style clam shack next to his Hook Restaurant on M Street. Starbucks is getting ready to open another outlet at Washington Harbour (30th & K Streets). Dumbarton Oaks is hosting a free “Gardens of Versailles” lecture in the newly restored Music Room on October 3, Reservations required, call 339-6460 or email landscape@doaks.org.
Denise welcomed everyone back from summer break to the September meeting. The membership voted unanimously to amend the Bylaws, adding two additional directors to the CAG board. Questions from the audience for the monthly “Tell us what’s on your mind” session yielded comments on construction at the Sheridan Garage property, the upcoming Georgetown Transportation Study, a metro station, the Whitehurst Freeway, and businesses’ disposal of trash and use of trash cans.

Crystal Palmer, Director of DC’s Office of Motion Picture and Television Development, and her assistant, David Couzzo, gave a powerpoint presentation on movie-making in the nation’s capital. Ms. Palmer’s office, which is charged with attracting and facilitating both film and television production, provides services ranging from scouting filming locations to storyboard breakdown. Among its various programs are the Celluloid City Directory, which lists shooting locations featuring Washington homes and businesses, and the Film DC Economic Incentive Grant Fund. New incentives, including tax advantages, are being considered to further entice producers (visit www.film.dc.gov for more information). Ms. Palmer listed numerous films shot on location in DC, many peppered with Georgetown scenes…including The Exorcist, No Way Out, The Invasion, and more recently, Rendition, Lions for Lambs (starring Robert Redford), Eagle Eye, and Get Simon, as well as the cable series “24.” She said her agency values its close working relationship with the Georgetown community. In response to a question from the audience as to what Georgetown can do to foster more local filming, Crystal cited the invaluable work done by Betsy Cooley to build a positive perception of Georgetown, and she requested residents knowledgeable about and connected within the community to work with her office.

Veteran location scout and manager, Peggy Pridemore enjoys her job of “knocking on doors, leaving letters for homeowners, and driving the streets of Georgetown”, all in her quest for the “perfect” property. For example, for the film, Burn After Reading, by the Coen brothers and starring George Clooney, her specific assignment was a house with a driveway, door on the right, window on the left, and access from the front to the back of the house around the outside. Georgetown’s starring role in this film will come in October when two scenes will be shot here, with George Clooney running across Key Bridge and up the 35th Street hill. Peggy will be asking for help door-to-door in preparation for the filming. She addressed the “huge character part” that picturesque Georgetown plays in Hollywood. Thanks to the support of our citizens, who were subjected to the whirr of helicopters circling above Thomas Jefferson Street and the closing of P Street, movies such as The Sentinel (with Michael Douglas) and The Wedding Crashers were filmed in the neighborhood. While
much of *The Sentinel* was filmed in Toronto (filling in for DC), a character fleeing from secret service agents enters a house (actually located in Toronto) and runs through the kitchen, out the back door, onto Thomas Jefferson Street! In another scene, shooting on M Street resulted in the street being closed, and when filming wrapped at 2 am, it was on an eerily empty and silent street. *Deep Impact* closed Key Bridge, and a daytime driving scene on Wisconsin Avenue in *Minority Report* resulted in keeping shoppers from exiting stores while filming was going on. A Wisconsin Avenue antique store was made into an employment agency in the film *Dave*, which inadvertently resulted in unsuspecting people entering the “store” to apply for jobs. Peggy implored the audience to not tell radio stations of upcoming filming, recalling how a DC radio announcer infiltrated the film set for *Contact* (starring Jody Foster), giving a play-by-play to his listeners. The film crews do try to accommodate public interest, with designated “watching” spots.

Ms. Pridemore told how a father in the broadcasting business and her early ambition to be an actress led to her work “behind the camera.” *Broadcast News* was her first assignment, as assistant location manager. She explained how Georgetown benefits from filming here — including donations to CAG and Trees for Georgetown. Depicting the charming streets of Georgetown on screen also serves to market the beauty of the village to the world-at-large. As Peggy told the meeting, it is unfortunate that the DC budget to lure film production is very small compared to the budgets of Maryland and Virginia. DC is also at a disadvantage regarding restrictions on locations. For instance, the metro does not allow running, eating, or jumping over the turnstiles, which have been accommodated for filming in other cities.

Betsy gave the number to register with Celluloid City Directory, where you can volunteer to be an “extra”: 727-6608.

—Tara Scopelliti,
Secretary
Real Estate Speculation

It’s the same old song, but with a different beat. Your next door neighbor puts his house up for sale, and, shortly thereafter, a nice looking guy knocks on your door, and introduces himself. He tells you that he’s looking forward to living on your beautiful street and also to making some repairs on his new house. You go about your business, secure in the knowledge that nothing remarkable will result from what appears to be just another Georgetown real estate transaction...but wait...What are all those workmen, who arrive after dark, doing inside the house, and what is that high, ugly cinder block wall being constructed at the back of the rear yard? As it turns out, the friendly neighbor, who has no intention of living in the house, is simply gutting the interior, without the proper permits, without consulting anyone who lives near him, and is planning to add a massive 3-story addition in order to resell it. After a hasty call to the proper D.C. agencies, a stop work order is issued, and the illegal work both inside and out is halted; the cinder block wall is deemed too high and is considerably reduced. By this time, the neighbors ban together and appear before the ANC, pleading their case. The friendly buyer and his partner also appear with charts, plans and plaintive pleas for leniency and understanding, which fall on deaf ears and result in a negative vote. Now it’s on to the next hurdle, a meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission. The “take this house and flip it syndrome” is an ever increasing one in our village. In my view, it is important for each of us to keep an eagle eye out for “flippers,” who ignore preservation rules and may care nothing for the property they buy, or the people who live around it. Gut it and get rid of it, is the name of their game, but preservation is the name of ours. Let’s continue to fight to protect Georgetown. I don’t care how much Donald Trump offers you, don’t sell him your house...

—V V Harrison

“Freebies” and Discounts for CAG Members

All CAG members who have paid their 2007 dues have received the official CAG Merchant Discount Card, which entitles members to the following:

Antique Print Gallery (1639 Wisc Ave.): 15% discount, 10% on framing;
Bacchus WineCellar (1635 Wisc Ave.): 10% discount;
Briar Rose (1025 31st St.): 10% discount;
Bridge Street Books (2814 Pa. Ave.): 10% discount;
Briggs Passport & Visa Expeditors, Inc. (1054 31st St.): 15% discount;
CABANAS (3050 K St.): free appetizer with purchase of two entrees;
Café Bonaparte (1522 Wisc. Ave.): free coffee when ordering dessert;
Café Divan (1834 Wisc. Ave.): free dessert;
Chadwicks (3205 K St.): half price entrée with purchase of entrée of equal or greater value;
Cherry Antiques & Design (1526 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on decorative accessories;
Clyde’s of Georgetown (3236 M St.): complimentary crab & artichoke dip;
Garrett’s Restaurant & Tavern (3003 M St.): second entree half off with purchase of first;
GChris Sculpture Studio/Gallery (3144 Dumbarton Street NW): 15% discount;
Georgetown Café (1623 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount;
Georgetown Wine & Spirits (2701 P St.): 10% discount; free delivery w/$50 purchase;
Georgetown Yoga (1053 31st St.): $5 off first class;
Haagen-Dazs (3120 M St.): 20% discount on ice cream;
Hugo Boss (1517 Wisc. Ave.): 20% discount on regular price suits;
Istanbul Caravan (1614 Wisc. Ave.): 10% off on store merchandise;
Jaryam (1631 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount;
Just Paper (3232 P St.): 10% discount on personalized stationary;
Mendocino Grille (2917 M St.): 15% discount;
Mie N Yu (3125 M St.): complimentary dessert with brunch or lunch;
Red Ginger Bistro (1564 Wisc. Ave): free dessert with lunch or appetizer with dinner;
Sands of Time Antiquities (3003 P St.): 10% discount;
Sassanova (1641 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount;
Sherman Pickey (1647 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount;
Spiral Flight Yoga (1826 Wisc. Ave.): $5 off on first class, 10% discount on workshops;
Sugar (1633 Wisc. Ave.): 15% discount;
Susquehanna Antique Co. (3216 O St.): 10% discount;
The Old Print Gallery (1220 31st St.): 10% discount;
The Georgetown Pet Gallery (3204 O St): 15% discount;
The Phoenix (1514 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on jewelry;
The Old Print Gallery (1220 31st St.): 10% discount;
Washington Walks (www.washingtonwalks.com): half price on any walking tour;
W. T. Weaver & Sons Hardware (1208 Wisc. Ave. 2nd Floor): 15% discount;
XY Décor (1061 31st St.): 10% off on regularly priced items;
Yiro “All Organic Children’s Clothing” (3236 P St.): 10% discount.

If you use your card two or three times, your membership pays for itself!
Since mid-Summer, the new Waterfront Park has steadily taken on the look of a park. Earlier this year, the contractor, Fort Myer Construction, removed the asphalt parking lot, replacing it with dirt and gravel contoured into swales and mounds. Trenches were dug and filled for pipes and utilities. The concrete riverside embankment was shaped and rebuilt. But the park itself could not be visualized, except as a broad swath of brown earth.

With the arrival of August, the view changed: the base for the park’s swirl of paths was laid out with crushed stone and asphalt; the pedestals for park benches appeared; and concrete footings for lampposts began flanking the pathways.

These first two weeks of September have been transforming. The first sod strips of grass are now in place, small shrubs line the embankment wall, bushes parallel the paths, and two dozen trees (of good size) are in the ground. Bricks, cobbles, and pavers are now topping the path underlayment.

The northern edge of the park along K Street is now delineated by granite curbing stretching from 34th Street to Wisconsin Avenue. In tearing up the old street-edge for the curbing, the contractor unearthed perhaps the last artifacts of the old Georgetown waterfront: railroad ties; strips of jointed rail; even rail switches.

Fall should see more planting of trees, plants, and sod. There is much work yet to be done before the park officially opens next Spring, but it has now reached a state where Georgetowners can walk by and envision the wonderful place it is certain to become.

Work is also well underway on a small park along K Street between 29th and 30th streets. This park is being built by the developers of Harbourplace, and will have a layered appearance, sloping up from K Street to the Harbourplace building. When this and the Waterfront Park are done, a swath of green will stretch continuously along the south side of K Street from Rock Creek to Key Bridge.

—Walter Groszyk
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**october Community Events and Calendar**

**Tues. Oct. 2**  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2E Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, George Town Visitation, 35th & Volta Streets; (agenda available at www.anc2E.com); call 338-7427 for more information.

**Tues. Oct. 9**  
(ALL) Alliance for Local Living Meeting to discuss community issues with Georgetown residents and students at GU; 6:30 pm; GU Leavey Center; call GU for details at 687-4056.

**Wed. Oct. 10**  
Nathans Community Lunch featuring Newsweek's chief political correspondent Howard Fineman; Noon; call 338-2000 for reservations.

**Fri. Oct. 12**  
CAG Roaring 20s Gala featuring cocktails, lavish buffet, dancing to the Doc Scantlin Orchestra, special honors to Joan & Ev Shorey and Elizabeth Miller; 7 pm; Evermay, 1623 28th Street; $175/person; $150/CAG member; call 337-7313.

**Sat. Oct. 13**  
Partnership for Problem Solving (PPS) Meeting Sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department to discuss community issues at 10:30 am; MPD 2nd District, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW.

**Sat. Oct. 13**  
The Taste of Georgetown to benefit Georgetown Ministry Center; 11 am – 4 pm; Wisconsin Avenue; Tickets available on-site or through www.tasteofgeorgetown.com.

**Sun. Oct. 14**  
Behind the Scenes at Tudor Place—learn about the extensive restoration underway and see hidden treasures in the attic; 1:30 pm; Tudor Place, 1644 31st Street; $15 public; $10 members; advance registration required; call 965-0400.

**Mon. Oct. 15**  
Citizens Association of Georgetown Meeting featuring DC MPD Chief Cathy Lanier; reception at 7 and program at 7:30 pm; St. John's Church Parish Hall, Potomac and O Streets.

**Tues. Oct. 30**  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2E Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, George Town Visitation, 35th & Volta Streets; (agenda available at www.anc2E.com); call 338-7427 for more information.