A new movement to enable residents to live in their homes as long as possible and realize their dream of growing old in familiar surroundings appears to be the wave of the future. Starting with Beacon Hill Village in downtown Boston seven years ago, innovative non-profit “Aging in Place” organizations have sprung up to assist older residents stay in their homes—with services and assistance available on call—rather than go to nursing homes or assisted living centers. Andrea Cohen (pictured at right), a well-known and dynamic expert in developing innovative home care options and facilitating “naturally occurring retirement communities” will speak at the CAG meeting on November 10. She will provide Georgetowners with an overview of why this movement is occurring, how it is taking place and how it works. Ms. Cohen is a founder and CEO of HouseWorks (www.house-works.com), which helps initiate and provide pioneering partnerships for eldercare, including services to Beacon Hill.

Aging in Place organizations or “villages” usually originate with a core group of civic-minded residents in an existing cohesive community, and typically have 150 to 400 members, who pay $500 to $900 a year to underwrite an office and staff. The staff organizes volunteers and established service providers to offer transportation (grocery store, medical appointments), discounted service for home maintenance, volunteer assistance with odd jobs (bulb replacement, mattress flipping, delivering meals from a favorite restaurant), daily living services (personal trainer), and home health and social services (theater/lecture tours). Some groups have foundation or grant support to subsidize moderate or low-income members as well.

The CAG Black & White Masked Ball on the first Thursday in October drew 220 people to the beautiful Halcyon House terrace for cocktails with a panoramic view of the city at twilight. In gorgeous black and white finery, the group sported an amazing array of masks—from classic Venetian to elaborate feathers and plumes.
President’s Letter

Campus Plan Community Symposium

Everyone who cares about Georgetown (and I know everyone who is reading this newsletter does), needs to put Saturday, November 8 on their calendar for the first in a series of community meetings to discuss the 2010 ten-year campus plan for Georgetown University. The University has scheduled a day-long meeting—with break-out sessions—with residents to deliberate the complex topics of the institution’s diagram for the future.

Associate Vice President and Chief Benefits Officer, Charles De Santis, will head the campus plan process. The University has retained the New York architectural firm of CoopersRobinson as planning consultants. Representatives will be on hand at the meeting.

The day-long planning session is intended to integrate residential concerns and issues at the beginning of the process, and to head-off potential conflicts down the road. The meeting will begin with breakfast at 9:30 am at Duke Ellington School on the corner of 35th Street and Reservoir Road. At 10 am, an overview of the process will be presented, followed by Q&A. At 11:45 am and 1:15 pm there will be multiple small group break-out working lunch sessions. While the list of topics is still evolving, it will include such things as transportation/buses, enrollment caps and student housing. The group as a whole will reconvene at 2:30 pm to deliver the small group reports and have a wrap-up session.

Community leaders from CAG and the ANC have been working with University representatives for the past few months in an attempt to ease this upcoming process and prevent a repetition of the disruptive schism that occurred ten years ago. Community involvement in the process, coupled with a spirit of cooperation and understanding from both sides, will hopefully lead to a meeting of the minds and an amicable conclusion. This is one of the most important issues you can be involved in and you can make a difference. Set aside the date to attend. RSVP to the University at 687-3123 or GUCampusPlan@georgetown.edu.

Kudos for the Party of the 21st Century

Wow! What a night! Halcyon House was decked out to the nines as were all those who attended. The music was mesmerizing, the food was splendid, the people were beautiful and all for an important cause. Thank you Jennifer Altemus, chair of the Gala, Executive Director Betsy Cooley and all of the committee for creating a night to remember.

Georgetown Clean-Up Day

Please try to give another couple hours of your time on the following Saturday, November 15 and come to Clean-Up Day held in cooperation with Georgetown University on the west side of town. I grant you, it is incredibly unfortunate we have to do this. But we do. It’s very easy to say, “I didn’t dump that junk on the street, so I’m not going to pick it up”. But it’s our town now and in the future. Quality of life is much better if you don’t have to look at garbage defacing our landscape.

Be at Volta Park at 9 am to jump-start yourself with coffee and muffins, then grab a rake and gloves, and team up with a friend or someone you don’t know. It’s been an amazing experience over the last few years—spending a couple of hours with someone picking up trash can lead to interesting conversations and new friendships. Last spring, over two tons of debris was gathered by residents and students, and hauled out of town—Georgetown looked better for the effort. CAG Beautification chair Brenda Moorman says all equipment for the Clean-up is provided, including non-latex work gloves. Special treats for families participating will include “Save the World” wagons for kids to pull while gathering cans and bottles for recycling.

After work is done at noon, the celebration begins with a barbeque prepared by the famous Georgetown University Grilling Society. We extend our sincere thanks to Ray Danieli from the Office of Off Campus Student Life for coordinating the students’ participation and to Regina Knox Woods from the GU Hospital for donating funds for the barbeque and clean-up equipment.

—Denise R. Cunningham
The Magical Path

What does our Georgetown Waterfront Park have in common with Chartres Cathedral? They are both restorative places for the human spirit?

Yes, but the answer here is that both have a labyrinth. Chartres was built in the early thirteenth century. It was the beginning of the era of creating labyrinths to be followed on foot and not by eye. Probably at that time labyrinths had come to be seen as substitutes for long pilgrimages after the waning of the Crusades, but labyrinths existed way before the building of cathedrals in Europe. Legend has it that the dreaded Minotaur, a monster with the head of a bull and the body of a man, was housed in the labyrinth built by King Minos at Knossos in Crete.

About the same time the Greeks were building labyrinths, Native Americans were creating them with identical patterns—amazing, because there is no reason to believe there was any communication between these far-flung and disparate places.

There are labyrinths on small islands in the White Sea in Arctic Russia. The Egyptians had labyrinths. In early Scandinavian fishing communities, they were used to trap malevolent trolls in their coils thus ensuring a safe fishing expedition. They were reputed to baffle wolves and wolverines. And, of course, all over the world they represented a questing journey toward salvation and enlightenment, a pathway to God.

There is a difference between labyrinths and mazes although sometimes the differentiation gets blurred. The labyrinth at Knossos was probably a multicursal maze. Labyrinths do not try to trick you and get you lost. Mazes do. Labyrinths have a single, unicursal path to the center.

Cut in turf, marked by stones, or laid in tiles on the floor of cathedrals, they are what you want them to be. Paths to wherever you may want to go. They can be bewildering and infinitely complex; ours at the Waterfront Park is not. The last twenty years have seen a worldwide surge of interest in labyrinths. Modern mystics use them to achieve a contemplative state. Like meditation, walking among the turnings quiets the mind, making one lose track of direction and the outside world.

Labyrinth creators are interested in sacred geometry. They are fascinated by the mathematics, numerical ratios and sequences inherent in the design and the mythology and symbolism associated with them.

Here’s the paradox: there is no end to where labyrinths can lead you. One can get to the center, but that’s not what it is about. It’s not the shape, form or ratio of the labyrinth that gives resonance; it’s the act of walking it and the pattern that one walks that does that. The journey, not the arrival, matters.

Have you been down to walk ours yet? Who knows what you might find there.

—Edith Schafer
Guests streamed back into the spectacular house for a buffet dinner and descended the dramatic staircase to the studio ballroom (awash in special white and rose lighting) to dance—and enjoy the singers of the amazing Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra. CAG’s party was inspired by Truman Capote’s 1966 “Party of the Century” which feted Katherine Graham. CAG was pleased to have Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee as honorary chairs for the event.

Halcyon House owner John Dreyfuss officially welcomed everyone to his home, and introduced Denise Cunningham and Councilmember Jack Evans who made presentations to the evening’s special honorees: Frida Burling and Luca Pivato.

Denise said “It’s hard to know where to begin when you talk about Frida Burling. Frida has made such a valued impact on Georgetown, the District of Columbia and indeed the nation. Each and every one of us has been touched by her generosity of spirit and her joie de vivre.”

Accepting her award, Frida said “I feel like the grandmother or maybe the godmother of this Georgetown as I am now 93 years old, and have lived here for most of my life; 50 years on 29th Street, ever since I married Eddie Burling, before some of you were even born.” I notice “the wonderful arrival of so many young people with little ones in strollers—a joy to behold. We are a community, a neighborhood, and I truly believe that we are the luckiest people in the whole world.”

Denise introduced Luca Pivato as a “relative newcomer on the CAG scene. Luca joined our board two years ago, became co-chair of the Public Safety Committee—and shook things up! He hit the ground running and has helped transform and elevate this program. He is out there on the streets with the MPD at all hours of the night. He is in constant communication with our Securitas guards and our MPD reimbursable detail and Georgetown University.” Plus “he developed a method of tracking incidents and measuring the effectiveness of our program.” Luca responded by saying he was “honored to work with all the dedicated people at the Citizens Association and the ANC. You couldn’t pay enough money to have all these...
highly professional individuals working at the same organization. It’s fun and I’m happy to be part of CAG, happy to live in Georgetown and help make it the special place it is.”

Denise also thanked the many generous businesses and organizations who sponsored the Gala: Western Development Corporation, the lead sponsor of the festive evening, along with BB&T, Capital Restaurant Concepts, Clyde’s Restaurant Group, EastBanc, Georgetown University, Georgetown University Hospital, The Georgetown Retirement Residence, HSBC National Bank USA, M.C. Dean, Inc., Opus East L.L.C., Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., Refuel Consultants and The Georgetown Current.

Doc Scantlin coordinated the jitterbug dance contest, and, although some guests left to hear the vice presidential debate, most stayed on to dine, finalize auction bids and dance the beautiful night away. The merrymakers, led by the band’s “Carmen Miranda” in full costume, conga-line danced through the spectacular sculpture studio and some even made it to the “after party” at L2 Lounge.

Many thanks to Gala Chair, Jennifer Altemus, and her hardworking committee. It was a spectacular autumn evening with many people from all over Georgetown—along with embassies, Georgetown University, banks, GU Hospital, numerous well-known restaurants and businesses, our

Advisory Neighborhood Commission—coming together to get to know one another better and to support the Citizens Association of Georgetown.

Visit the CAG website at www.cagtown.org to see many more photos of the memorable evening.

—Betsy Cooley
New Bookstore Comes to Upper Georgetown

Presse Books opened in August at 1614 Wisconsin Avenue between Q and R Streets. The store is tucked into a small recessed area off the street.

The owner, Harvetta Asomoah, calls her shop an international bookstore. She carries foreign reading materials for children and adults, and her inventory includes books in Spanish, French and Italian and other language study materials. She is not focusing on the latest books or best sellers, but rather the shop carries an eclectic selection of art, design, fashion, cooking and literature for all ages.

Don’t go to Presse just for the books. There is a large collection of the most beautiful umbrellas I have ever seen. Some are just practical, and some are designer items made with exquisite materials inside and out. Other items include classical and jazz CDs, classic movies, audio books, foreign magazines and periodicals. Presse Bookshop is a very sweet store and the atmosphere is charming.

Hours are Monday - Friday 10 to 7, Saturday - Sunday 11 to 7. Call 338-1594 for more information.

—Anne Emmet

Family Saturdays at St. John’s Church

A series of five Saturday morning performances (Ideal for children under 7 years old) are being held at St. John’s Church at Potomac & O Streets. There will also be door prizes. 100% of any profits will be given to the Georgetown recovery fund to rebuild our neighborhood public library (http://www.dcpifoundation.org/georgetownrecovery.com) earmarked for the children’s room.

November 22 2008: 11:00 am Kaydee Puppets
January 10 2009: 10:30 am Oh Susanna
February 7 2009: TBA
March 7 2009: 10:30 am The Great Zucchini

Contact georgetownprojects@gmail.com to buy tickets via Paypal. Tickets are transferable. A family ticket for one performance is $25 (admits 2 adults and up to four siblings) and for the whole series is $125. Why buy the series ticket?—The space is limited so reserve early to get a spot.

—Shannon Pryor

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Reservations Suggested
The Volta Bureau, headquarters of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, welcomed over ninety CAG members for a reception and tour on October 22. Executive Director Alexander Graham (pictured) greeted visitors at the entrance of the imposing building, which was designated as a National Historic Landmark in 1974. Guests visited the lovely garden, enjoyed views from the rooftop terrace and perused fascinating historical displays. Staff and docents were on hand to provide additional information.

Midway through the evening, Executive Director Graham spoke informally to the crowd in the original library, pointing out their large conference table which was the actual workbench of Dr. Bell. Alex said that, although Bell is widely known as the inventor of the telephone, he was first and foremost focused on teaching deaf children how to speak. Both his mother and wife were deaf and he established a library “for the increase...of knowledge relating to the deaf.” Bell first used the carriage house behind his parents’ home (across the street) as his workshop and library. With funds from the Volta Prize (awarded to him by France for inventing the telephone - thus the name) and the sale of the patent for the phonograph record, Bell built the fireproof building to house his growing collection. Both Helen Keller and Anne Sullivan were at the groundbreaking in 1883.

The Volta Bureau building is unique in DC due to its “location on an elevated terrace and formal ‘academic revival’ design inspired by the Corinthian-columned Tempio Voltanio at Lake Como, Italy, which Dr. Bell admired.” Today, the Volta Bureau provides “a glimpse of the evolution of hearing technology and education techniques for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing who use spoken language,” according to Catherine Murphy, Director of Communications.

Graham explained that under the motto “advocating independence through listening and talking,” their most important issues are “newborn hearing screening and access to hearing assistive technologies.” Thirty-three babies are born with hearing loss each day in the US, and the association provides parents with information to work with children to develop listening and spoken language skills. Early detection of hearing loss can enable children to be “equipped with hearing aids or cochlear implants, and receive important early intervention services leading to a spoken language outcome.” He emphasized the importance of continuing the federally-mandated law passed in 2000 that every newborn be screened before leaving the hospital.

Graham and Director of Programs Judy Harrison, fielded numerous questions. He said their staff of twelve responds to calls and emails, hosts visitors, holds committee meetings and carries out legislative and legal advocacy through a Children’s Legal Advocacy Program. They offer certification for listening and spoken language specialists, and distribute more than $500,000 in financial aid each year.

They also have one of the largest collections of Dr. Bell’s works in the world, with the archives housed off-site. Graham reiterated their focus of “family-centric choices” for the deaf and hard of hearing. He answered inquiries about American sign language and lip-reading, saying a great part of his passion comes from growing up with a mother who became deaf in her adolescence, and who was an “ace lip-reader.” Harrison provided details on cochlear implants, noting that most insurance policies cover implants but not hearing aids—something aging boomers should try to change!

CAG President Denise Cunningham thanked Alexander Graham and his staff for their extraordinary hospitality.

—Tara Scopelliti
Secretary
City Recycling Curbside Pick-up Program Expanded

Great news! Curbside pickup will now accept more items for recycling than ever before. The types of plastics which can be recycled include:

- Plastic bags (grocery, produce and dry cleaning bags) should be gathered in one bag, separate from other recycled items. Newspapers, magazines and mail must still be put in paper bags, not plastic ones. Paper items put out in plastic bags slow down the recycling process at the processing plant because they must be removed by hand.

- Wide-mouth plastic containers such as mayonnaise and peanut butter jars, as well as margarine tubs and yogurt containers.

- Plastic drinking cups.

- Rigid plastic toys, five gallon water bottles, plastic flower pots, lawn furniture, plastic coolers, and damaged plastic recycling bins.

- In addition, milk and juice cartons, aerosol cans and medicine bottles, have been added to the new list of recyclables.

At this point, clear plastic “clamshell” containers such as those for fruit, produce and prepared food cannot be recycled. Also plastic eating utensils are on the no-recycle list as are Styrofoam products.

A brochure listing the new items has been mailed to all residents and the complete list can be found at www.recycle.dpw.dc.gov. Residents whose recyclables exceed their container can put additional items in a paper bag or a cardboard box. New recycling containers can be delivered to your door by calling #311.

—Brenda Moorman
Chair, CAG Beautification Committee
MAP OF GEORGETOWN
Limited, Hand-Numbered Edition ~ Four Color, 22" x 28" Offset Lithograph Print

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Is Your House in the Library of Congress?

The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) is a stunning collection documenting historic structures and sites throughout the United States—and your house may be one of them. Physical copies of all formal HABS records may be found in the Prints and Photographs Division Reading Room in the Library of Congress’ Madison Building. Fortunately, much of the collection is now accessible online, and includes measured drawings, narratives, and large-format photographs of facades (and in some cases even historic interiors). HABS, launched in 1933 during the Great Depression, was the brainchild of Charles E. Peterson of the National Park Service as a way to put one thousand out-of-work architects to work for ten weeks documenting “America’s antique buildings.” The collection became a permanent program of the National Park Service and has grown primarily through the summer hiring of students pursuing degrees in architecture and history, to include more than 35,000 structures.

Visit http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/collections/habs_haer/ to find out if your building is in the online collection and get copies of the information. The majority of properties in the HABS collection are catalogued by name, such as “Dumbarton House”, but in Georgetown many of them can be located by searching on your street name, such as “34th Street NW.” If your address doesn’t turn up, check neighboring properties to see if your house may appear in the background. Donations of documentation (photos, drawings and descriptions) that meet the exacting standards of the program are most welcome, according to Richard O’Connor of the National Park Service. He notes that an effort to document many Georgetown buildings occurred a decade ago, but few have been added since that time. The 75th anniversary of HABS is being celebrated with an exhibit at the Department of the Interior Museum, now through Nov. 12, as well as an all-day symposium about documentation at the Madison Building of the Library of Congress on November 14th.

—Louise Brodnitz
Historic Preservation & Zoning Committee

NEWSBYTES

Visit the new weekend café serving homemade Swedish delicacies and coffee on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 at the House of Sweden on the Georgetown waterfront....

A new art gallery called Lumas is coming to M Street near Kinko’s....Peek into the new Dascha Boudoir Boutique at 1029 31st Street for something special....Remodeled Marvelous Market has reopened on Wisconsin....Hugh Newell Jacobson is speaking at Nathans Community Lunch on Nov. 19 - call 338-2000 for reservations....

A two-alarm fire has closed Ristorante Piccolo on 31st Street.

11th Annual Hyde Auction
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“After thirty years, the dream is realized with a new National Park.” – Charles Percy Rockefeller, grandson of the Waterfront Park advocate Senator Charles Percy, addressed the crowd gathered at the dedication. Photo by Walter Groszyk.

Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park President Bob vom Eigen introduces the Mayor at the ceremony. In recognition of Senator Percy’s role, Vom Eigen announced the intention to have the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and K Street renamed in honor of Senator Percy. Photo by Betsy Cooley.

Ann Satterthwaite cuts the ribbon, flanked by Mayor Fenty and Councilman Evans, to officially open the park. Pictured at left of Mayor Fenty, Mary Bomar, Director of National Park Service said [this park is the] “last link in the necklace of green.” DC Delegate to Congress Eleanor Holmes Norton, shown to right of Jack Evans, called the park “a waterfront treasure.” Photo by Walter Groszyk.
Citizens Association of Georgetown
1365 Wisconsin Ave NW, Suite 200
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202 337-7313
Fax: 202 333-1088
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Website: www.cagtown.org

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Trees for Georgetown
Betsy Emes
Newsletter
Tara Scopelliti, Editor
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Volta Park News

Habitat Garden
The Georgetown Garden Club’s Habitat Garden continues to be a special area in the park and has recently benefited from a partnership with DC’s RiverSmart Home Project, a program which offers incentives to homeowners interested in reducing stormwater pollution from their properties. Volta Park is the site of a Ward 2 “home”. Please visit the Habitat Garden and see firsthand some of the enhancements offered to the garden: a rain garden, a new shade tree that will arrive this fall, pervious pavers leading up to the blocked-off tennis court steps, and new native bayscape plantings to compliment what was already in the garden. Eleven new trees were planted in Volta Park in October. Thanks to Casey Trees and the volunteers who helped with the planting.

Playground
The Volta Park Playground is used by schools, camps, neighbors and pool patrons, and provides a wonderful, safe recreation area for kids from all over the city. This summer, we replenished the toys in the sandbox, and children will continue to enjoy the playground all fall and winter. The site manager for the Volta Park Recreation Center is Shirley DeBrow who can be reached at 282-0380. The hours of operation are Monday-Friday from 11:30 am - 8 pm (subject to change with the season). Ms. DeBrow has organized activities for each day of the week, for children ranging from 4 to 12 years of age. These activities include soccer, flag football, basketball, kickball, and tennis. The Friends of Volta Park has also formed a committee to work on the maintenance and upkeep of the playground area.

Contact Danielle Dooley (dgdooley@gmail.com) or Patty Housman (Patty Housman@msn.com) for more information.

Eco Tour Visits
In September, participants of the DC 8 Ward Eco Tour travelled by bike and Clean Transportation Buses throughout the city’s 8 wards, and made a stop at Volta Park. For more information on the Eco Tours visit www.wholensnessforhumanity.com.

Patsy Guyer
Friends of Volta Park lost a beloved and treasured founding Board Member on August 31, 2008. Patsy Jo Guyer, known to many neighbors and merchants, was a resident of Georgetown for over 30 years and was with us from the very beginning of our efforts to restore Volta Park. She worked tirelessly as a steward of the park, believing in its importance as a community gathering place. She loved children and dogs and worked to make sure that both would have a place to play in the park. She co-chaired the Silent Auction committee for many years and delighted in the progress we made in beautifying the park. She was a neighbor and friend of Volta Park in the truest sense of the word. She will be missed.

—Mimsy Lindner
email: Mothermims@aol.com
President, Friends of Volta Park
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### November Community Events and Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. Nov. 3</td>
<td>Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation, 35th &amp; Volta Streets; (agenda available at <a href="http://www.anc2E.com">www.anc2E.com</a>); call 338-7427 for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Nov. 8</td>
<td>Family Tasting Series: <strong>Time for Tea</strong>; 12:30 - 2:30 pm; Dumbarton House, 2715 Q Street; $15 per person; advance payment required; <a href="mailto:rsvp@DumbartonHouse.org">rsvp@DumbartonHouse.org</a>, or call 337-2288 x450.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat. Nov. 8</td>
<td>Campus Plan Community Symposium; 9:30 am - 4 pm; Duke Ellington School, 35th Street and Reservoir Road; RSVP to 687-3123 or <a href="mailto:gucampusplan@georgetown.edu">gucampusplan@georgetown.edu</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. Nov. 10</td>
<td>Citizens Association of Georgetown Meeting: “Aging in Place;” reception at 7 and program at 7:30 pm; St. John’s Church Parish Hall, Potomac and O Streets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Nov. 12</td>
<td>The Value of History: Twentieth Century Silver Collecting; 6:45 pm; Tudor Place, 1644 31st Street; Advance reservations necessary; member $8, nonmember $10; call 965-0400.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Nov. 15</td>
<td>CAG GU Clean-up Day; 9 am - Noon; Volta Park, 34th Street and Volta Place; morning coffee and muffins; post clean-up Georgetown Grilling Society barbeque. (Rain Date: Sunday, Nov. 16).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Nov. 18</td>
<td>Georgetown Library Community Design Meeting; 6:30 - 8:30 pm; St. John’s Church, Potomac and O Streets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Nov. 26</td>
<td>Partnership for Problem Solving (PPS) Meeting Sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department to discuss community issues at 7 pm; St. John’s Church, Potomac and O Streets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Dec. 2</td>
<td>Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation, 35th &amp; Volta Streets; (agenda available at <a href="http://www.anc2E.com">www.anc2E.com</a>); call 338-7427 for more information.</td>
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