PCA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 1
7:30 PM
AT THE PALISADES RECREATION CENTER

The March General Membership meeting will feature a presentation by Earl Eutsler, of the D.C. Urban Forestry Office, and representatives of PEPCO regarding tree-maintenance issues. Be there!

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PEPCO Maintenance Resumed

Trees Will Be Focus of March 1 General Membership Meeting

The status of the beloved Palisades tree cover, and the care and maintenance provided by PEPCO in particular, will be the lead topic at the March 1 General Membership meeting. D.C. Urban Forester Earl Eutsler, long a friend of the Palisades, will speak on the overall state of our trees and address recent significant tree-painting initiatives. PEPCO representatives will also appear, and will shed light on new developments in the long and occasionally contentious relationship between PEPCO and the PCA, particularly with regard to "legacy" trees along MacArthur Boulevard and the trolley right-of-way.

PEPCO Resumes Maintenance along the Boulevard.
Following a meeting with PCA leaders, PEPCO has resumed regular line maintenance affecting trees in the Palisades, including those along the Boulevard. The tree shown here, showing the classic "Boulevard peace sign," is at MacArthur and Cathedral.

File Photo.
Out and About

• **The Neighborhood Farmers Market is Open!** Every Sunday morning on V Street next to the Safeway. From 10am. [http://www.palisadesfarmersmarket.com](http://www.palisadesfarmersmarket.com).

• **Thru Mar 7**: "Winter Folly": A juried exhibition of photographs created by Photoworks students at Glen Echo Park. Over 30 photographers represented. Exhibit hours Saturdays, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. and Sundays and Mondays, 1 p.m. – 8 p.m. Contact Gayle Rothschild at gaylesue@me.com or visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org).

• **Wed Mar 2, 6:30**: Screening of the documentary "Waiting for Superman" followed by a discussion with former chancellor of DC public schools Michelle Rhee, founder and CEO of StudentsFirst. Free and open to the public in the Ward Building (just off Ward Circle), Room 1. Free parking at the Katzen Arts Center and the Nebraska parking lot.

• **Sat Mar 5, 3 pm**: “Potions for Piano” a new series of family music and magic shows presented by the Washington Conservatory of Music in Washington Conservatory’s recital hall. Box office on day of show: (301) 634-2250. Information weekdays: (301) 320-2770.

• **Mar 1 - April 17, Sat 1–4 pm, Sun and Mon 1 – 8 pm**: Mirror To The World: Documentary Photography 2011. Mirror To The World celebrates narrative photography -- story telling in photos and words -- through some of the best in documentary photography by a cutting-edge group of not-yet-famous photographers. Opening reception Fri, Mar 18, 6 – 9 pm. Visit [www.glenechophotoworks.org](http://www.glenechophotoworks.org) for more information.

• **Sat Mar 12, 2 pm**: Seed Planting Seminar, at the Palisades (V Street) Library. Details, see page 5.

• **Sat Mar 12, 3 pm**: “The Vanishing Viola,” one of a new series of family music and magic shows presented by the Washington Conservatory of Music in Washington Conservatory’s recital hall. Box office on day of show: (301) 634-2250. Information weekdays: (301) 320-2770.

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Palisades Pharmacy

Palisades Pharmacy is the product of old fashioned service combined with a community pharmacy and the latest addition to the Knowles/ Brookville Pharmacy family. We are dedicated to providing a unique blending of technology and knowledge for traditional, alternative and complimentary therapies in an automated world.

Palisades Pharmacy offers the following:

• Compounding for customized medications that are not commercially available

• Homeopathic remedies for problematic ailments.

• Nutritional and fitness support for active lifestyles including herbal supplements and advice with an experienced staff.

• Optometry featuring environmentally safe products.

• Pharmacist owned and operated.

• Home delivery and shipping.

• Hassle free prescription transfers.

We are confident that with 35 years of combined pharmacy and nutritional experience, the level of service your family and patients will receive cannot be surpassed. Please stop by and experience the traditional therapy, personal service and wellness as it as meant to be, at Palisades Pharmacy. We’re located at 5185 MacArthur Blvd, four doors down to the right of Starbucks.
From the President

I want to thank those of you who braved the weather on February 1st and came to the general PCA meeting to hear Mayor Gray. The Mayor spent most of his time explaining, in detail, the severity of the pending budget shortfall for both this coming year and in years to come. It was clear from his presentation that the city is facing challenging economic times and that bridging the budget shortfalls will require some tough decisions by our elected officials. While I am sure we would all have preferred a more positive report on the city’s fiscal health, I appreciate that the Mayor did not attempt to sugar coat things.

I am pleased to announce that Earl Eutsler from the DC Department of Urban Forestry will be coming to the March 1st general meeting. Earl will provide an update on Palisades’ activities pertaining to trees, particularly in regards to the recent initiative that has resulted in hundreds of new trees being planted in our neighborhood over the past few years. Many, if not most, of these trees are a result of various neighborhood benefit packages fought for and won by Palisades residents, and have been planted at no cost to the city or the Palisades Community. Please join us to hear Earl’s update on all this great work.

Earl will be joined by representatives from PEPCO who discuss Palisades’ tree issues as they relate to the power company’s service. This will be a key opportunity for the residents of the Palisades to learn more about how the DC Department of Urban Forestry and PEPCO work together to maintain and trim our city trees. I, along with some other members of the PCA board, met with PEPCO last month and came away with a much clearer understanding of their relationship. As you may have noticed, PEPCO is back to doing its much needed routine tree trimming in the neighborhood, and we have been given assurances that the legacy trees along MacArthur Blvd will not undergo the drastic pruning that was planned a couple of years ago. I would encourage all those that have concerns and/or questions about PEPCO's tree trimming to attend this meeting. I think you will come away with a clearer understanding, and hopefully a better feeling, of things as they relate to trees and power lines and PEPCO in our neighborhood.

Once again, I am asking for help in recruiting new members to the PCA, so please solicit friends and neighbors to join and support our efforts. Also, make sure to mark on your calendar for the April 9th clean-up day at Fletcher’s Boat house, as well as the April 16th Easter Egg hunt in the Park. These are just two more reasons to support – and cherish – the PCA!

-- Bill Slover
PCA President

"We have been given assurances that the legacy trees along MacArthur Blvd will not undergo the drastic pruning that was planned a couple of years ago."

Out and About (continued from previous page)

• **Sat Mar 19, 8 pm**: The Gorenman Beethoven Project, AU Katzen Arts Center. Internationally acclaimed concert pianist and AU Artist in Residence Yuliya Gorenman presents the final in a series of eight concerts devoted to performing the complete Beethoven sonatas.
• **Tues Mar 22, 7-9pm**: PCA solar energy group meets at Library. Information: Steve Waller, 202-248-0502.
• **Sat Mar 26, 10-4**: **BIG USED BOOK SALE**, Palisades Library, 4901 V Street. Thousands of good condition volumes, most for just $1. Contact Elinor Tucker at (202) 966-2873, elinor_tucker@yahoo.com, or Kathy Lanigan at (202) 362-4492, KathyLanigan@gmail.com.
What do the Key School PTA, the Palisades Farmers Market, Palisades Village and the Palisades Library have in common? They each have received critical financial support from the Palisades Community Fund, a special charitable and educational endowment fund established and operated by the Palisades Citizens Association. And there’s a long list of other organizations here in the Palisades that have also benefited greatly from the Fund’s support.

The Palisades Community Fund was established by the PCA in December 1995 as a grant-making committee of the PCA. The early founders, who included such long-time PCA stalwarts as Dick England, Doug Ormerod, Peggy Pagano and Bill Smith, sought to create an “endowment” for the Palisades that, over time, could provide substantial benefit to our community by affording educational, beautification and related assistance to Palisades residents.

The PCF finances projects benefiting the Palisades community that promote charitable activities, cultural enrichment, community education and service, economic improvements and environmental enhancements.

Grants by the Fund have supported a variety of local projects for schools, the Palisades Branch library, beautification of MacArthur Boulevard, landscaping at the Rec Center, building lockers for the local fire station and constructing the community information kiosk at the Safeway. Discovery Creek, the Woodrow Wilson girls’ crew, the Lab School – these and other fine neighborhood organizations have benefited from the Fund’s assistance.

The Fund’s financial assistance has been essential in the formation of new and growing neighborhood initiatives.

For example, a grant to the Palisades Village as it was just attempting to get off the ground was critical to its early efforts, and allowed the Village a starting platform from which it has grown into a thriving organization with good prospects for future growth. "Early support by the Palisades Community Fund was crucial to the launch of our volunteer services for older neighbors," says Palisades Village President Andy Mollison.

Likewise, early support by the PCF was critical in getting the Palisades Farmers Market up and running. As any of you with a taste for fresh, locally grown vegetables, cheeses and flowers can attest, the Farmers Market has since become a fixture of Sunday morning life in the Palisades. Barbara Elsas, a co-founder of the Market along with Chris Baer and Spence Spencer, says, “At the outset, PCF support was absolutely essential. We relied on those funds initially for our licensing and permitting fees, signage, and other start-up costs, since we were unable to charge these fees off to our growers. Now that we’ve established ourselves, the growers are happily shouldering those costs. We simply could not have done this without PCF support!”

Other PCF grants have enriched the ongoing efforts of such well-established neighborhood groups as the Key School PTA, the MacArthur Beautification Group, and the Friends of Palisades Park. Sometimes, even a small grant can make a big difference. Nick Keenan, of the Key School PTA, applied for a small grant to start a weather station at Key School. The weather station is now fully functional, the kids get to work on it, and it’s even connected to the Weather Underground, which offers very local weather readings and keeps track of our local weather history. (You didn’t know this? Go to wunderground.com for Washington D.C. and click on “Station Select.” Cool!)

So, when you’re dialing in the “micro” forecast for your barbeque this summer, think of the Palisades Community Fund. When you’re sitting in Palisades Park on a summer evening watching a classic movie outdoors, think of the Palisades Community Fund.
Notes from the Palisades Community

Block Captains Still Needed for Palisades Neighborhood Watch. Additional block captains are needed for the 200-plus blocks that comprise the Palisades within the boundaries of Loughboro, Potomac, Canal, and Foxhall down to the intersection of lower MacArthur.

Block captains compile a contact information list of neighbors on the block and act as the point person to disseminate alerts regarding crimes in the area. They distribute a contact information query to neighbors on their street (either by e-mail or in literal mailboxes) and gather this information to assemble a list of names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses for those living on the block; then the list is distributed to each neighbor on the block. (There is a standard form that can be used to gather the info as well as a standard neighbor information sheet; both are available via e-mail.) A second person on the block to act as co-captain is a good idea as a backup when the block captain is out of town.

Thanks to those who have stepped forward to represent their block!

To volunteer as a block captain or to find out more about the program and the duties of block captains, contact Karen Schaar Whale at schaarkaren@gmail.com or by phone at 202-244-3040.

Seed Planting Seminar at the Palisades (V Street) Library. On Saturday, March 12th, at 2 p.m., learn how easy it is to grow plants from seed! Have a myriad of beautiful, delicious varieties grown fresh in your garden or on your window sill, and the fun of helping them germinate and thrive.

The Palisades Garden Association, in coordination with the Library Staff, will host an hour-long program. We’ll focus upon those early spring favorites, salad greens and herbs, and survey the Library’s gardening books. There will be free seeds and supplies and a variety of seedlings to take home, along with plenty of gardening tips and Q and A. Learn about the neighborhood garden club, and win a beautiful T-shirt!! Welcome to all gardening (and culinary) enthusiasts, including beginners who would like an excuse to play in the dirt, -- er, potting soil.

A Force for Good (continued from previous page)

Community Fund. When you’re scooping up garden-fresh tomatoes or delicious artisanal goat cheese at the Farmers Market, think of the Palisades Community Fund.

Fund co-Chairs Ellen Maxwell and Margie Palm and their fellow PCF Board members are pro-active. “We want the Fund to serve as a catalyst for new, creative initiatives that will enhance the Palisades experience,” they say. “People who come to us with their ideas benefit not only from the financial support that the Fund can provide, but from the ability to network with others who may have similar ideas on the boards, and have their ideas vetted by experienced and capable neighborhood partners.” They point to numerous instances where good ideas have been sharpened and developed into effective and successful initiatives that have benefitted the entire neighborhood.

The PCF approves grant requests twice a year. The next application deadline is coming up -- April 30! Do you have an idea for the neighborhood that you would like to pursue? Do you need a worthwhile neighborhood project for your group, class or troop? Visit the PCF’s page on the PCA website, at http://palisadesdc.org (click on “Palisades Community Fund”). Contact Ellen or Margie and let them guide you in fleshing out your ideas and applying for a grant. And mention the Fund to your friends and neighbors – it might be just the thing they’ve been searching for!

The vision of the founders of the PCF has been amply realized. All told, since its establishment in 1995, the Fund has distributed an astounding $130,000 in support of new and ongoing neighborhood initiatives! For further information regarding the grant application process, or if you would like to support the Fund, simply visit the website and get started!
Co-Founder Alice Stewart Reports

Hillcrest-Palisades Partnership Gets New Leadership

Rejoice!!!! Past-PCA President Penny Pagano, and Robin Marlin, Hillcrest activist and ANC Commissioner, have joined forces and are now heading up the Palisades-Hillcrest Partnership, which has been going on now for nearly 15 years! Penny introduced Robin at the last PCA General Membership meeting, when Mayor Gray was our featured speaker. Of course we had a good turnout that night, and to my surprise there were several in the audience who did not know about the partnership, so I thought as a co-founder and now “emeritus” person, that I would give a little background.

The partnership began in 1996-7 when Miles Steele from Hillcrest and I met through the Federation of Citizens Associations. We were both delegates from our neighborhood associations to the Federation, and realized that we lived in opposite corners of the city. With the blessing and encouragement of our own associations, we decided to get comfortable and used to crossing town, getting to know each other’s neighborhoods first by attending each others’ meetings, and then by planning annual events for the residents of both neighborhoods to come together. Our shared interests related to the environment and the arts.

In 2001 we formed “Neighbors Through ART” to focus more on the performing, visual, literary and even the culinary arts! We were fortunate to have occasionally gotten small grants from the Palisades Community Fund, from Hillcrest, from the DC Arts and Humanities Commission, and from the Humanities Council. And we were and are thrilled that a core of enthusiastic volunteers developed on both sides of the river. Penny and Robin have been involved and supportive of the partnership from the start.

Over the years we organized events such as a joint art exhibit, a tour of the Arboretum, a musicale, a community service event, a museum tour, and a gala reception at the German Embassy for our 10th anniversary in November of 2007. Our two most mixed-media events were a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Brown vs. Board of Education decision in 2004, and “Diagonal Voices/Echoes,” a standing-room-only show as part of the DC Fringe Festival in 2006. These involved poets, a panel, original choreography, and (drumroll, please) the presentation of eight original portraits by our respective artists of outstanding long-term residents in our communities. The cross-town art began as a one-day effort when Hillcrest artist John Hudson came to teach Key School 5th graders how to illustrate their writing in connection with one of our events. But it has grown into something much more sustained, namely that one of our own portrait artists, Virginia Clark (“Ginny”) Levy has been teaching a painting class at the Senior Wellness Center in Hillcrest for several years.

As across-town friendships evolved, so did the tradition of a group from Hillcrest coming to march in our 4th of July Parade, and of Palisades residents going to the Francis Gregory (Hillcrest Branch) Library for their annual chili cook-off and to Hillcrest’s annual June Garden Tour. As expected, through this partnership, there have been some great and memorable times, many laughs, and the joys of new friendships are what have meant the most to the participants. We in NW-DC are happily connected with other Washingtonians in SE-DC, and for those of us who have been involved, DC truly has become “ONE CITY.”

Stay tuned to see what Penny and Robin will come up with in the way of joint activities. In the meantime, we hope that some people from Hillcrest will come to our April 9th clean-up day, and that Palisades residents will want to attend the 16th annual Hillcrest Garden tour which will be in June. Detailed information about these and other events will be announced in future newsletters and on our respective list-serves. Many of our programs have included children and young families, but know that all are welcome to participate in anything we do.

--- Alice Stewart

Palisades Farmers’ Market EVERY Sun 9 am-1 pm between Safeway & Bassin’s

New vendors and our faithful ones show up in all weather! Hopefully, some winter root veggies will be available this Sunday, along with Everona Sheep Cheese, Betty's Salsa & Chips, Simply Delicious Cheese Cakes & Bakery, Harvest Culinary Specials, All Things Olive.

Thanks for your support! See you on Sunday!!
Huge Library Book Sale Set for March 26th

Please mark your calendars and join us for our HUGE annual used book sale on Saturday, March 26, from 10 am to 4:00 pm on the 2nd floor of the library. Proceeds will benefit the library’s special programs, materials, and beautification.

Most likely you are already familiar with our downstairs sale room across from the Circulation Desk; but you may not be aware of the huge collection of used books we have upstairs. This sale is the once-a-year occasion when we open our second-floor sorting room to the public.

We have thousands of books of all types, most priced at $1 each. We will also have a “Bargain Room” where all books are 10 cents each. Our books are well organized for easy browsing in the areas you most enjoy. Fiction, mysteries, and classics are alphabetized so you can find your favorite authors, and nonfiction books are organized by topic, e.g., history, biographies, sports, science, government & politics, etc.

Don’t miss this special community event. We hope to see you there!

Aircraft Noise Committee Reports

There’s Nothing New Under the Sun . . . .

Or in the US Congress. Recent media and listserv articles have gone into new initiatives in Congress to add new destinations for direct flights from Washington Reagan National Airport (DCA).

From a noise standpoint, this isn’t all bad.

Your PCA Aircraft Noise Committee has excellent relationships with the working levels at the airport and FAA-Tower, TRACON, and Headquarters. Unfortunately, this is less true at the FAA political-appointee level, or in the Congress.

Last August, we sent the following message to Mary Hynes, an Arlington County Board Member and Chairman of the COG Aviation Policy Committee:

A voice crying out in the wilderness.

Senate and House consideration of the FAA Reauthorization Bill has brought out the recurring Kabuki dance. Midwestern members want nonstop flights from Reagan National to their states or districts. Local members, citizens, and airport officials go ballistic citing perimeter, slots, capacity.

My opinion is that Metropolitan Washington citizens’ major concerns are disturbance, not distance; noise, not numbers; and quality, not quantity. The same airplanes (Airbus or Boeing), with the same engines (General Electric, Pratt & Whitney, or Rolls Royce), making the same noise, that now fly non-stop to or from Dallas (within perimeter) also fly non-stop to or from Los Angeles (outside perimeter). And Memphis or San Francisco-Chicago or Seattle. Why not cities in between?

Numbers are constrained by airport capacity and passenger demand. Noise can be constrained by flight paths (10 mile river routes) and flight procedures (steep departures and continuous descent arrivals).

The COG Aviation Policy Committee should take the lead in alleviating our quality problems. I’d like a piece of the action.

Mat Thorp
DC Citizens Representative
MWCOG Aviation Policy Committee
Chairman, Aircraft Noise Committee
Palisades Citizens Association

At the General Meeting, Tuesday, 3/1/11, we’ll dicuss the the aircraft noise situation and ask for political help from PCA members and other residents.

-- Mat Thorp
Chairman
Aircraft Noise Committee
Neighbors, did you know that now you can join the PCA, renew your membership, or make an important donation to support the PCA’s work—all via PayPal! Instead of writing checks and licking stamps, joining and supporting the PCA is now as easy as pressing a button or two! A few clicks of the mouse, and you’re done! For details, simply go to the PCA website, at http://www.palisadesdc.org, and follow the easy instructions you’ll find there. It’s a snap—try it today!

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