

# The Acorn

Winter 2014

## Catania to Speak at Annual Spring Membership Meeting on April 2

The annual spring membership meeting for the Woodley Park Community Association will be held at 7:30 pm on Wednesday April 2, 2014, at Stanford University located at 2661 Connecticut Avenue, NW.

We are pleased to host Councilmember David Catania as our guest speaker for this meeting. The Councilmember chairs the committee on education. He has been responsive to WPCA concerns about Oyster School.

Also at the meeting we will elect a new at large Board member. Barbara Ioanes was serving as an at-large member, but the position became vacant when she was elected Vice-President. The Board appointed Gasper Martinez to fill in until such time as a membership meeting occurred. Per our bylaws,



the members will need to fill the seat by election. Additional nominations can be made at the meeting. See you there!

## Changes for Oyster-Adams School? by John Goodman

There are big changes coming at Oyster-Adams Bilingual School. Or maybe not. We'll see, but there's lots going on.

Late last year, Mayor Gray appointed an advisory committee to look into school boundary, feeder and related questions city-wide, with the goal of implementing changes in the 2015-16 school year.

Charter schools have grown. Some regular public schools are overcrowded or at capacity (like the Oyster building), while others are underutilized. One way to address this at the elementary school level is to re-draw the boundaries of individual school districts, changing the "neighborhood school" for many families. To deal with this problem in middle and high schools, feeder patterns could be changed. For example, Oyster alums now can go to Deal and Wilson, both of which are overcrowded. The process that is now underway could change that.

Last spring, an Oyster-Adams parent-faculty committee suggested various alternatives to the DCPS

Chancellor for changing the school's bilingual program. One option was moving that program elsewhere and making the Oyster building a regular elementary school. While it is not clear whether these recommendations will be considered in this ongoing process, it's hard to see how boundary and feeder issues can be resolved without a decision on the fate of the bilingual program.

WPCA has been — and will continue to be — involved with its members and with the decision-makers on these issues. At a meeting last November, the Association adopted a resolution expressing its commitment to maintaining Oyster-Adams as a school in the neighborhood that serves neighborhood children and that offers the current bilingual education program.

Of course, we want to know what you think. Please provide opinions, suggestions etc to the Chair of the WPCA Oyster-Adams Committee, Rob Meisnere (meisnere@yahoo.com).

## To Shred, or Not To Shred? by Paul Poe

As tax season approaches, shredding sensitive bank information or employee pay stubs is a smart idea. However, if you habitually shred paper that doesn't contain personal information, you should think twice before dropping that junk mail into the shredder.

It turns out that shredded paper is not so great when it comes to recycling. Shredded paper is less desirable to paper mills than intact paper because the shredding process shortens paper fibers, making them weak. When paper is recycled whole, paper fibers remain long and strong – providing a product that is much easier to recycle into a wider variety of products.

Quite often, businesses and consumers shred non-sensitive documents that should be put directly in the



recycling bin. Doing this reduces the quality of the paper, thus lessening its value on the open market.

Only shred documents that contain sensitive information, which include bank statements, pay stubs, investment transactions, pre-approved credit card applications, medical records, tax forms, and documents containing credit card and social security numbers.

Do not shred general mail,

junk mail, folders, office paper and documents, greeting cards, books and magazines. Particles of loose shredded paper cannot be recycled directly and require special attention. While DC's Department of Public Works does not have a written policy about how residences are to dispose of shredded paper, it would be best if it is placed in a paper bag (NOT PLASTIC) and put in the recycle bin.

*The Acorn* is published by WPCA and delivered free of charge to WPCA members and others in the Woodley Park community.

We welcome your comments, suggestions and submissions. Contact us: [wpcadc@aol.com](mailto:wpcadc@aol.com) Website: [www.wpcaonline.org](http://www.wpcaonline.org)

## Woodley Runs on Dunkin' by Barbara Ioanes

Dunkin' Donuts returned to Woodley Park in cheese breakfast sandwich, and chicken and December. A longtime favorite of residents tuna salad sandwiches.

when it was located beneath Baskin Robbins, it now occupies the space formerly known as Café International, at 2633 Connecticut Avenue.

Residents seem happy to have Dunkin' back on the block. In addition to donuts, Dunkin' features sandwiches and some of their best sellers are the egg, bacon and



Dunkin' has muffins, bagels, hash browns and a variety of drinks. Folks like their coffee and hot chocolate, and their cooler stocked with cold drinks and milk is popular as well. They are open seven days a week from 6 am to 9 pm.

### Successful Holiday Party Held on December 18, 2013

The Woodley Park Community Association held its annual Holiday Party on the evening of December 18th at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel.



CM Cheh and friend.

This year's Holiday Party featured a number of tasty treats, as well as an open bar for WPCA members and their guests. We welcomed over 200 members and their families. Among our special guests were Councilmembers David Grasso and Mary Cheh.

New this year, we asked our members to bring canned food items to help the less fortunate in our community. The WPCA collected almost 200 pounds of food to donate to Martha's Table, a



community service organization in Washington, DC.

### Membership Form

Membership in WPCA is free of charge, but we seek contributions from members to cover the cost of our activities, including picnics, holiday parties, clean-out days and other programs. We need your support to continue them. If you're not currently a member, consider joining today. If your membership is expiring soon, please renew.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount    \$25    \$50    \$75    \$100    Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations to the WPCA are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Please make your check payable to Woodley Park Community Association and send it to WPCA, Membership Desk, P.O. Box 4852, Washington, DC 20008. You can also join or renew your membership online at <http://www.wpcaonline.org/Join>.

## Salon Roi's Marilyn Mural by Barbara Ioanes

Like the Eye in the Great In 2001, the neighborhood arrived in WPCA by Marilyn contributed Monroe. But how did she funds and John come to be here? Bailey returned

Roi Barnard and his partner Charles Stinson established Marilyn to her original beautiful image. The occasion was marked with a celebration of the mural's renovation and an unveiling of the bronze plaque, mounted on the façade of 2602 Connecticut Avenue.

The final stage of the restoration was the illumination of the mural at night, which was part of John Bailey's vision for his renovation. Starwood Urban funded the lighting installation, and Chipotle Mexican Grill



agreed to provide the on-going electricity. In 2007, Roi sold the salon to Daiva Kasteckaite, who added a myriad of spa treatments. Roi continues to work at Salon Roi and keeps a vigil eye on Marilyn.

Over the years, Marilyn has received face-lifts, and eventually needed to be refurbished.

## Acorn Advertising

The WPCA accepts advertisements to run in the *Acorn*. For more information about placing your ad, please email [PWVBru-soe@gmail.com](mailto:PWVBru-soe@gmail.com).

PAGE	SIZE IN INCHES	RATE
	2½ x 2 3/8	\$175
	3½ x 2	\$200
	2½ x 4½	\$275
	5 x 2 3/8	\$295
¼ PAGE	5 x 3 ¾	\$375
½ PAGE	5 x 7½	\$595
FULL PAGE	10 x 7½	\$895

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## Summer Picnic to be Held on June 14, 2014 at Woodley Playground by Sarah Taber

Are you thoroughly done with the arctic blasts and polar Vortex, not to mention the icy sidewalks and short days? Think summer and mark your calendars now for the Annual WPCA Summer Picnic on June 14th from 4 to 7:30 pm at the Woodley Park Playground (on the 3000 block of Cortland Place).

As always, this popular event is enjoyed by everyone in the com-

munity. The park itself provides a beautiful opportunity to experience the first breezes of summer, not yet invaded by mosquitoes and blazing heat. Plan to spend some time talking with old friends and making new ones, while enjoying delicious grilled foods and salads, lemonade and cookies.

The WPCA hopes you can join in on the festivities. Volunteers are always greatly needed and appreciated to prepare and staff the picnic. If interested in showing off your grill skills and charm, have a talent that would engage children such as face painting or would



like to volunteer in any other way with the picnic, please contact Sarah Taber at [destge@yahoo.com](mailto:destge@yahoo.com), or any other member of the WPCA Executive Committee.



## President's Report by Peter W. Brusoe

I wanted to thank everyone for electing me to serve you as their president. We are so lucky to have had someone as passionate and hardworking as Bill Menczer serving as President for the past three years, and I am grateful for his work and leadership in ensuring a smooth transition.

As you can see from this issue of the Acorn there are a number of events coming up including our annual spring clean-up and our summer picnic. We also have our spring membership meeting. I hope that we will see many of you will take the time at these events.

We have recently addressed a number of issues that have emerged:

1) Accessory Dwelling Units: I testified before the Zoning Commission concerning the proposal on Accessory Dwelling Units. Based on the feedback we had received from WPCA members, we testified in favor of allowing ADUs as a matter of right throughout Woodley Park.

2) Oyster School: As described on page 1, Oyster School has been the subject of an ongoing debate. The WPCA has adopted a resolution that Oyster should remain as a neighborhood school and maintain the bilingual program. We have formed a committee to lead point on this important issue for the neighborhood.

3) Metro Bus Stops: We have advocated for modifying where the 96 bus stops on Cathedral Avenue.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

***A special thanks to  
Stanford University,  
Ace Hardware,  
Lebanese Taverna and  
the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel  
for their support of WPCA  
in recent months.***

## Getting to Know Your ANC Commissioners: Spotlight on Jeff Kaliel

Since 1974, Washingtonians have been represented by dedicated community volunteers on their advisory neighborhood commission or ANC. ANCs help to guide many aspects of the DC experience, from the condition of our parks, to traffic, and what hours an establishment can serve alcohol. Woodley Park is served by four ANC commissioners. We asked them to answer some questions to help get to know them better. The three who responded wanted us to make sure that we let the community know that they are always glad to hear from their constituents and contact information can be found at <http://anc3c.org/commissioners/>.

**Name:** Jeff Kaliel, 3C03.

**Occupation:** Lawyer, focusing on consumer class actions.

**How long have you lived here?** About 5 years.

**Hometown:** San Diego.

**What do you see as the biggest issue facing Woodley park?** Right now, the discussion regarding Oyster's future is the most important issue. Oyster is a crucial part of our community, and we need to do what we can to strengthen it and keep it right here in Woodley Park.

**Any thoughts on solving the parking problem?** It may be necessary to shrink the Residential Parking Permit zones in order to help alleviate the "driving to the Metro" problem, which tends to fill up parking on residential streets close to metro stops.

**What do you hope to accomplish during your term of of-**

**ice?** I'd like, first and foremost, to respond to my constituents' concerns. Whether that's street maintenance issues, parking or traffic concerns, or anything else, I hope folks know I'll do whatever I can to help the city machinery work in their favor. I also would like to try to work on mosquitoes. I think there may be small things each of us can do to help reduce those summer pests in our neighborhoods.

**What are your views on the proposed changes to the DC zoning regulations and the alcohol beverage control rules?** On zoning, I think many of the changes move in the right direction. I'm worried about the idea that high density buildings need not be built with sufficient on-site parking. That is going to put more

pressure on what is already too few parking spaces in the neighborhoods. As for the ABC rules there are already plenty of places to buy alcohol in the neighborhood, and we don't need drug stores selling it as well.

**What steps do you see as needing to be done to protect pedestrians in Woodley Park?**

There are too many reckless drivers coming up and down Connecticut, and many of them, I'm sad to say, don't have DC plates. I worry that commuters coming into the city don't fully understand that they are driving through people's neighborhoods. Strict enforcement of crosswalk and speeding laws is a must.

### Spring Cleanout and Shredding Day Set for June 7

Our Spring Cleanout Event will be on June 7th this year. As in years past, we will have a truck for you to drop off your hazardous waste and other items that need to be sent to the transfer station. We are planning on being open from 9 to 11 am in the Maret School parking lot. We will also have the shredding truck available for any piece of paper with personally identifiable information that you need to get shredded. This is one of many benefits that the WPCA provides for its members. Please note DPW will not allow us to bring these items:

- Air conditioners (Call 311 for a bulk trash collection appointment.)
- Ammunition (Take to the closest police station.)
- Explosives (Take to the closest police station.)
- Latex paint (Dry out and place in the trash.)
- Medicine (Place the medicine in the trash. The empty bottle can be placed in your recycling container after removing the identification label from the bottle.)
- Microwave ovens (Call 311 for a bulk trash appointment.)
- Tires (*Note: Up to four tires may be taken to the Ft. Totten Trash Transfer Station, weekdays from 1 pm to 5 pm and every first Saturday between 8 am and 3 pm.*)
- Wooden TV cabinets or consoles and mattresses (Call 311 for a bulk trash collection appointment.)

### At the Marriott — One Project Ending as Another Begins by John Goodman

JBG first approached the neighborhood in 2005 with its plans to build a residential building on the grounds of the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel. Almost nine years later, the end of this project is in sight. Construction should be completed before summer.

Originally proposed as a 120-unit condo building, it is now a 200+-unit rental. The name has changed from *Wardman West* to, simply, *2700 Woodley Road*. Prices have not been set, but will likely range from approximately \$2500 to \$8000 depending on the size and location. There hasn't been any pre-leasing, and a leasing team should be in place by mid-April.

As that work winds down, JBG is moving ahead on its plan to convert to condos much of the Wardman Tower building of the hotel (the one at the corner of Connecticut near the Metro elevator). Because most of the work is on the interior of the building, it will not be as disrupt-

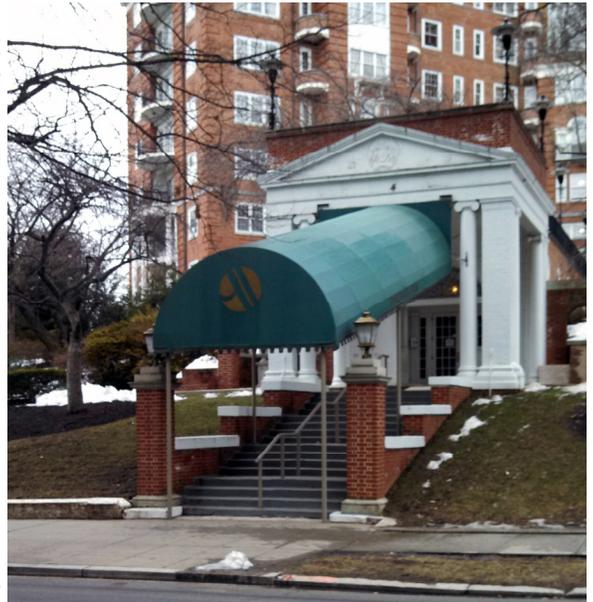
Two floors in the Tower will remain part of the Hotel, the floor that connects to the main Hotel building and the one above it. The rest will be converted to condominiums. The entrance to the residential portion of the building will be through the Tower entrance on Woodley Road, near the Metro elevator.

JBG expects to have only four units per floor, one in each of the building's four wings. The largest of these will be in excess of 4000 sq. feet.

JBG will build an 80-vehicle garage into the side of the hill on the Connecticut Avenue side of the building for the use of its residents. Additional spaces can be made available in the hotel garage.

JBG did not need any special regulatory approvals to change the building from a hotel to residences. However, some of the changes it wanted to make to the building's exterior did need the approval of the District's Historic Preservation Review Board.

WPCA worked with ANC commissioners to help JBG improve its original plans for the conversion. In particular,



The to-be-preserved porte cochere

JBG agreed to eliminate its proposed driveway running from the front of the Tower down to Connecticut Avenue next to the Metro elevator. JBG still insisted that it needed to enlarge the porte cochere at the Woodley Road entrance. HPRB did not approve that part of JBG's plans, however, and the porte cochere will remain as it is. A description of the plan and some drawings are on the website at <http://bit.ly/1gu4Bkm>.

As part of the conversion, JBG is removing the swimming pool that was immediately to the south of the Tower, to turn the area into a garden for the condo owners. It is building a new pool just to the west of that location. The new pool, like the old one, will offer memberships to the public.



As disruptive as JBG's other projects. At this point, JBG expects the project to continue until late 2015.

## WPCA Officers

President  
Peter Brusoe

Vice President  
Barbara Ioanes

Treasurer  
Warren Gorlick

Secretary  
Emily Wagner

## At-Large Executive Committee Members

Bill Kummings  
Zev Lewis

Gasper Martinez  
Rob Meisner  
Sarah Taber

Stephanie Zobay

Past President  
Bill Menczer

## Crime Safety Tips

Some helpful crime-prevention tips from MPD:

### If You Are Traveling

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, shovel snow, and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspaper delivery stopped. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

### If You Are Out for the Evening

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.

### If You Are Shopping or on Metro

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
  - Park in a well-lighted space, and be sure to lock the car, close the windows, and hide shopping bags in the trunk.
  - Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
  - Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers.
  - Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to your body, not dangling by the straps and don't wrap the strap around your wrist.
- Turn rings so that precious stones are on the palm side of your hand.
- Carry your wallet inside your coat or in your side

trouser pocket, never in your rear trouser pocket. Also, place a rubber band around your wallet to feel resistance if it is removed from your pocket.

Don't purchase a Metro fare card or pass from people on the street. It might be counterfeit.

-Beware of loud arguments or commotions that may be staged to distract you while your pocket is picked.

### Protect Your Vehicle

-Remember the old cliché "Out of sight, out of mind?" The same idea applies to items in your car.

-Always lock your vehicle and store all items out of sight. Breaking into an empty car isn't worth a thief's time. However, anything left in plain view—spare change, sunglasses, CDs, cell phones or briefcases—may tempt a thief.

-Help prevent your vehicle from being stolen by always locking your car and using anti-theft devices. Never leave your vehicle running while you run inside your home or a store—even if for only a minute or two.

### If a Stranger Comes to the Door

-Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering items, so be cautious when accepting a package.

-When people are going door-to-door asking for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification, and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.

**ARE YOU A  
WPCA Member?**

*Has your membership expired or  
will it expire soon?*

WPCA members will see their  
membership expiration date  
on the address label to the right.

If your date has passed, please  
use the **Membership Form** on  
page 3 to renew!

No date? Then you're

not a member.

Please consider joining.

You can also renew

and contribute online:

[www.wpcaonline.org/join](http://www.wpcaonline.org/join)

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