

 **FBA Newsletter: May 14, 2021**

**Foggy Bottom Association** <johngeorgedc1@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: johngeorgedc1@gmail.com  
To: John <johngeorgedc1@gmail.com>

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**Newsletter Vol: 4 • No: 17**  
**May 14, 2021**



## Foggy Bottom News

*The Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) is the 2nd oldest civic organization in Washington, DC, incorporated in 1959. Our mission is to preserve the history, beauty, and charm of the Foggy Bottom/West End community by making Foggy Bottom/West End a wonderful, safe, desirable, diverse and inclusive place for all. FBA supports the arts, green spaces, and local businesses, and celebrates the community's history.*



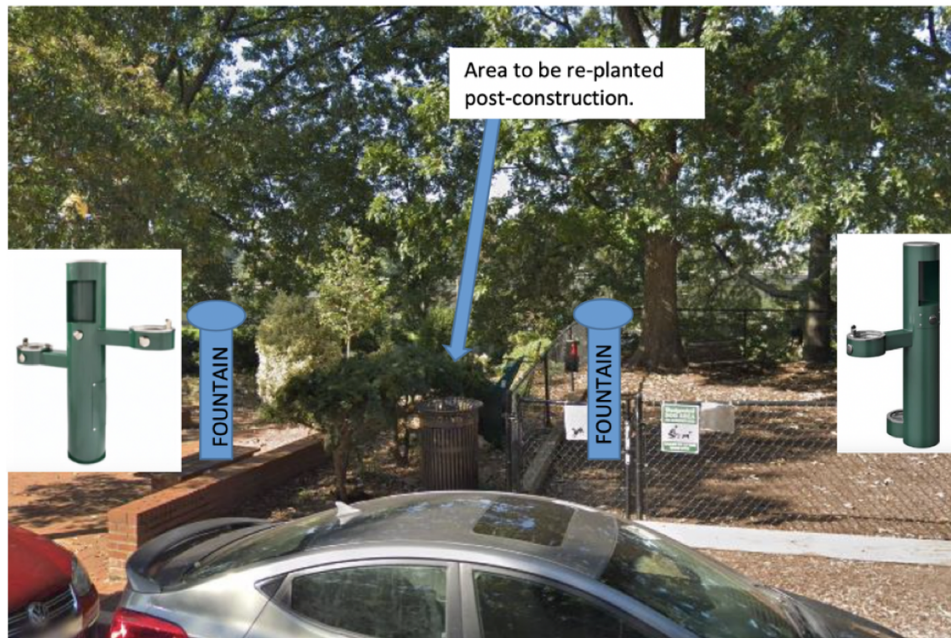
### From the President

Hello neighbors! It's been a busy two weeks! Happy belated Mother's Day to all moms out there! And congratulations to all GWU graduates this week - exciting times ahead! Thank you for all the wonderful comments received about the new format of the Foggy Bottom News. I am thankful to all our contributors and we appreciate your comments and suggestions. Speaking of wonderful contributors, you will be excited to read a new column: **Funkstown** by Frank Leone. In this new, regular column, Frank will explore the exciting history of Foggy Bottom and beyond. In other news, we are all watching the rapidly

evolving CDC and local guidance on the pandemic. Keep an eye on the news as I am sure if we write about it today, it will change tomorrow. We also have a new FBA Board Member – **Jennifer Schaus** (see details below). While we won't have room for detailed articles about what's been happening, please know that along with other board members I am tracking the following – homelessness concerns; 26th Street water source project; cooling tower noise from The Boathouse; excessive traffic noise from tunnel under Virginia Ave. NW; GW student behavior; GW off-campus housing; abandoned houses on I Street; construction signs on 26th Street; rat patrol; DPW clean-up; ongoing landscaping and mini-gardens, and so much more. *Happy reading. JPG*

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## Water Coming to 26th Street Park



After many years of waiting, a much-needed water source and two drinking fountains will soon be installed on the west side of 26th Street NW in the park. The one inside the dog park will allow dogs and their owners to get a drink while the other in the park will have a drinking fountain, but also a locked facet for use by the Garden Committee for much needed watering of our gardens big and small. This project will cause disruption in the area, but in the end it will be well worth it! Here are some details:

- Estimated project start: Week of May 17th
  - Location: 26th Street NW near Queen Annes Lane
  - No parking will be enforced in the immediate area
  - Traffic lanes and sidewalks will be disrupted
  - Because of connections to water and sewer there will be extensive digging and tunneling across the roadway. Steel plates will cover trenches for safety
  - Work will occur Monday through Friday only
  - Estimated project duration: 8 - 9 weeks
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## FBA News Flash

**Updated pandemic guidance.** Please see the following sources for information:

**CDC guidance on mask-wearing:** <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

**DC pandemic guidelines and information:** <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/>

**George Washington University Graduation**

**Wednesday May 12, 2021 - Sunday May 16, 2021**

Congratulations to all GW graduates! Please celebrate responsibly!

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## **Welcome new FBA Board Member: Jennifer Schaus**



We welcome Jennifer Schaus as the newest FBA Board member replacing Donna Barbisch. Donna resigned this month in order to focus on important ANC responsibilities but is always nearby when we need her. Jennifer stepped up to fill the seat and the FBA Board welcomed her unanimously. Jennifer is a 10+ year resident of Foggy Bottom. She grew up just outside of Annapolis, Maryland and moved to Washington DC in 1998. "I'm excited to meet new neighbors, give back to the Foggy Bottom/West End community, and make a lasting impression. There are so many great aspects of Foggy Bottom that make it a desirable neighborhood – from the colorful homes to the beautiful gardens and the warm people. I am eager to help in any way I can," says Ms. Schaus. When she is not working you can find Jennifer walking her basset hound Charlie, out running, or in a hot yoga class.  
**Welcome Jennifer!**

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## **Funkstown: Foggy Bottom History**



### **Foggy Bottom's History Makes It Unique** by Frank Leone

Foggy Bottom is a charming and wonderful community in which to live, but its ever present history makes it unique, even in Washington. "Foggy Bottom" lacks legal boundaries, but generally is situated between the White House and Rock Creek Park and between the Potomac and Pennsylvania Avenue. The area was occupied by Native Americans 1,500 years ago, then Maryland planters. German immigrant Jacob Funk sought to build a new town (Hamburgh or **Funkstown** (hence the name of this column) in 1791, but that little-occupied development was incorporated into the new federal city of Washington in 1800.

In the 1800s – and especially after the Civil War – industries developed in Foggy Bottom. These included glassworks, breweries, and the Washington Gas works, industries whose smoky odors – added to the fog present in low lying areas – contributed to the name "Foggy Bottom." The industries were replaced over time by governmental and international facilities, like the State Department, which made their own impacts on the area. In the 1880s, row houses (including alley houses) were built – working class for Irish and German laborers west of 23rd St, middle class government workers and others to the east of 23rd St. The area then saw an influx of African-Americans, until gentrification began in the 1950s.

Much of historic Foggy Bottom has been lost over the years. The George Washington University, which moved into the neighborhood in 1912, has expanded from a few buildings to 43 acres. Highway I-66, part of a planned and never built inner-loop beltway, wiped out most of the neighborhood west of 26th Street leaving only three row houses by the entrance to the interstate And new apartments, office buildings, and governmental and cultural institutions were built.

But much of historic Foggy Bottom remains - in the Foggy Bottom and the George Washington University/Old West End Historic Districts, in individually landmarked buildings, and in structures that lack historic designations, but still speak to the area's history. Despite the changes over time, the neighborhood remains a community that has worked to preserve its history, character, and quality of life.

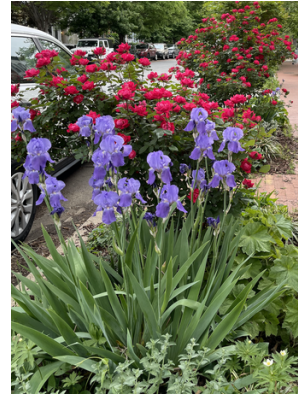
The new Foggy Bottom Association **History Project** seeks to collect, document, and share Foggy Bottom history. We are starting with a regular column in our newsletter, but please visit the FBA website for more information. <https://www.foggybottomassociation.org/history-new-info>.

We invite your participation in discovering and communicating Foggy Bottom's history.

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**"The Green Thumbs"  
FBA's Garden Committee**





On May 6, 2021 Peter Maye and Susan Lampton (Co-chairs of the FBA Garden Committee) hosted the year's first meeting for new Garden Committee volunteers. The lively group represented neighbors from our row houses and the alleys. Together they walked the neighborhood and discussed projects. Volunteers were asked to select a block or ½ a block to maintain, including weeding sidewalks and tree boxes and mulching. The group recognized the beauty and diversity of several new tree box and lawn gardens (all plants were in-kind donations) intended to enhance one's stroll through the area.

"As new homeowners to Foggy Bottom, it was a breath of fresh air meeting so many neighbors who are passionate about the upkeep and beautification of the area. From planting ivy and plants in unexpected spots to watering spring gardens. One of the things we love most about living here is the beautiful surroundings and look forward to continuing to maintain and improve the curb appeal, especially as we head into Arts in Foggy Bottom this summer," says new volunteer, Sadie Cornelius.

Specific projects include filling the tree bags on New Hampshire Avenue and other locations in the neighborhood, installation of water access at the 26th Street Park, weeding and assisting with the fall and spring major cleanups.

Thank you to our growing number of volunteers: Sadie C., Tamara L., Lili N., J. Ford H., Amy L., George T., Jenny M., Alec M., Will M.

We're looking for a volunteer to lead the 26th Street Kid's Park clean-up. Goals are to recruit volunteers to weed and rake leaves in the kiddie park on 26th Street; remove toys in poor condition; organize sand delivery; relocate mini-library to other side of the kiddie park. Ask Peter or Susan for details.

[Make a Donation to the Garden Committee](#)

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**Foggy Bottom Folks**



### George/Maye Family

If you wanted to explain what volunteerism is, you might use the George/Maye family (25 + year homeowners living on 26th Street in the modern white house with a bright yellow front door) as an example. John George is our current Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) President, a Sunday school teacher at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, and past volunteer at Georgetown University Hospital but still finds time to work at his longtime job with a global IT firm specializing in healthcare. Peter Maye “fills” his day (since retiring from Discovery Communications) by Co-chairing the Arts in Foggy Bottom bicentennial sculpture exhibit, co-chairing the FBA Garden Committee, and as an at-large member on the Board of the FBA that includes publishing the Foggy Bottom News. And when visiting Cape Cod, no reason to just relax – Peter is on the Board of Directors at the Soup Kitchen in Provincetown (SKiP). Their son, Isaac, also helps with neighborhood garden projects and is excited to start his first year at Mitchell College in Connecticut this fall. If you don’t see Peter or John speaking with neighbors, pulling weeds, and caring for neighborhood gardens, driving neighbors without transportation to appointments or just offering to help a neighbor in any way they can, you might see them taking one of their long walks throughout Foggy Bottom/West End with their dog Titan.

Be sure to stop them and say “hello”! And, if you want to find ways to volunteer in “your spare time”, they might have a couple of suggestions, such as: the Foggy Bottom Garden Committee or check out <https://sustainability.gwu.edu/grow-garden-volunteer-hours>. Titan’s portrait below by Isaac George.



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And, speaking of “hello”... we welcome back our State Department neighbors Terri and

Mark Matthews (26th Street) who have just returned from 2 years in Jordan as well as Alec Augustine-Marceil (our urban farmer in Hughes Mews) who just returned from Cuba.

Next time, we'll meet some of our new neighbors.

[Suggest a Neighbor to Feature](#)

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## Support FB/WE Local Businesses



### Tonic at Quigley's Pharmacy: If these walls could talk...

The building where the restaurant Tonic is located – [2036 G Street NW](#) - has had many lives. George Washington University alumnus Richard Lucien Quigley opened the pharmacy in 1891, one year after he earned a degree in pharmacy science. The neighborhood then was mostly residential. Quigley filled prescriptions and sold medicines, and later served Cokes and burgers at the lunch bar until 1938. In the mid-40s, students could find then GW student Margaret Truman (daughter of the president) waiting outside to meet her father for a soda. Al Kohn took over the management of the pharmacy in the 1950's and by the '70s, Quigley's featured a lunch counter, candy counter, and pinball machines. Yum! The University purchased the building in 1974 and the site became home to the Department of geography shortly after. After being part of the academic scene for quite some time, the building morphed into Tonic which opened in May 2007. The newly renovated space is leased from GWU.

Now, both students and community enjoy Tonic's American fare offers comfort food at affordable prices. Seriously who doesn't love tater tots? Tonic adds a sense of community to the area by creating a cozy environment for all. And here's the bonus: Tonic offers a 20% discount to all FBA members (just show you membership card).

Hours of Operation: Monday - Wednesday: 11:30 am - 10:00 pm. Thursday/Friday: 11:30 am - 11:00 pm. Saturdays: 11:00 am - 11:00 pm. Sundays: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm.  
Contact them at 202-296-0211 or visit <https://www.tonicrestaurantdc.com/>

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## Mark Your Calendars

- **May ANC Meeting: Wednesday - May 19, 2021 @ 7:00 pm**  
Visit [anc2a.org](http://anc2a.org) for information.
- **May FBA Community Meeting: May 25, 2021 7:00 pm**  
Featured topic: Arts in Foggy Bottom. Visit [foggybottomassociation.org](http://foggybottomassociation.org) for details.

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## Connect with Us



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## Join the FBA Today!

**The FBA wants you to join us! We need your voice and your participation.**

### Membership Dues (per person)

One Year: \$20 ● Two Years: \$30 ● Student: \$10

Must show valid GW ID



Join with a credit card by scanning the QR Code or click the button below to join online.

*The Foggy Bottom Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Dues and contributions are tax deductible as allowed by law.*

[Click to Join FBA on our website](#)

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## Newsletter Contributors: We Want You!

Our goal is to inform and build community, so you'll see regular columns sharing perspectives from the FBA President; Community Events; Neighbor Spotlight; Business Showcase; and Comings & Goings. We welcome aspiring reporters and volunteers to contribute. FBA Board Member, Peter Maye will coordinate the new publication. Contact him at [Peter@PeterMaye.com](mailto:Peter@PeterMaye.com)

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## FBA Board of Directors

*FBA's all-volunteer board of directors is led by the President and supported by eight to ten board members.*



**President:**  
John George

**Vice President:**  
Julia Gustafson

**Membership Director:**  
Mary Ellen Signorille

**At Large Members:**  
Eileen Carey  
Christine Farnsworth  
Peter Maye  
Denise Vogt  
Jennifer Schaus

**Key Contacts:**

FBA Website: [foggybottomassociation.org](http://foggybottomassociation.org)  
FBA President: [johngeorgedc1@gmail.com](mailto:johngeorgedc1@gmail.com)  
Sidewalk or street repairs: [DC 311](#)  
GW Student Incident Reports:  
[GW Student Conduct](#)

**Contributors to this Issue:**

John George, Peter Maye, Susan Lampton, Frank Leone, Denise Vogt



Post Office Box 58087 ▲ Washington DC 20037

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