

THE NORTHWEST CURRENT

ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY



Brian Kapur/The Current

Club 60+ celebrated its first anniversary Thursday with a potluck lunch at the Chevy Chase Community Center. The group aims to help neighborhood seniors through various programs, including wellness activities. From left, Joan Goodin, Loretta Kiron, Dietlinde Dasch, advisory neighborhood commissioner Carolyn Cook, YMCA fitness instructor William Yates, Margaret Flanagan and Maureen Gehrig Cook enjoyed the festivities.

Zoning panel holds firm on AU plan

■ **Campus:** Commission to elaborate on order's rationale

By **CHRIS KAIN**
Current Staff Writer

American University's 10-year operational and development plans will remain in place despite a court victory by neighbors, after the D.C. Zoning Commission voted Monday to stand by its campus plan order.

In response to a D.C. Court of Appeals decision ordering further review of the campus plan, the Zoning Commission voted 3-0 to affirm its earlier decision and will have its attorneys draft technical corrections to address the issues raised by the judges.

Last November's court decision found that the Zoning Commission had not adequately sorted through some of the arguments raised by Advisory Neighborhood Commis-

sion 3D and the Office of Planning. Issues ranged from the "buffer zone" between the Nebraska Avenue East Campus development and neighboring homes to worries about undesirable use of the Mann Elementary School parking lot by university students.

The Spring Valley-Wesley Heights Citizens Association, which brought the court challenge, had hoped that the Zoning Commission See **Campus**/Page 7

Bank scales back community parking use

By **KAT LUCERO**
Current Staff Writer

PNC Bank will soon be enforcing stricter parking regulations at its lot behind the Chevy Chase Arcade, in response to community objections about noise from non-banking patrons.

The bank, which plans to install automatic gates at the parking lot, will restrict public access to 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, PNC representatives said at a D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment hearing last week.

The change represents an attempted accord with neighbors who discovered expired permits for the parking lot while protesting against the small trash facility for the new restaurant Macon Bistro & Larder.

Both the restaurant and PNC Bank operate on the 5500 block of Connecticut Avenue. Behind them, the bank's parking lot at 3808-16 Morrison St. has historically been open to patrons of all nearby businesses.

See **Parking**/Page 13



Brian Kapur/Current file photo

The parking lot at PNC Bank, which requires zoning review due to its location on a residentially zoned lot, will soon be open only from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DC Water hails new Fort Reno green roof

By **GRAHAM VYSE**
Current Staff Writer

D.C. officials are showing off some of the city's recent environmental sustainability efforts, including green infrastructure projects, job training programs and education initiatives.

Ward 3 D.C. Council member Mary Cheh joined officials from the D.C. Water and Sewer Authority last Wednesday for a celebratory news conference at Tenleytown's Fort Reno, where a one-acre green roof was recently installed atop the reservoir.

The agency is currently using the site for a summer program called Growing Futures, which teaches young D.C. residents skills for jobs maintaining the green infrastructure that is increasingly abundant across the city.

"D.C. leads the nation in terms of the amount of the



Photo courtesy of DC Water

DC Water last week celebrated the installation of a one-acre green roof atop the Fort Reno reservoir.

green roof square footage," Bethany Bezak of DC Water said in an interview. "We think there is a great potential for green infrastructure to provide a sustainable workforce."

Growing Futures graduate Leon Green, who is now employed as a green roof maintenance technician for Baltimore-based Furbish Co., was quoted in a release as

See **Green**/Page 16

At-large race attracts slew of independent candidates

■ **Politics:** 13 seeking to join party nominees on the ballot

By **GRAHAM VYSE**
Current Staff Writer

The race to replace David Catania as an at-large member of the D.C. Council is approaching its first milestone.

A whopping 13 would-be candidates are now collecting signatures for petitions to get on the November ballot as independents, hoping to fill the seat Catania is vacating by running for mayor this year. The field

won't be set until petitions are submitted Aug. 6, but candidates are already making their pitches to voters.

Elissa Silverman, who came in second in last year's special election for the at-large seat now held by Anita Bonds, reports that she filed her petitions with 4,534 signatures earlier this month. (Each candidate needs 3,000 to make the ballot.) Silverman is a former political reporter and analyst for the progressive DC Fiscal Policy Institute.

In an interview, Silverman said she will stress her role as an advocate. See **Council**/Page 16

NEWS

City seeks input on plans for power line undergrounding

— Page 3

SPORTS

Donation brings upgrade to Takoma tennis courts

— Page 11



NEWS

Construction, varied bus changes eyed along 16th Street

— Page 5

INDEX

Calendar/18	Police Report/6
Classifieds/25	Real Estate/15
District Digest/4	Service Directory/22
Exhibits/19	Sports/11
In Your Neighborhood/10	Theater/21
Opinion/8	Week Ahead/3

Tips? Contact us at newsdesk@currentnewspapers.com