**STRETCH YOUR EGGS**

Tudor Place Historic House & Garden this year hosted its ninth annual Eggstravaganza. The festivities Friday and Saturday included an egg hunt and egg roll contest.

**Multifaceted eatery to open**

**Georgetown:** ‘Church’ to provide space for gathering

**By MARK LIEBERMAN**
Current Staff Writer

The new Georgetown establishment Church aims to offer a little something for everyone — coffee shop by morning, restaurant by day and bar by night.

The D.C.-based development group Tin Shop announced last week that it has signed a 10-year lease for part of the canal-level portion of the Shops at Georgetown Park retail complex, 3222 M St. NW. That space will host the new Church concept by August or September, according to Tin Shop co-founder Peter Bayne.

Religious skeptics, take note: The concept is secular in nature, Bayne insists. "That sense of community, that sense of a gathering place, is what they’re after," he says.

**Sidwell consolidation wins 2-1 approval**

**By BRADY HOLT**
Current Staff Writer

Sidwell Friends School’s proposal for a unified Wisconsin Avenue NW campus won unanimous support from the Board of Zoning Adjustment yesterday.

Board members applauded the school’s commitments to minimize traffic and to fund $100,000 worth of safety improvements on surrounding streets — which addressed the primary concerns of most neighbors.

Sidwell has a contract to purchase the Washington Home and Community Hospice property at 37th and Upton streets NW, which backs to Sidwell’s middle and upper school campus at 3825 Wisconsin. Sidwell plans to renovate and expand the Washington Home building to accommodate its lower school, which will move from Bethesda. The project, slated to begin in summer 2017, also includes constructing an open space.

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**At Pinehurst Tributary, a return to natural glory**

**By MARK LIEBERMAN**
Current Staff Writer

Sheila Macdonald was sitting in her Beech Street NW home in Chevy Chase four years ago when she saw an unusual sight out her front window. Her neighbor John Burwell was chopping down weeds from the trees along the Pinehurst Tributary across the street.

"I came roaring out of my house, I’m the block captain," Macdonald, 77, IL came out and said, "He’s going to cut my trees down." It was a mix of feelings: She was angry, but she was also "ecstatic."

Macdonald is one of many people in the neighborhood who defend their 27-year-old tributary, which winds for seven blocks between 27th and 34th streets NW.

"It’s a really nice thing that has been here for years and years. It’s a haven," she said.

In 2009, the city’s Public Works Department proposed plans to clear away the trees in favor of paved sidewalks, storm drains and sewer lines. The proposal was met with outcry from neighborhood residents who felt that the removal of the trees would significantly alter the character of the area.

"People that live here are in love with the trees. It’s a large part of our life," said Richard Pizzalunga, a Pinehurst Tributary resident for 20 years. "It’s natural, it’s quite lovely...There’s two sides to it. People can’t believe the trees are going to be cut down."

With a huge grassroots effort, the neighborhood was able to halt the plans. Macdonald helped organize a citizen petition in 2009, which was signed by 80 residents. The petition was delivered to the city’s Department of Public Works, which then held a public hearing.

"We felt the trees were very special to the neighborhood...We knew it was a battle that we would lose," Pizzalunga said.

But after public testimony and debate, the city decided to keep the trees and go with a different plan. The city will now Kludge the trees, rather than cut them down, and put in a rain garden to help manage stormwater.

"The city decided it would be better for the neighborhood to have something that we could enjoy rather than taking it away," Macdonald said.

For the past four years, Macdonald has been helping to maintain the trees, along with other members of the neighborhood. She said it’s been a labor of love.

"It’s been a real challenge to keep them alive," she said. "It takes a lot of work, but it’s worthwhile."

**GDS scales back mixed-use Tenleytown development**

**By BRADY HOLT**
Current Staff Writer

Georgetown Day School has once again scaled back its plans for two new mixed-use buildings at Wisconsin Avenue and Davenport Street NW, adjacent to its campus.

"It’s a mixed-use building, a big development," said Mary McRae, director of community relations.

The school originally planned to build a new middle school and upper school building, in addition to a new preschool building. The middle and upper school building was to include a new gym and athletic fields.

But after residents in the neighborhood voiced concerns about the size and height of the new buildings, the school decided to scale back its plans. The new middle and upper school building will now be a single story, with a roofline that is lower than the existing buildings.

"We realized that the history of the neighborhood is changing," McRae said. "We want to make sure that the buildings are in line with the existing buildings in the neighborhood."