

# CHRS

Capitol Hill Restoration Society

# News

July/August 2024

## Art Walk 2024: Call to Artists!

By Elizabeth Nelson

Last year's Art Walk was enjoyed by so many people that the Capitol Hill Art League (CHAL) is presenting it again this year. Local artists and artisans will display their work in strictly non-commercial spaces such as their own micro-galleries, home studios, porches or even in yards on September 7–8 from 12–4 pm. Most will have it at their own site, but they may team up with a friend at a shared or borrowed location.

Are you an artist interested in showing your own work? The registration deadline is August 17. The Hill Rag is providing a website for the event, with CHRS serving as a co-sponsor. You can find additional information and the registration form at [hillrag.com/art-walk-2024](http://hillrag.com/art-walk-2024).

The event is free to both artists and visitors. ★



IMAGES COURTESY ELIZABETH NELSON AND JEFF FLETCHER



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# Celebrating 4th of July on the Hill

By Elizabeth Nelson



As part of our ongoing outreach efforts, CHRS volunteers marched in this year's Capitol Hill 4th of July Parade. Barracks Row was packed and our lollipops were appreciated by many children! We had slightly cooler weather than expected, which was a nice break, after so many blistering days.

Thank you to event organizers, the Jeanne Phil Meg Team at Compass Realty, for making things run so smoothly and many thanks to everyone who marched with us. More photos can be seen at [chrs.org/july-4-parade-2024](https://chrs.org/july-4-parade-2024). ★



Beth Purcell, David Pelizzari, Marci Hilt, Libby Quaid, and Elizabeth Nelson helped staff the CHRS table at the event's vendor tent.

## CHRS at Fox 5 Zip Trip to Eastern Market

CHRS joined other community non-profits and vendors on Friday, July 19 when Fox 5 featured Eastern Market on segments of their Zip Trip event during their morning show. This was the only Zip Trip the TV station has scheduled in DC this summer! See all the Eastern Market segments at [fox5dc.com](https://fox5dc.com).

# Summer Membership Meeting

By Angie Schmidt

Steve Callcott, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer from the DC Office of Planning, was the featured speaker at the CHRS Summer Membership Meeting and Community Forum on June 17 at the Hill Center. The talk was preceded by a vote to accept the slate of new Board members for 2024–2025.

Callcott explained the many parts of the Historic Preservation Office and how they interact. He also answered questions after his presentation and introduced the audience to Todd Jones, the Historic Preservation Specialist for Capitol Hill.

A dessert reception followed the presentation. ★

# Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President ..... Angie Schmidt  
First Vice President ..... Fynnette Eaton  
Second Vice President ..... Tina May  
Treasurer ..... Nick Alberti  
Secretary ..... Libby Quaid  
At Large ..... Beth Hague  
At Large ..... Matt Handverger  
At Large ..... Jackie Krieger  
At Large ..... David Pelizzari  
At Large ..... Gary Peterson  
At Large ..... Jim Thackaberry  
Immediate Past President ..... Beth Purcell

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Budget & Administration\* ..... Nick Alberti  
City Planning\* ..... Monte Edwards  
Communications\* ..... Marci Hilt  
Community Development\* ..... Chuck Burger  
Community Relations ..... Elizabeth Nelson  
Environment\* ..... Joanna Kendig  
Grants ..... Larry Pearl  
Historic Preservation\* ..... Beth Purcell  
House Tour ..... Eaton, Krieger & Schmidt  
Investments ..... John Shages  
Membership\* ..... Maygene Daniels  
Public Safety\* ..... Undine Nash  
Public Space ..... Steve Kehoe  
Zoning\* ..... Nick Alberti

\* Chair is an appointed Board Member

## NEWSLETTER

Angie Schmidt and Kelly Vielmo, Editors

## WEBMASTER

Elizabeth Nelson

## OFFICE MANAGER

Jill Uvena Cullinane

To reach any of the above, please contact the CHRS office at (202) 543-0425 or via e-mail at: caphrs420@gmail.com.

## ABOUT CHRS

The Capitol Hill Restoration Society is a nonprofit, volunteer organization devoted to protecting, preserving, and celebrating our historic Capitol Hill neighborhood.

Founded in 1955, CHRS is a pioneer in the urban preservation movement. CHRS was instrumental in securing Capitol Hill's designation in 1976 as a national historic district. Since then, CHRS has worked continuously to protect historic spaces and to enhance life on the Hill.

CHRS is driven by members who love their neighborhood and want to preserve and share the dynamic story of Capitol Hill for future generations. Come join us!

Learn more and join at [chrs.org](https://chrs.org)

# Election Results for the CHRS 2024–2025 Board

By Beth Purcell

The Elections Committee is happy to report that the following officers were re-elected: Angie Schmidt as President; Tina May as Second Vice President, Nick Alberti as Treasurer and Libby Quaid as Secretary.

Fynnette Eaton, formerly an At-Large Member, was elected as First Vice President. Jackie Kreiger and Beth Hague were re-elected as At-Large Members. David Pelizzari and Matt Handverger were elected as new At-Large Members. Welcome everyone!

We will miss Christine Mullins and Delancey Gustin, who are leaving the board. We look forward to a great year. And thank you to the nominating committee for their work and to all of our members who voted! ★

# House Expo at Eastern Market

By Angie Schmidt

On Saturday, October 26, from 9 am–3 pm, CHRS will hold our annual free House Expo at the Eastern Market North Hall. This event is a great way to find vetted providers that understand the challenges of maintaining our older, historic homes. CHRS volunteers will be providing free historic architecture tours of Eastern Market. More information to follow! ★

**CHRS**  
Capitol Hill Restoration Society

**FREE!**

**HOUSE EXPO**

Saturday, October 26 • 9 am – 3 pm  
Eastern Market North Hall

Questions about your home?  
Get answers at the Expo!

- ★ More than 30 home contractors, service experts and city agencies with historic house experience
- ★ Guided tours of Eastern Market
- ★ Visit [chrs.org](https://chrs.org) for more info!

JENKS REALTY | GOLDWELL BARNER REALTY | HillRag | More info at [chrs.org](https://chrs.org)

# May Preservation Café: Documenting 100 Years of Eastern High School

By Christine Mullins

On May 28, CHRS members were treated to a terrific presentation by Jen Harris, executive director and founder, and Erin Roth, development director, of the Story of Our Schools. Harris and Roth described a project they recently completed at Eastern High School where students, teachers, alumni, and other community members created a permanent exhibit to celebrate the centennial of Eastern's building on East Capitol Street.

Led by Ellen Dodsworth, Eastern's library and media specialist, students researched and documented the history of their school—100 Years of Eastern High School—which is proudly displayed in the school's main lobby, wrapping itself around the iconic alumni staircase. The space greets visitors with a visual timeline of



IMAGE COURTESY BETH PURCELL

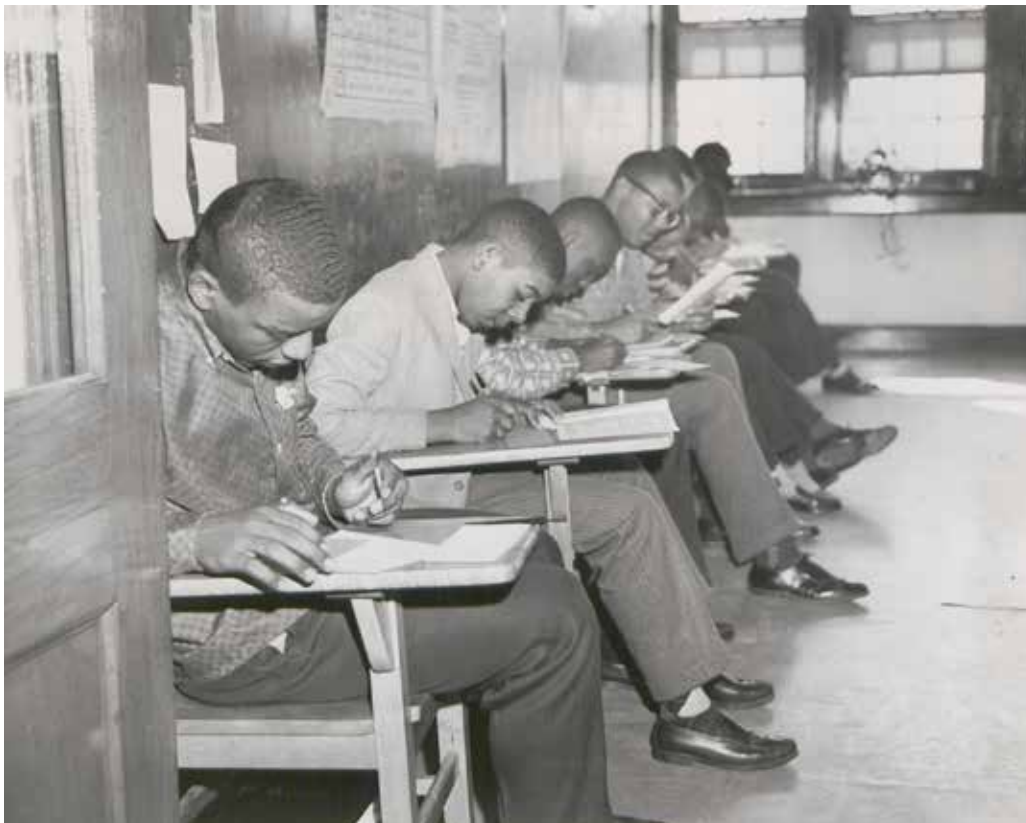
the school's history, which Harris and Roth briefly outlined during their talk.

The student research process featured guest speakers such as Kimberly Springle, executive director

of Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives, and Rodney "Red" Grant from Don't Shoot Guns Shoot Cameras, who shared techniques for creating documentary films. The

students also went on a field trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

The display showcases three-dimensional artifacts which are presented in the case directly behind the staircase, and a digital archive that shows students' films and photographs of life at Eastern. Eastern alumni played a large role in the research process—quotes from their oral histories became the voice of the final exhibit. The exhibition features a replica of a Woolworth's diner counter in honor of Franklin McCain, a past Eastern student who participated in several sit-ins during the Civil Rights Movement. The "counter" displays student activism at





The CHRS Preservation Café series will resume this fall. As I turn their leadership over to a new member of the CHRS board, I look forward to attending them as a future participant. I have thoroughly enjoyed organizing these events during the past five years. Thank you for being such a terrific audience and I will see you online!

— Chris Mullins

IMAGES COURTESY DC PUBLIC LIBRARY, STORY OF OUR SCHOOLS



OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP: Eastern High School today. BOTTOM: Students at Eastern in 1960 take a test by punching holes in an IBM card with a stylus. THIS PAGE, TOP: Eastern students in front of the building in 1965. BOTTOM: The 100 Years of Eastern High School exhibit installed.

Eastern and provides a space where students can meet and engage with the exhibit content.

Since 2015, the Story of Our Schools has partnered with student groups at ten DC public schools to help them research the history of their schools and surrounding neighborhoods to create museum-quality exhibits to display in their school lobbies.

On Capitol Hill, they have partnered with Capitol Hill Montessori at Logan, Payne Elementary, and Eliot-Hine Middle School. As at Eastern, their research methods have included: hands-

on research at local archives, oral history interviews with longtime residents, field trips to museums, historical walking tours around the neighborhood, and guest speakers.

Eastern High School is more than 100 years old, and new school stories are being created every day. The history shared in this presentation is a collaborative effort between Eastern High School, Eastern alumni, area residents, and local archives. ★

*Presentation available on the CHRS website at: [chrs.org/easternhs100-pc](https://chrs.org/easternhs100-pc). CHRS Preservation Cafés are free to CHRS members and non-members.*

# DOB Improves Functionality and Efficiency of Housing Inspection Request Form

The DC Department of Buildings (DOB) is excited to announce new updates to our housing and property maintenance code inspection request form: [dob.citygovapp.com/forms/housing\\_inspection/step\\_1](https://dob.citygovapp.com/forms/housing_inspection/step_1).

DOB heard feedback from residents and housing providers requested these updates. Housing code inspections ensure housing providers are providing safe and high-quality products to their customers.

Changes include:

- Automatic assignment of inspectors at time of application.
- Direct upload of photo and video.
- Back-end inspection processing enhancements to accelerate final license approval.
- Landlord notification prior to submitting housing inspection complaints.

If you have any questions or issues using the new forms, please reach out to [dob@dc.gov](mailto:dob@dc.gov). ★

## Fall Walking Tours

By Angie Schmidt

Our volunteer tour guides take the summer off, but with the arrival of (hopefully) cooler weather, we will once again have volunteer-led walking tours this fall! We are excited to debut a brand-new tour focusing on some of our unusual one-block streets. While the details are still being worked out, the dates are settled—mark your calendars for September 21–22, October 19–20, and November 16–17.

Tickets are \$15 and will be available via eventbrite; members will receive advance notice, and the link to tickets will also be posted on the CHRS website. Whether it's in an alley, a park, or one-way street, we hope to see you out there! ★



IMAGE COURTESY ELIZABETH NELSON

Tourgoers on the Southeast Alleys Tour this spring.

## Let's Talk About Your House for the 2025 House & Garden Tour!

Has the dust settled at the end of a renovation? Finally found the perfect piece of art for the hallway? Have been really enjoying your established garden as an outdoor entertainment space? Your house could be featured on the 2025 House & Garden Tour!

Next year's tour will be held May 10–11, 2025—we already have had two homeowners volunteer for next May. The House & Garden Tour is our main fundraiser, and it's never too early for us to start planning. Contact us at [caphillhousetour@gmail.com](mailto:caphillhousetour@gmail.com) to have your home considered—we'll be happy to follow up!

# Spotlight on 802 A Street NE

By Libby Quaid

This house was fun to research for this year's House & Garden Tour since it has both a connection to a longtime Capitol Hill family as well as to New York Gilded Age architecture!

It's one of a dozen built in 1890 for prominent real estate investor Albert Carry, a German immigrant who arrived in Washington after the Civil War. He was a noted brewer, opening breweries where Stuart Hobson Middle School and the Safeway supermarket are now, and he was a banker who helped establish National Capital Bank to provide financial services for the eastern part of the city, whose banks at the time were all in Georgetown.

Carry's architect was Clement August Didden, another German immigrant. Didden belonged to St. Joseph's, the German Catholic church on Capitol Hill, and received many projects, like Carry's, through the German community. Eventually, Didden's son married Carry's daughter, and their descendants remain involved with National Capital Bank—the bank is a longtime supporter of our annual House & Garden Tour!

Early in his career, Didden had worked in New York for the prolific Gilded Age architect Richard Morris Hunt, designer of Marble



IMAGE COURTESY JACKIE KRIEGER

House and The Breakers in Newport, R.I., among others.

The row houses Didden designed for Carry, along A and 8th streets and Massachusetts Avenue, are a richly eclectic architectural style that is difficult to label, though Queen Anne Victorian would probably suffice. On most, the two-story bay transitions from square on the bottom to canted (with slanted walls) on the second floor. The exuberant rooflines vary but are utterly unique; this one has a stepped Flemish gable in front of a slate conical roof. ★

## Thank You, CHRS Supporters!

CHRS wishes to thank the following donors for their invaluable support:

### CONTRIBUTORS

#### General Donations

Kendall & Barbara LePoer  
Patricia Molumby  
David Moore  
Diana Woodfolk

### MEMBERSHIPS

#### Individual

Carol Atkins  
Hilary Bolash  
Carlton Carl  
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Neil Kornze  
Max Moncaster  
Mike Morris  
Kristen Oldenburg  
Brittany Tovar

#### Household

Elizabeth Lewis &  
David Abernethy  
Elizabeth Nelson & Nick Alberti  
Kendall & Barbara LePoer  
Deborah Edge & Neal Mann  
Dan & Nancy Mattausch  
Donna McLean &  
Marcus Peacock  
Gene & Shirley Rosenfeld  
Heather Schoell

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Michelle & Dennis Carroll  
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Diana Woodfolk

#### Silver

James & Bernadette McMahon  
Patricia Molumby  
David Moore  
Gene & Shirley Rosenfeld

# CHRS

Capitol Hill Restoration Society

420 10th Street SE  
Washington, DC 20003

[chrs.org](http://chrs.org)

## Mark Your Calendar!

Please check [chrs.org](http://chrs.org) for current information—cancellations or postponements will be posted as they are known.

# CHRS

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### AUGUST

**17** Saturday

Art Walk 2024 Registration Deadline.  
Details: [chrs.org/art-walk-call-to-artists](http://chrs.org/art-walk-call-to-artists).

**21** Saturday, 10:30 am and 1 pm

**22** Sunday, 1 pm

Walking tours given by CHRS volunteers;  
topics TBD—stay tuned!

**26** Saturday, 9 am–3 pm

House Expo 2024, Eastern Market North Hall, and free insider tours of Eastern Market. Details: [chrs.org/house-expo-2024](http://chrs.org/house-expo-2024).

### SEPTEMBER

**3** Tuesday, 6:30 pm

Moved due to Labor Day Holiday.  
Historic Preservation Committee meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**4** Wednesday, 7 pm

Zoning Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**7–8** Saturday–Sunday, 12–4 pm

Art Walk 2024. Details: [chrs.org/art-walk-2024](http://chrs.org/art-walk-2024).

**18** Wednesday, 6 pm

Board meeting, Northeast Library,  
330 7th Street NE.

### OCTOBER

**2** Wednesday, 7 pm

Zoning Committee Meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**7** Monday, 6:30 pm

Historic Preservation Committee meeting,  
420 10th Street SE.

**16** Wednesday, 6 pm

Board meeting, Northeast Library,  
330 7th Street NE.

**19** Saturday, 10:30 am and 1 pm

**20** Sunday, 1 pm

Walking tours given by CHRS volunteers;  
topics TBD—stay tuned!

Enjoying this newsletter?

Please consider joining CHRS!

Annual membership is only \$35 and includes the newsletter, a set of historic guidelines, and early access to events, including our annual House and Garden



Tour. Scan this QR code or visit [chrs.org](http://chrs.org) for more information.