



CAG

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2018

VOLUME XLII | ISSUE 4 | WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

BEGIN YOUR WELCOME BACK FROM SUMMER AT THE TREES FOR GEORGETOWN COCKTAIL PARTY SEPTEMBER 16TH AT DUMBARTON HOUSE

Trees for Georgetown is pleased to announce that our annual party will be held Sunday, September 16th from 6pm to 8pm at historic Dumbarton House. There will be live music, delicious hor-d'oeuvres, a sumptuous raw bar and an open bar.

This year's event will be Co-Chaired by Jill Altman, Christi Cline and Annemarie Ryan.



Betsy Emes, Bob Laycock, Christi Cline, Frank Randolph

As we cope with the dog days of summer in Georgetown, simply imagine enduring this sweltering heat in the city without a multitude of beautiful trees providing welcoming shade and beauty.

Since its founding over 27 years ago, Trees for Georgetown has made tremendous progress in beautifying and enhancing the livability of our community, planting nearly 3,000 trees along our sidewalks. This accomplishment has been made possible entirely through the generous donations of our community. Longtime Georgetown residents and new neighbors alike appreciate how important it is to care for our trees and plant new ones.

This year, tickets must be purchased in advance by September 14th and are available at the following levels:

PLATINUM \$10,000 donation will receive ten tickets and two trees donated in your name.

GOLD \$5,000 donation will receive six tickets and two trees donated in your name.

SILVER \$1,500 donation will receive four tickets and one tree donated in your name.

PATRON \$1,000 donation will receive four tickets.

INDIVIDUAL \$175.00 each

Checks may be made out to Citizens Association of Georgetown/Trees and sent to:

Bob Laycock
4000 Cathedral Ave, NW #813B
Washington, DC 20016

Credit card purchases may be made through Citizens of Georgetown/Trees. Please call Christi Cline at 997-2787 or email her at christimcline@gmail.com.

Please join us for a enjoyable celebration benefitting a wonderful cause.

TOWN HALL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, and the Georgetown BID

**will hold a town hall regarding
The DC Government's Small Cell Facilities Project**

DC Government representatives will give a presentation regarding the project and ample time will be allotted for questions and comments from attendees.

**Thursday, September 13th, 2018; 7:00 pm
City Tavern Club, 3206 M Street NW**

*For more information on Small Cells,
please see article on page 5.*

“GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.”

- Henry David Thoreau

As a leader in Georgetown’s real estate community, our firm proudly supports the Georgetown community. We are proud to sponsor the following events and organizations:

Citizens Association of Georgetown
Concerts in the Park
Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy
Friends of Book Hill Park Reception
Friends of Montrose Park
Friends of Rose Park

Friends of Volta Park
Georgetown House Tour (St. John’s)
Georgetown Jingle
(Georgetown University Hospital)
Hyde-Addison Elementary School Gala
Tudor Place



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President's LETTER

Dear CAG Community:

September! What a glorious month as it gives way to cooler days, fresher air, and friends filling the sidewalks back in town after summer holidays.

In the summer issue of this newsletter I wrote that there would be a focus on CAG's many committees and the volunteers who offer their time and expertise to support a community of which we are proud to call home.

First the list - Alcohol Beverage Control, chaired by Karen (Cookie) Cruse, Jennifer Romm; Concerts in the Park, chaired this last year by Amy Looney, Erin Mullan, Erin Sobanski; Historic Preservation & Zoning, chaired by Elsa Santoyo; Development, chaired by Brittany Sawyer; Programs/Meetings, chaired by Jennie Buehler; Membership, chaired by Florence Auld, Lisa Koches; Oral History, chaired by Cathy Farrell; Parking, chaired by Hazel Denton, Public Safety, chaired by John Rentzepis,

Richard Hinds; Transportation, chaired by Topher Mathews; Trash & Rodents, chaired by Patrick Clawson, Georgine Anton, new this year Infrastructure, chaired by Walter Groszyk; and Trees for Georgetown, chaired by Betsy Emes.

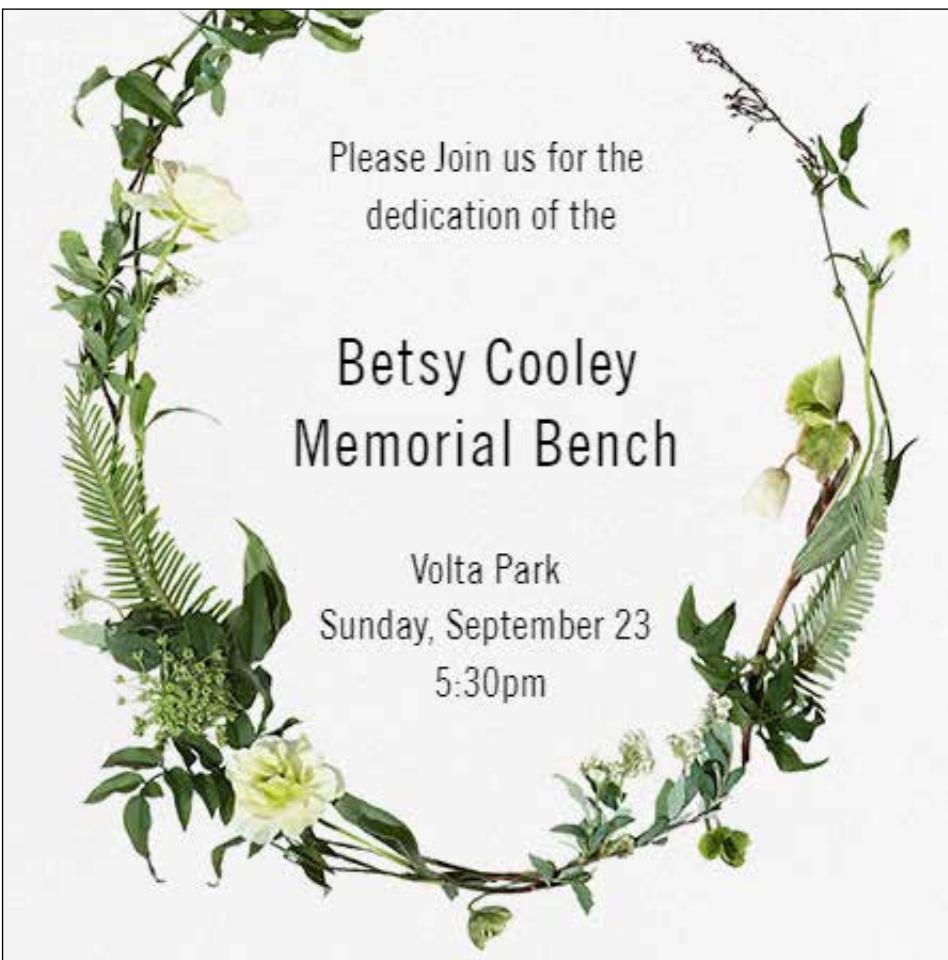
Your citizens association covers a good bit of territory and it would not be possible without these chairs and their committee members. I encourage you all to consider offering a few hours a month to support your community through CAG. You meet very interesting people and stay on top of the issues that impact us very directly.

Those of you who know me, know that I am a believer in dedicating considerable time and energy in order to have the funds in the bank to carry out the organization's important mission. Of course, one person does not achieve the funding goals. Fortunately CAG has a strong Development Committee, including volunteers Brittany Sawyer, Karen Murphy, Karin Wheeler, Jennifer Romm,



Becky Relic, and Lee Murphy. This very energetic committee is meeting with many of the businesses in town (new and old) and connecting with so many of you who have been generous over the years. Thank you. NOTICE in this newsletter the invitation to join your neighbors and friends on Wednesday, November 7 for a spectacular party in a spectacular home benefiting CAG. Please consider being on the Host Committee. This issue is full of news. Enjoy!

Pam Moore, PRESIDENT



UPCOMING CAG MEETINGS

Small Cell Town Hall Meeting

Thursday, September 13th – City Tavern Club – 7pm. Join us for a Town Hall style meeting to discuss the addition of 5G cell towers.

Trees for Georgetown Party

Sunday, September 16th, 6pm
Dumbarton House,
2715 Q Street NW.

Betsy Cooley Bench Dedication

Sunday, September 23rd, 5:30pm
Volta Park

Public Safety Meeting

Wednesday, October 17th
City Tavern Club – 7pm.

Watch for announcements and updates on cagtowntown.org/meetings and facebook.com/georgetowncitizens

Rockin' at Rose Park

THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL CONCERTS CO-CHAIRS, AMY LOONEY, ERIN MULLEN, AND ERIN SOBANSKI.



COMPASS



John D. Richardson



CAG RETURNS TO ITS FUNDRAISING "ROOTS"

Jennifer Romm, CAG Board & Development committee member

Many of you may remember when CAG first started hosting its annual fundraiser at Evermay and other neighborhood locations as a way to raise funds and get neighbors together. In the more than fifteen years since those first small gatherings began, the Gala has gotten bigger, grander, and more successful. Since we can't top that- rather than our usual spectacular black-tie Gala, we are returning to our roots and throwing an honest-to-goodness cocktail party bash to honor our dear Betsy Cooley who was such a lover of people, parties and the arts. Lisa and Josh Bernstein have graciously agreed to host us in their completely fabulous, newly renovated, art filled Cox Row home.

Mark your calendar for November 7, 2018. We are throwing a party and it wouldn't be the same without you!

Tickets will be available in mid-September and space is extremely limited. **If you are interested in joining the Host Committee please contact the CAG office: 202-337-7313 or cagmail@cagtown.org.**



UPDATE: 5G "SMALL CELLS" IN GEORGETOWN – TOWN HALL MEETING, SEPT. 13, AT 7PM AT THE CITY TAVERN

Elsa Santoyo, Chair, HPZ Committee

In the last newsletter (Summer 2018) we alerted our readers to the planned deployment in Georgetown and throughout the city of next generation technology – known as 5G “small cells”.

CAG, ANC2E and the BID are jointly sponsoring a Town Hall meeting dedicated to “small cells”. DDOT and the carrier companies were invited to present information on the locations, density, appearance, public health safety of the “Small Cells”, and how DDOT and the carrier companies are proposing to eliminate or mitigate potential adverse effects. The invitation requests that this information be presented to address the above concerns and to specifically include:

1. A map of Georgetown that overlays the “Small Cells” locations proposed by all MLA carriers - color coded by carrier company.
2. Renderings of each of the carrier companies proposed small cells designs in photos of typical Georgetown residential and commercial street settings.
3. The overall and component dimensions of the “Small Cells” overlaid on the rendered photos so our Community can understand real sizes in a real community settings.

To recap, each of the major internet/data/voice carriers is planning to deploy their own “small cells”. With the exception of Crown Castle (T-Mobile/Sprint’s installer), the carriers have not shared their designs. But here is what we do know generically: “small cells” consist of metal poles ranging from 20 to 35 ft in height, supporting antennas (to receive satellite signal) and radio transmitters (to wirelessly transmit that signal into homes), accompanied by



equipment cabinets that connect to fiber optic cables, with power equipment incorporated near the base of each of the poles. Both the number of “small cells” per block and their locations, are as of yet, unspecified. Customer demand and area coverage will determine the frequency of small cells each carrier will install per block.

The FCC and Congress currently are focused on fast deployment - developing rules and legislation to exempt the carriers from having to comply with design approvals. Nevertheless, this summer, the Commission of Fine Arts, and National Capital Planning Commission held hearings on “small cells”, and they along with the DC State Historic Preservation Office started working with DDOT to develop design guidelines for the carriers.

Plan to attend the Town Hall (particulars on the first page of the newsletter) We expect “small cells” to impact views out of our windows and affect the appearance of our streets. Be informed.

Welcome New CAG Staff!

This spring CAG welcomed Mandi Howard as our new Program Administrator. Mandi lives in Georgetown on the east side and is originally from Gadsden, Alabama. You may find Mandi doing yoga at Down Dog Yoga or enjoying a walk along the waterfront.

Catherine Shaw joined CAG in June as our Public Safety Coordinator. Catherine is a former longtime Georgetown resident, now living in Adams Morgan, and she has served on CAG’s board and membership committee. You may spot her commuting to work using local bike shares and scooters.

Next time you’re at a CAG meeting please introduce yourself to our new additions!



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HOW I LEARNED HOW TO BUILD A HYDROGEN BOMB

Walter Groszyk, *Infrastructure Chair*

Happenance, really.

Several years ago, the new owners of the West Heating Plant on 29th St. contracted with Langan, a world-wide environmental consulting firm. Langan tested the interior of the former government plant for the presence of hazardous and toxic contaminants. Prior to the sale of the plant and site, the government had catalogued widespread contamination, including asbestos, lead-based paint, PCBs, various organic compounds, and several heavy metals. Mercury was identified as being present, contained in light ballasts and various instrumental gauges.

Langan sampled the air inside the plant, something the government had never done; about 650 samples were taken at different spots in the plant. Mercury vapor was detected in the air, though the concentrations varied greatly. Liquid mercury becomes a gas at room temperature; it is odorless and colorless. At two spots, the mercury concentration was 50 micrograms per cubic meter, 160 times above the allowable EPA limit for a residential building. (As fifty micrograms was the upper limit of the sampling instrument, the concentration could have been higher.)

In a report to the owner, Langan indicated there was no effective way of removing the mercury while still preserving the West Heat-

ing Plant. The mercury vapor had permeated bricks and mortar, entering voids and cracks. Basically, anywhere air has gone within the plant, so has mercury vapor.

After reading the Langan report, I set out to find examples of mercury-contaminated industrial buildings that had been preserved. The EPA has a list of nearly 300 Superfund sites where mercury is a contaminant of concern, so a good place to start. Four sites had extant structures. One was a factory in Hoboken NJ used to manufacture mercury vapor lamps. Thirty years after lamp production ceased, the building was converted into 16 artist loft condominiums. The artists themselves had provided sweat equity over a summer to help complete the conversion, and noticed nothing untoward.

With the cooler temperatures of autumn, the artists, now residents, noticed little drops of mercury on countertops. Health and environmental authorities were summoned; the artists were 'permanently evacuated'; and after determining the contamination could not be remediated, the factory was demolished. EPA's Superfund compensated the artists for the loss of their property. Sampling of the air in the factory generally detected mercury in concentrations between 10 and 20 micrograms per cubic meter.

The second site was the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. At the Y-12

Complex at Oak Ridge, the government used millions of pounds of mercury to make Lithium-6, an isotope of lithium. Lithium-6, in essence, creates the 'boom' in a hydrogen bomb. Lithium-6 is produced using a cascade process, a series of repetitive steps to achieve the desired concentration of lithium. The government knew mercury vapor was a dangerous neurotoxin. Care was taken to design and operate the Y-12 facilities so that mercury concentrations in the air were 100 micrograms per cubic meter or less. Seventy years ago, this was thought to be a safe standard.

Lithium-6 production ceased in 1963. Subsequently, 11,600 workers at the Y-12 complex have received over \$1.8 billion in payments for medical and workers compensation claims. Demolition of all the mercury-contaminated buildings will begin in several years, cost many hundreds of millions of dollars, and be complete by 2038.

I was particularly interested in Oak Ridge, because the Federal government has nearly unlimited money, and employs highly skilled scientific and technical people at this National Laboratory. If any entity might find a way to preserve mercury-contaminated industrial buildings, it ought to be the scientists and engineers at Oak Ridge. They haven't, and neither has anyone else.

That should be very sobering for those advocating preservation of the West Heating Plant.

PUBLIC SAFETY: IT TAKES A VILLAGE

Richard Hinds, John Rentzepis, *Chairs*

If each of us does our part, we make the community less vulnerable to petty crime.

- Keep valuables out of sight. Never leave cell phones, portable GPS, loose change, gift cards, backpacks, briefcases or suitcases in your car in plain view. Take them with you or lock them in your glove box or trunk BEFORE you reach your destination.
- While pumping gas, lock your car door.
- Leave your porch and garden lights on at night. If away from home, put them on a timer to give the impression that someone is home.

- Keep all doors and windows locked. If you have an alarm, activate it. If you don't have an alarm, get one if you can.
- MPD encourages all home owners to install exterior cameras, such as Nest or Ring brands, which can help identify individuals if something does happen.
- Walk with confidence, with head up. The moment your chin drops, and your awareness focuses on your cell phone, you turn into an easy target.
- When walking on a sidewalk at night, walk facing traffic, to make it harder for a car to pull up behind you allowing someone to get out and surprise you.
- Report burnt-out street lights to 311. Or report them at <https://dc311.secure.force.com/ServiceRequestHome>

- Become a block captain if you don't have one and help protect your neighbors.
- Attend CAG's talk with Commander Gresham of the Metropolitan Police Department on October 17th at the City Tavern Club.

CAG's Public Safety Program works to keep Georgetown safe by hiring a patrol officer and informing residents of best safety practices. As a program member you can call the CAG patrol officer to get a walking escort to home or car for yourself or for a guest.

To join today, visit <http://cagtowntown.org/PublicSafety> or call the CAG office at (202) 337-7313. All contributions are tax deductible.

We thank each of you for your generous support of this community program!

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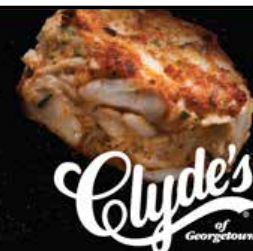
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THINGS ARE HAPPENING AT HISTORIC MT. ZION CEMETERIES

Lisa Fager

Things are happening at historic Mt. Zion (Old Methodist Burial Ground)—Female Union Band Society Cemeteries (Mt. Zion – FUBS Cemetery), a sacred burial ground for both enslaved and free African Americans from 1804-1950, located at 26th Street and Mill Road NW in Georgetown.



Recently, Dumbarton United Methodist Church transferred the deed to a portion of the land to the Mt. Zion United Methodist Church nearly 140 years after the Mt. Zion Congregation first signed their 99-year lease to use the property for their own burials (the other portion that comprises the cemetery was previously deeded to the Female Union Band Society). With donations from local philanthropists, a grant from the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown, and a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts & Humanities, experts were hired to eradicate the knotweed, survey the land and trees, document site artifacts and utilize photogrammetry surveying.

The Mt. Zion – FUBS Historic Memorial Park hopes to share personal stories soon about the ancestors buried at the cemetery. Early surveys and historians estimated the number of burials between 1,060-1,800; however, cemetery deeds and records found more than 2,700 burials. Research is still being conducted and the numbers could be much greater because of unmarked slave graves, unidentified interments alongside identified ones, and illegal or so-called "bootleg" burials—burials made in the dead of night (a common practice in communities whose members could not afford the costs associated with official burials).

During the month of August, the geophysical survey (ground penetrating radar) will be performed on the property. This modern archaeology will enable identification of

subsurface "features," without relying on the use of heavy equipment to remove the surface soil. Thus, it is possible to locate and map archaeological resources on a massive scale without destruction. We can't wait to share what we find – Stay tuned!



Left: Remaining monuments on the Female Union Band Cemetery sides including that of Franklin Jennings. Son of Paul Jennings and United States Colored Troop veteran. Paul Jennings was enslaved in the Madison White House and was noted for taking down the famous portrait of George Washington as the British were burning the city in 1814.

Right: Bartlett Tree Services securing the hazardous trees prior to the ground penetrating radar survey.

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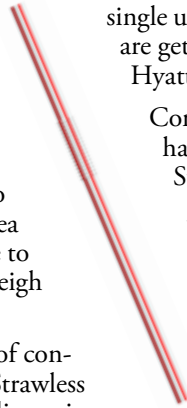
Lee Child, *Georgetown Garden Club*

Americans use half a billion plastic straws a day, enough to circle the Earth two and a half times. They are ubiquitous, in every chain restaurant, coffee shop, theme park and corner store. Because they are not recyclable, they often end up in landfills, defiantly undecomposed for two hundred years, or they float out to sea, finding their way into the nostril of an endangered sea turtle. Plastic straws are totally unnecessary and contribute to a mass of plastic that experts say will one day literally outweigh all the fish in the sea.

Awareness is on its way, thanks in large part to the efforts of conservation groups all over the world. In July, because of its Strawless in Seattle campaign, Seattle became the largest metropolitan city

to ban the single use plastic straw. The UK is set to ban all sales of single use plastics next year. Sea World, Ikea, and Royal Caribbean are getting rid of plastic straws and bags. Starbucks, McDonalds, Hyatt and Cava are on board, as is Disney World!

Commitment to sustainability is gaining momentum, and it's happening here. Mayor Bowser has signed on to Our Last Straw Coalition, encouraging all in the District to reduce plastic waste. "Straws Upon Request" signs are popping up in restaurants across the city as with Clyde's Restaurant Group where plastic straw use has been reduced by 90%! In July, DC Council members Jack Evans and Mary Cheh, along with Chairman Phil Mendelson introduced a bill banning all plastic straws and stirrers, effective January 1, 2019. The straw war is raging. It's the new normal. Alleluia!



MEMBERSHIP MEANS STRENGTH

Lisa Koches

September marks the beginning of changes in the year. The lazy days of summer are gone and regular routines begin with children returning to school. For CAG, September means a time for us to assess what we wish to accomplish by the end of the year. A primary goal continues to be increasing our membership. We strive to educate residents on CAG's important work in our community.

CAG's Public Safety Program helps keep our streets safe. Trees for Georgetown brings beauty to our village. Monthly historic presentations and Concerts in the Park are educational and entertaining. In short, CAG has something for everyone! We cannot do it without support through paid memberships.

Please take a moment to check your membership status. If you are not a member, please join. If you have been a member, please be sure you have renewed and your membership is active.

We are all caught up in daily chores and it is easy to lose track of such tasks. We have tried to make our renewal process easier by adding auto renewal online. If you choose this option when paying your dues, you will never have to worry again about your membership status and will save processing fees for yourself and CAG.

Thank you in advance for being a part of our CAG family. Be sure to spread the word to your neighbors to make our group even stronger!

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

CAG MEMBERSHIP DUES

~ CAG dues are fully tax deductible ~

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (HOME) _____

WORK OR CELL _____

EMAIL _____

Membership Category:

___ \$55 Individual Resident

___ \$75 Family Resident / Business

___ \$10 Student (non-voting)

Form of Payment: Amount \$ _____

☐ Check (made payable to CAG)

☐ Credit Card ___ Visa ___ MasterCard ___ American Express

☐ Auto-Renew Annual Membership

Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

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Billing address for this card *if different from above*

Authorized Signature _____

Please return to: Citizens Association of Georgetown,
Suite 200, 1365 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20007 – 202-337-7313



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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

Sat Sep 15 Annual Georgetown Community Day at Georgetown University, 11am – 1pm.

Sat Sep 15 Autumn Stroll with the Georgetown Set at Georgetown Library from 1pm – 3pm. Join Rick Massimo, author of *A Walking Tour of the Georgetown Set*, for an autumn tour of the neighborhood that was home to the bureaucratic, journalistic, and spy elites of Washington during the Cold War.

Sun Sep 16 Trees for Georgetown Party at Dumbarton House, 2715 Q Street NW.

Sat Sep 22 A Literary Guide to Washington, DC from 1pm – 2pm. The Peabody Room at the Georgetown Library. Join author Kim Roberts as she discusses her new book.

Sat Sep 22 Brews, Booze, & Bites at Tudor Place – 1pm – 4pm brings purveyors of artisanal and local food, drinks, desserts and music to our historic Georgetown estate's rolling South Lawn.

Sun Sep 23 Taste of Georgetown Eat your way through some of the neighborhood's best restaurants while supporting the important homeless services work of the Georgetown Ministry Center.

PLANNING AHEAD

Mon Oct 1 ANC October Meeting at 6:30pm. Georgetown Visitation School, 1524 35th Street, NW.

Sat Oct 27 Trick or Treat at Tudor Place from 10am – 1pm. Explore the Tudor Place garden as the seasons change, and trick or treat throughout the site.

Sat Oct 27 Georgetown Walking Tour: Spirits of Georgetown at Dumbarton House 6pm – 8pm. Dwane Starlin, a member of the Guild of Professional Tour Guides, leads you on an evening tour of historic Georgetown. Discover the community's rich past and mysterious happenings from past to present.

Tues Nov 6 District of Columbia General Elections

Wed Nov 7 CAG Cocktail Party Fundraiser – The Bernstein Residence

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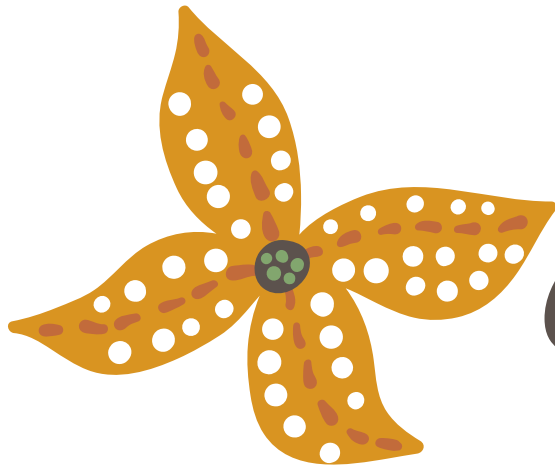
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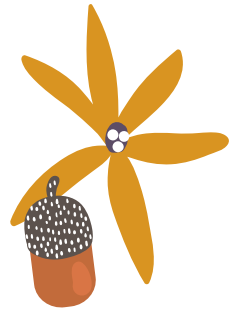
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FALLING FOR
Georgetown



TREES
for Georgetown

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 16, 2018

Trees for Georgetown's Garden Party

Dumbarton House

To learn more about this event please email
treesforgeorgetown@gmail.com