



Redskins Legend Charley Casserly Talks to CAG meeting

At the New Nike Store

Georgetown resident Charley Casserly, a 16-year veteran NFL General Manager and 24-year NFL executive who worked for the Washington Redskins and Houston Texans, will speak at the CAG meeting on Thursday, November 29. Charley currently works for NFL Network. The CAG program will be at the stunning new Nike flagship store at 3040 M Street in, of course, the football area on the second floor.



After leaving the Redskins in 1999, Casserly took on the General Manager role for the expansion Houston Texans. He drafted three Rookie of the Year players and six Pro Bowl players in five drafts. In addition, Casserly has had extensive experience in radio and television for 16 years. While in Washington, he was a part of local television shows on WUSA (CBS), WJLA (ABC), WTTG (Fox) and HTS (Home Team Sports).

In his 23-year career with the Washington Redskins, the team went to four Super Bowls, winning three. Casserly was an assistant to Bobby Beathard for two of the Super Bowl winning seasons. Casserly started with the Redskins in 1977 as an unpaid intern under Hall of Fame coach George Allen. Washington hired Casserly as a scout the next season. During his early years as a scout, he unearthed free agents Joe Jacoby and Jeff Bostic, who were original members of the famed "Hogs" offensive line and key components of Washington's first two Super Bowl teams. The Redskins elevated Casserly to Assistant General Manager in 1982 and the club went on to capture its first Super Bowl.

In 1987 during the NFL players strike, Casserly put together the Redskins' "replacement" team that went 3-0 before the strike ended, including a Monday Night win against a Dallas team that featured a number of its star players. That experience was the subject of the Warner Bros. feature film, "The Replacements," that starred Keanu Reeves and Gene Hackman.

Elevated to General Manager in 1989, Casserly sustained the Redskins' history of uncovering high-quality players in the later rounds of the draft. He used a fifth-round draft pick in 1990 to select Southwest Louisiana quarterback Brian Mitchell. Washington then converted Mitchell into a running back/kick returner, where he later joined Jim Brown as the only players in NFL history to lead the league in combined net yards four times. In 1993 he re-instituted the intern program, which has resulted in more than 30 interns having enjoyed successful careers in professional and collegiate sports. In 1999, Sports Illustrated, Pro Football Weekly, The Sporting News and USA Today named Casserly their NFL Executive of the Year at mid-season.

Casserly is an executive-in-residence and instructor of sport management at George Mason University and teaches classes at Georgetown University. Casserly and his wife of 28 years, Beverley, have a daughter, Shannon, and live in The Cloisters.

The recently opened three-storey Nike store is "designed to optimize energy efficiency and incorporate recycled and reclaimed materials, like the repurposed sport flooring used throughout wherever possible." The store features floors made of reclaimed wood from local gymnasiums, accented in Georgetown University colors, and a display highlighting Hall of Fame GU basketball coach, John Thompson, Jr. At the opening, a Nike executive said Nike could have located in several different places in the DC metro area, but chose Georgetown because of the "very long and valued partnership with Coach Thompson and the University" and the area's "rich history and heritage."

Please join CAG on Thursday evening, November 29, at the new Nike store to hear from football expert Charley Casserly, a key figure in Redskins and NFL history. Reception with "tailgate" refreshments begins at 7pm compliments of Safeway Catering, the program kicks off at 7:30.



Football displays at the new Nike store

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

What fun it was Puttin' on the Glitz. It felt like all of Georgetown turned out to honor Pamela and Richard Hinds at the 2012 Georgetown Gala. First and foremost thank you to Russian Ambassador, His Excellency Sergey Kisylak, Mrs. Kisylak and the incredible staff at the Russian Embassy for hosting us in such style. Then I give kudos to the Gala team: chairs Nancy Taylor Bubes, Michele Evans, and Patrice Miller, along with our very own Betsy Cooley. The whole committee did a super job from invitations (Jackie Pletcher, Florence Auld), to glamorous decorations and activities (Lesley Lee, Annemarie Ryan, Colleen Girouard, Robin Jones, Ann Kenkel and top hats from Anna Fuhrman), to publicity (Tamra Bentsen and Lindsay Rupp), to Sponsors (Nancy Taylor-Bubes, Marcie Connolly, Beth Webster, Patrice Miller), tickets, reception table, program, names tags and more (Elizabeth Maloy and eight wonderful Junior League volunteers), to the GREAT Auction (Patrice Miller, with help from Michele Evans, Constance Chatfield — Taylor, Susan Dimarco, Ada Polla and others).

Pat and Joe Lonardo were a masterful auctioneering team — thank you! And none of it would have been possible without our generous corporate and individual sponsors — thank you! For a full listing of corporate sponsors see page 5.

Each one of these businesses is extremely involved in our community and we appreciate their financial support for the important work of the Citizens Association. Our mission is to protect Georgetown's historic character, improve the community and advocate for our residents. The funds raised at this Gala are crucial to this mission. We would not be able to continue taking such an active role in the community without your support.



A great shot of our hard-working CAG Board. Pictured L-R standing: Michele Jacobson, Topher Mathews, Hazel Denton, Brooke Carnot, Cookie Cruse, Brad Gray, Bob Laycock, Diane Colasanto, Rich Hinds, Barbara Downs, Bob vom Eigen. L-R seated: Luca Pivato, Jennifer Altemus, Pamla Moore

And, of course, a HUGE thank you to everyone who attended. Check out our website to see pictures of how fabulous everyone looked and what a special night it was.

I hadn't been to the Georgetown library in a few months and when I went the other day for CAG's Friends of the Georgetown Library board meeting I was delighted to see so many people taking advantage of its terrific resources. That evening we heard from Jess Gilocose, the new children's librarian, about the many activities at the library. There are story times for various ages and a children's music class. On the first Tuesday of each month a Children's Writers Group gives kids ages 7 – 11 the chance to explore their creativity through different writing projects. There was a Fall Festival with pumpkin painting, tombstone creating, literary twister and refreshments. This month, the library is hosting several European Union Open House performances including a Slovenian Puppet Show and performers from Cyprus. These will dovetail nicely with the Folktales series, cultural evenings that explore countries through stories, food and art.

Two important events coming up: The Friends will hold their popular used book sale on November 17 from 10am to 3pm. Donations are being accepted at the library.

On December 5, the Friends and the DC Public Library Foundation will host a book-signing and reception in honor of Kitty Kelley and her wonderful new book, *Capturing Camelot*, featuring more than 200 photos by iconic photographer Stanley Tretick and heartwarming essays from Stanley's good friend Kitty. This collection includes some of the most memorable images of America's Camelot. At the event, Kitty will discuss her long-lasting friendship with Stanley and the Kennedy family's life in Georgetown. For more information please call 202-727-4943.

It's hard to believe it is November already. As a Redskins fan, I look forward to seeing many of you at Charley Casserly's talk to CAG on November 29. If I don't see you before — I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

—Jennifer Altemus

ASPECTS OF GEORGETOWN BY MARIO B. SCHOWERS

Remembering the Washington Post's Bill Raspberry

(This month I turn my column over to Mario Schowers who can often be seen tidying up on the corner of 30th and Q Streets. It is the cleanest corner in Georgetown. Mario is intelligent, polite and well-spoken. He is also homeless. – Edith Schafer)

Growing up in N.E. Washington, I was just a college sophomore when I first met William Raspberry in 1970. Bowie State University had no journalism program then, only two introductory courses –101 and 102. The teacher, Mr. Clyde Reid, had invited Bill to the small class. I had often read his “Potomac Watch” local column as well as Carl T. Rowan, whose columns were on the Op-Ed Page. Following his visit to the campus, I went to the paper, then at 1515 L Street, NW, and was hired as a news-room copy-aide on the fifth floor.

During summer months or on semester breaks I answered phones, sorted mail, ran re-plates, galley proofs and page proofs and moved supplies. It was Bill's influence that inspired me to earn a B.A. in English and join the Post full-time in 1973,

when President Nixon was being treated at the Bethesda Naval Hospital for pneumonia. The Pentagon Papers, Watergate, the printers' and pressmen's strikes at the paper all were roiling issues between 1970 and 1976, when I worked there.

The Post also had a 2-year intern-training program in the contract for minority employees. I had the privilege of knowing Post reporters and editors Ivan Brandon, Leon Dash, Dorothy Gilliam, Judith Martin, Martin Weil, Hollie West and Vernon Jordan. He was President of the National Urban League, the second largest Black Civil Rights organization in America. It was founded in 1912, three years after the NAACP.

All were present for the recent funeral of William Raspberry at the Washington National Cathedral. It was a moving experience to shake

Vernon Jordan's hand just before the service. Mr. Jordan was shot in the back by a racist sniper in Fort Wayne, Indiana in the early 1970s.

Both Dorothy Gilliam, on crutches from a recent fall and now teaching at George Washington University, and Bill Raspberry were hired in 1962 when Philip Graham was publisher. Bill retired in 2005 and did not get a Pulitzer Prize until 32 years after his hiring. Such prizes are for younger men with strong legs as career enhancers. And maybe the Post by now would have its first Black Executive Editor or Managing Editor.

Katharine Graham's rise at the paper followed her husband Phil Graham's reported suicide in 1963. Bill was eulogized by Phil's son, Donald Graham, Dorothy Gilliam, Vernon Jordan and Dr. Vincent Adams.



Key Bridge again a beautiful site
(photo by Walter Groszyk)

For many months, the abutment piers of Key Bridge were debased by graffiti scrawl. No longer. DDOT has painted over the defacing. This was not a simple nor easy task, given the piers are in the Potomac, and accessible only by boat or by rappelling off the top of the bridge.

The District government will remove graffiti from private property. For a copy of the property-owners consent form allowing this removal, see: <http://dpw.dc.gov/DC/DPW/About+DPW/Publications/Graffiti+Removal+Release+Form>

The Department of Public Works also provides vouchers for homeowners to purchase, without charge, materials and paint to remove graffiti from their property. For more information on these vouchers, call (202) 727-1000.

PUTTING ON THE GLITZ

Georgetown *Puts on the Glitz* at Russian Embassy



Auctioneer Joe Lonardo promotes the scavenger hunt party, with assistance from "Sherlock Holmes" and party hosts Constance Chatfield-Taylor, Florence Auld, Colleen Girouard, and Jackie Pletcher



Gala co-chairs Patrice Miller, Michele Evans, and Nancy Taylor Bubes in the grand ballroom



Pat Lonardo and Martin Gammon dance on stage



Jack Evans and Mayor Vincent Gray, pictured here with Honorary Chair Mark Ein, honored Pamela and Richard Hinds



Jennifer Altemus with hosts Ambassador and Mrs. Kislyak



A debonair Robert Devaney from The Georgetownner



Gala committee members Colleen Girouard and Florence Auld with Bob Laycock



Long & Foster sponsors Adrienne Szabo, Salley Windmayer, Paul Foster, and Janet Whitman



The Georgetown Chimes welcomed guests on the grand staircase

All photos courtesy The Georgetowner and Revamp.



"Sherlock Homes" discusses the scavenger hunt auction item with Betsy Cooley, Annemarie Ryan, Tom Ryan, and Hazel Denton



Terra Marsden & Jodi Moore from Sprinkles



Gala sponsor Bill Dean and friends



Brad Gray and Helen Darling had the winning bid for an apartment in Florence

We appreciate the donations of many businesses and individuals who came together to support the fabulous evening:

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Ellington School Renovation Planned for 2013-2015

I spoke with Peggy Cooper Cafritz about the news, hot off the presses, that the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, which she founded with the late Mike Malone in 1974, is about to undergo a major renovation. Peggy said the school has been in urgent need of upgrades for many years — she said, “The place is a mess.” The Ellington School occupies the old Western High School building at Reservoir and 35th Street, which was built in 1898 and is a historic landmark. As Ellington expanded, it struggled to house its faculty and student population in an out-of-date and inadequate facility, and demand for space is critical. Because the school was not designed as an art school, it lacks sufficient room to accommodate the needs of many artistic disciplines — dance; instrumental and vocal music; literary media and communications; theater; technical design and production; and visual arts. The music department, which makes up 40 percent of the student body, is crammed onto one floor, choirs cannot assemble in full, and students scatter throughout the building to practice

individual instruments. Museum studies share science classrooms, while theater classes meet in math rooms. In addition to the need for additional space and facilities (think a black box theater, practice modules and more computer labs), basic systems like plumbing and air conditioning require an extensive overhaul.

The renovation is scheduled for the summer of 2013 and will continue until the school reopens in fall 2015. Peggy said that the specifics are still in the planning stage, but she is impressed by the number of major architectural firms that have applied to design the school’s new interior. According to Charles Barber, president of Ellington’s board of directors, the renovation will be sensitive to the building’s status on the National Register of Historic Places and the community will be very involved in the planning process. I asked Peggy if the students would be moved to another location during the two year renovation, but she said no plans had been made yet. “Finding the right place and

the right space will be difficult. Maybe we won’t move the students, but all of that is still up in the air. We have many dreams, some of them will be realized and others won’t. We have a lot of work to do and a lot of money to raise.” Peggy said that this year Ellington received 1600 applications for 180 slots. She hopes that eventually there will be room to offer more students the opportunity to develop their artistic skills as well as their academic ones. The Ellington School has produced an impressive number of accomplished graduates, such as opera star Denyce Graves, comedian Dave Chappelle, R&B singer Tony Terry, indie rock musician Mary Timony, and jazz trumpeter Wallace Roney.

—V V Harrison

Ice Rink at Washington Harbour

The fountains at Washington Harbour were turned off on October 1st to begin the transformation of the space into an 11,800 square-foot ice rink – two-thirds the size of a professional hockey rink. With the beautiful backdrop of the Kennedy Center, Roosevelt Island, and the Potomac River, Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park President Bob vom Eigen is very enthusiastic about the rink and hopes to turn Washington Harbour into Rockefeller Center during the winter

months. Admission to the rink is \$9 for adults, \$7 for children, and \$7 for students with valid ID; skate rentals are available for \$5. The hours of operation are Monday through Thursday noon to 9pm, Friday from noon to 10pm, Saturday from 10am to 10pm, and Sunday from 10am to 7pm. Holiday events will include a skate with Santa Claus and the rink can be reserved for private events. Skating lessons will be offered for those ages 4 and older at all skill levels.

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Numbers to Know

Report Suspicious Activity or crimes: *For emergency and non-emergency situations call 911.* Be sure to relay details such as height, clothing, car make/model.

Free Emergency Medical Help: The Georgetown Emergency Response Medical Service (GERMS) provides 24 hour-7 days a week free quality emergency services and transportation to the residents of Georgetown. For help, call 687-HELP (687-4357).

Call Georgetown University's Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP) at 687-8413 to report student disturbances on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights – SNAP will respond to the site of the report. At all other times, the Hotline is answered by GU's Department of Public Safety, who notify the Metropolitan Police Department and send a report to the University's Off Campus Student Life staff for follow up. If you want to follow up on your call the next day, please call 687-5138 or email ocsl@georgetown.edu – both the University and CAG always appreciate details that describe what residents experienced. Anne Koester, director of Off-Campus Student Life is at 687-3199.

Request City Services: See a street light out? Broken sidewalk? Other problems in Georgetown? Report it by calling 311 or using the DC City Services website: <http://311.dc.gov>.

To report clogged or flooded storm drains, visit the DCWASA site: www.dcwasa.com/report_problem.

New Concert Series at St. John's Church

Mark your calendars for the new Georgetown Concert Series at St. John's Episcopal Church, 3204 O Street NW. Sunday December 2nd will feature the American Boy-choir's *Family Christmas Concert*. Start the holiday season with one of the country's premiere boys' choir performances. Plan ahead: attend the Carols by Candlelight festival, a presentation of readings and music with the St. John's Choir on Sunday December 16. The concerts begin at 5pm; single tickets are \$30 each and \$15 for students and seniors. To purchase tickets in advance call the church at 338-1796.

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Congratulations Officer Atkins!

Maggiano's Little Italy restaurant on Wisconsin Avenue was the scene of a raucous celebration the evening of Thursday, October 4. The event was the Metropolitan Police Department's Citizens Advisory Council's Awards Banquet for the Second District. Presided over by 2D Commander Michael Reese and 2D MPD CAC Chair George Corey, the awards honored individuals who have shown "exemplary devotion" and the "highest standard of community service." Georgetown's own Officer Antonial Atkins was named both Officer of the Year for PSA 206, Georgetown's Police Service Area, and Officer of the Year for the entire Second District.



Block captains Maggie Handel, Carla Bicks, Bev Casserly, Traci Siegel and Diane Colasanto with 2D and PSA 206 Officer of the Year Antonial Atkins and his son Tony

Cloisters residents Bev and Charley Casserly generously hosted a table of CAG block captains at the dinner, and we joined Officer Atkins's family and colleagues in cheering his well-deserved honors. In making the award, Commander Reese noted the exceptionally close ties Officer Atkins

has formed with Georgetown residents through the many community meetings he has held at local parks and block captains' homes. [The most recent meeting was held at the Safeway Café on October 27; the next issue of the Newsletter will contain a full report on it.] Officer Atkins expressed his gratitude for the work of the entire Georgetown community in helping to develop these close ties. But we are the ones who are fortunate to know and work with Officer Atkins. Thanks to him, and to so many other hard-working members of MPD, for helping to keep us safe.

—Diane Colasanto
CAG Public Safety Committee

Eco-Tips from the Georgetown Garden Club

In our ongoing effort to go green, we're offering eco-friendly tips that will help protect the environment and, in this case, preserve your sanity. For instance: Junk mail — did you know that over 100 million trees are cut down annually to make junk mail in the U.S.? Did you know that 44% of junk mail is thrown away

unopened? 5.6 million tons of catalogs end up in landfills every year.

Reduce the volume of junk mail that arrives on your doorstep by registering with the mail preference service of the Direct Marketing Association (DMA). Go to dmachoice.org. It won't guarantee you a life free of junk mail but it's a start. If you're

not computer oriented, simply tear off the cover of the catalog you don't want to receive (with your name on it) and return it to the company that sent it along with a message: *Take me off your mailing list!*

—Lee Childs
Georgetown Garden Club

NEWSBYTES

After much speculation, we hear that the **Shops at Georgetown Park** will house **T.J. Maxx, HomeGoods, and Michael's Craft Stores**, all with street access; construction is expected to take 10 months to a year... **Drybar** is now open at 1825 Wisconsin Avenue offering only blow-out hair styles (no cut or color) for a flat price of \$40, including Cosmopolitan (loose curls), Straight Up (simple and straight), or Mai Tai (messy and beachy) to name a few... An octagonal coffin was unearthed on the 3300 block of Q Street during a construction project; archaeologists found five sets of human remains for the second time in 7 years on that same block... According to its Twitter feed, **NikeTown**, now open on M Street in the old Barnes & Noble location, is offering gait analysis to help you find the perfect running shoe and is hosting a run club on Tuesdays at 6pm... **Mie n Yu** has closed its doors on M Street after almost 10 years at that location... Opening at 1267 Wisconsin Avenue is **Jonathon Adler**, home and decorating store... The **Latham Hotel** and **Citronelle Restaurant** are set to re-open in early 2013 after renovations due to extensive water damage.

TREES FOR GEORGETOWN FALL PLANTING

This fall, Trees for Georgetown will be planting 45 trees. Species include London plane tree, sweetgum rotundiloba, swamp white oak and Chinese (lace-bark) elm. Planting is planned for late November/early December, weather permitting.

As in previous years, all tree boxes will be taken down to sidewalk level, the soil ameliorated with topsoil and organic mulch, and the tree planted

and mulched. A regulation wrought-iron fence will also be installed around each new tree. Ooze tubes will be provided in the spring and there will be two to three waterings in the summer. All trees will be guaranteed for one year.

Due to lack of funding, the O & P Streets Project was unable to replace all of the trees lost during project implementation. Trees for Georgetown is therefore concentrating its

planting in the Project area with 38 trees so that every box in the Project area will be filled.

Trees for Georgetown is funded solely through donations from individuals and civic organizations. Many thanks to all whose generous contributions have made this possible.

—Betsy Emes, Chair
Trees for Georgetown

Fourteen Months for Utilities, One Day for a Bridge

The reconstruction of the 29th Street bridge over the C&O canal is complete. Work on the bridge began nearly two years ago with much of the time spent moving the many utility lines that rely on the bridge structure to cross the canal — natural gas, water, electrical, and telecommunications. Nearly all the lines had to be moved twice, once from the old bridge so it could be demolished and then back onto the new bridge.



Installing the fiberglass bridge deck on the 29th Street bridge

It took just one day is to install the bridge deck. The new deck is fiberglass, as strong as reinforced

concrete, built in Ohio, and transported to DC for installation. It is

the first use of a fiberglass bridge deck in DC.

The new bridge will finally open in November, and its opening will complete reconstruction of four bridges over the canal: 29th Street, 30th Street, Thomas Jefferson Street, and Wisconsin Avenue. Design is underway for the reconstruction of the fifth and last bridge at 31st Street. The reconstructed 31st Street bridge will no longer have the supporting columns that rise from the middle of the canal to support the span.

—Walter Groszyk

Georgetown's Frida Burling was recognized for her tireless support of the Bishop John T. Walker School for Boys – and the community at large – when she received an award created in her honor. She was the first recipient of the **Frida Burling Community Service Award**, an honor that will be bestowed in future years to others who provide outstanding service to the school and community. The school, which provides education for 74 boys in Southeast DC, and the Georgetown community all thank Frida for her unending generosity. Congratulations Frida!

Top Real Estate Experts Brief CAG: Location, Preservation, Community

Representatives of three top Georgetown real estate firms gave expert opinions regarding the Georgetown housing market at the October 16 CAG meeting. Hosted by the recently re-opened Tony & Joe's Seafood Place in Washington Harbour, over 100 guests enjoyed wine and hors d'oeuvres followed by a lively presentation on "the good, the bad, and the ugly" of Georgetown real estate. Tom Anderson, President of Washington Fine Properties; John Mahshie, Senior Vice President at TTR/Sotheby's International Realty; and Margaret Heimbold, Senior Housing Specialist at Long and Foster; provided advice, insight, and great stories about historic Georgetown's housing market.



A large crowd heard from Tom Anderson (standing), John Mahshie, and Margaret Heimbold



Jennifer Altemus, Tom Anderson, John Mahshie, and Margaret Heimbold

Tom Anderson said that during the recent decline in the housing market, DC — and Georgetown — remained fairly unscathed and Georgetown remains "red hot" in well-priced homes between 500,000 and two million dollars. He noted that the very name Georgetown resonates all over the world. It is one of the few neighborhoods immediately recognized as historic and important — nestled in the heart of one of the greatest and most powerful cities in the world. Its history, architecture, diverse price range of side-by-side houses, along with many community organizations and events — such as the Georgetown House Tour — make Georgetown very popular. Tom said people from outside of the area always want to look in Georgetown first because it is a real community as well as the gateway to the Washington capital region. He highlighted the importance of location, curb appeal,

and staging when placing your home on the market. What has changed from years past is that now, 90% of buyers have already seen your house on the internet first and their in person visit to the house is their second viewing.

John Mahshie says his clients want to be in historic Georgetown because it embodies the country's heritage, "Just walking down the street you can see and feel the history of our country." We have been a leader in the historic preservation movement setting a precedent on maintaining the history of the architecture of the community while still being able to function as a thriving, modern neighborhood. When his clients purchase homes in Georgetown, Mahshie feels those buyers are contributing to history: "The history of our country is in the bricks, in the mortar, in the glass windows. Abiding by historic

preservation regulations during renovations, such as keeping old windows, is one of the greatest acts of patriotism you can do because it is a legacy you leave to future generations."

Margaret Heimbold commented that Georgetown is in the midst of a "renovation revolution," many houses in Georgetown have been renovated two or three times. Margaret and husband, Art, have renovated their home three times — always respecting the original architecture. While renovations keep properties in good condition, they can also diminish the relationship between the owner and the history of the home. She urged everyone do a house history saying "it will make you fall in love with your house — the former owners and architectural attributes." She and her husband learned they are the fourth owner of their home that was built in 1893. All of the speakers said that when owners or buyers want to make renovations, realtors are available to give advice on the best way to move forward, such as how to keep those original glass windows, and still update the house. And they all said CAG is a great source of historic preservation information and advocacy. Margaret ended by saying "the very good news is that restoration always leads to greater home value."

CAG thanks Tony & Joe's for hosting CAG's enlightening panel event and providing a gorgeous backdrop of the Potomac River and the Kennedy Center. Many thanks to our expert panel who provided a fascinating presentation on an important — and much-talked about — subject.

—Elizabeth Maloy

West Heating Plant Update

The General Services Administration's (GSA) proposed sale of the Federally-owned West Heating Plant continues to make news. Several parties, including an art critic for the Washington Post, have called for converting the building into a museum. The District government has signaled its goal to have much of the parcel become open space/park, following the District's Comprehensive Plan. CAG representatives attended a meeting hosted by

the General Services Administration (GSA) on the West Heating Plant; representatives from CAG, Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park, DC Office of Planning and the National Park Service attended. Developers have voiced concern that possible limits on changing the exterior façade may make adapting the building to a new use difficult.

A key future step will be the release of the final Environmental

Assessment (EA). The final EA will address comments received from various parties, including CAG, on the draft EA published several months ago. GSA stated that no auction can be held until after the 30 day review period of the final EA has ended. This will delay the auction date until December, at the earliest.

—Walter Groszyk
*Historic Preservation &
Zoning Committee*

Gas Station Corner(s)!

My sister, Lee Child, recently had a dead car battery. In order to get a quick jump, she hiked over to the Exxon Station on Wisconsin Avenue and Q Street and met up with a terrific guy, Rob Green, who also happens to be the new manager. He went to great lengths to assist her in every possible way, and when her car was operational again he said there would be no charge. I was impressed and determined to meet the man who offered his time and talent to a damsel in distress and did so with a willing smile and a generous heart. When I approached him last week, I found him to be exactly as my sister described him — cheerful, courteous, anxious to please his customers, and very much in tune with their needs and desires. He

said “customer service is our main priority” and “we will do everything possible to service your car in a reasonable amount of time,” adding “that means every make and model.”

He also told me that Hamood Abutaa, who owns the Wisconsin Avenue station, has purchased the property across the street. This location will open as a Shell station soon, and hopefully give the same good service. I asked Rob Green's old friend, and fellow mechanic, Ron Campbell, if there were certain cars that needed more service than others. Not knowing that I drove one, he cited the Volkswagen, saying it seemed to be a hit or miss situation, “You either get a good one or a lemon, but in most cases if a car is looked after properly there is no reason

it shouldn't last a decade.” They gave GM's GMC and the Ford Explorer high marks for dependability.

I also asked them about gasoline - Extra, Plus and Regular — is there really a difference? They both agreed there is. It's all about octane and the level of viscosity...more than that I can't tell you. But I can recommend that the next time you need to fill up, or inflate your tires, or have that pesky engine light checked, pull into the Exxon and meet Rob and Ron and their team. Oh, and don't expect a free ride. As Rob said “I was happy to do it for her, but I won't do it for everybody.” The station is open from 8 to 5 and the store from 6-11.

—V V Harrison



Special Offer from Tony & Joe's

Tony and Joe's would like to thank everyone for attending the Citizens Association of Georgetown meeting at our restaurant. We hope you enjoyed yourself, and would like to invite you back with your friends to share an appetizer on us. Bring this personal invitation and with the purchase of four entrees, we will buy you one appetizer of your choice. Choose from Freshly Shucked Oysters, Colossal Shrimp Cocktail, or our Signature Broiled Crab Dip (up to a \$22 value). Check out our menu online at www.tonyandjoes.com/menus/. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Citizens Association of Georgetown

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[Please submit items and info by the 10th of the month prior to the month of publication.]



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NOVEMBER COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

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- Sat. Nov. 10** D.C. A Capella Festival; 7:30pm; featuring GU's groups the Phantoms (co-ed) and the Grace Notes (all female) along with other guest performers; Gaston Hall, Healy Building, Georgetown University; \$10 general admission, \$8 students; <http://performingarts.georgetown.edu/> for tickets.
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- Tues. Nov. 13** Friday Morning Music Club: music circa 1800; noon; Dumbarton House, 2715 Q Street NW; visit www.dumbartonhouse.org for more information.
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- Thurs. Nov. 15** *Impressions of Interior: Walter Gray's Watercolor Techniques*; hear a lecture on Gray's technique and composition for his Gilded Age works; 2pm; Tudor Place members \$15, non-members \$20; Tudor Place, 1644 31st Street NW; register at www.tudorplace.org.
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- Sat. Nov 17** Friends of the Georgetown Library Used Book Sale; 10am-3pm; Georgetown Library, 3260 R Street NW.
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- Thurs. Nov. 29** CAG Meeting: Redskins and NFL Expert Charley Casserly; hosted by the Nike store, 3040 M Street; reception 7pm, program 7:30
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- Fri. Nov. 30** Wreath-Making Workshop; 10am or 1pm; create your own wreath using materials from the Tudor Place gardens; materials and instruction provided; members (per wreath) \$38, non-members \$48; Tudor Place, 1644 31st Street NW; register at www.tudorplace.org.
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- Sun. Dec. 2** American Boychoir: *Family Christmas Concert*; enjoy the holiday season with one of the country's premiere boys' choir performances; 5pm; single tickets \$30 each, \$15 for students/seniors; St. John's Episcopal Church, 3204 O Street; call 338-1796 or purchase tickets at the door.
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- Mon. Dec. 3** Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation; agenda available at www.anc2e.com; call 724-7098 for more information.
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- Wed. Dec. 5** Kitty Kelley Discusses her new book *Capturing Camelot, Stanley Tretick's Iconic Images of the Kennedys*; 6-8pm; \$100 donation to attend benefits the DC Public Library Foundation, includes a signed copy of the book; Georgetown Library 3260 R Street NW.
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