



VOLUME XLIIII | ISSUE 3 | WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

# 2019 Annual Meeting, Community Awards and Elections

ver one hundred friends and neighbors joined CAG at Dumbarton House to honor community leaders, elect a new Board of Directors and celebrate CAG's accomplishments in 2018 at our May 14th Annual Meeting. Outgoing Board President Pamla Moore and Karen Daly, Executive Director of Dumbarton House welcomed the community. Moore thanked the board and stressed the importance of volunteering in the community before yielding the floor to Ward 2 Councilman Jack Evans.

Evans discussed the council's recent budget initiatives and introduced the Honorable Mayor Muriel Bowser. Bowser congratulated CAG and the evening's recipients on their hard work for the city and Georgetown. Bowser then highlighted her budget and education initiatives and listened to questions and concerns from CAG members. Key executive staff that were introduced included Julia Irving, Director of Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, Amr Kotb, Ward 2 Liaison, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, Peter Newsham, Chief of MPD, Jeff Marootian, Director of DDOT, Shawn Townsend, Director of Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture, Brant Miller, Program Analyst for Wards 1 and 2, DDOT, Jennifer McCahill,

Community Outreach Specialist, Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture, Duncan Bedlion, Watch Commander, Second District MPD, and Lamar Greene and Patrol Chief of Patrol Services North.

Richard Hinds conducted the election of the 2019-2020 CAG officers and directors. The slate included President, Cheryl Gray, Vice President, Tara Sakraida Parker, Treasurer, Jerry Libin, Secretary, Amy Kuhnert, Directors: Karen Cruse, Jennifer Romm, Jennie Buehler and John Rentzepis. The slate was unanimously confirmed by the membership. Select CAG Committees presented highlights including; Oral History, Cathy Farrell, Development, Karin Wheeler, Programs, Jennie Buehler and 5G Technology from Richard Hinds.

Jack Evans and Pamla Moore presented the 2019 Awards. Robert vom Eigen was awarded The Belin Award for Distinguished Service to the Georgetown Community; Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy, The William A. Cochran Award for Exceptional Efforts to Protect and Enhance the Community's Parkland and Architectural Resources; Tom Luebke was awarded the Charles Atherton Award for Exceptional Service by a Dedicated Public-Sector Professional



CAG President Pam Moore, Hazel Denton, Elsa Santoyo, Bob vom Eigen and Councilmember Jack Evans

for Outstanding Work Preserving and Protecting Historic Georgetown; Dog Tag Bakery was awarded the Martin-Davidson Award for an Outstanding Business That Has Contributed Significantly to the Community; Special Appreciation Awards for Dedicated Service to the Georgetown Community were given to Cathy Farrell for her work on CAG's Oral History Program and to Georgetown Village for their support services, educational opportunities, cultural and social programming in Georgetown.

Many thanks to Dumbarton House, for graciously hosting our annual meeting for the 4th year and to Safeway for providing refreshments.

-Bill Starrels photo credit



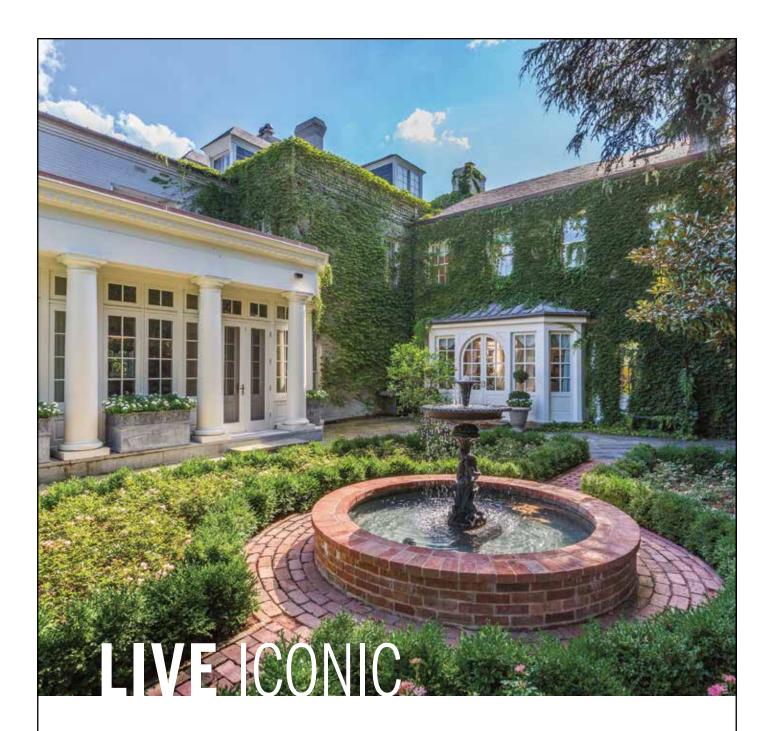
Karen Daly, Executive Director, Dumbarton House



Councilmember Jack Evans and Chief of MPD, Peter Newsham



Mayor Muriel Bowser



The location, the style, the feeling you get when you walk through the door – every aspect of your home should be a reflection of who you are, where you've been, and the life you aspire to live.

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# President's LETTER

Dear CAG Community,

I am honored to be President of CAG and am looking forward to an exciting year ahead. It's my good fortune to succeed Pam Moore, who has done so much for CAG and Georgetown. CAG is a vibrant organization, with over 1200 members, a committed board, excellent staff and volunteers, solid community support, and many programs of importance to Georgetown residents. I plan to work with our staff and volunteers to keep these programs strong and identify new opportunities where CAG can make a difference.

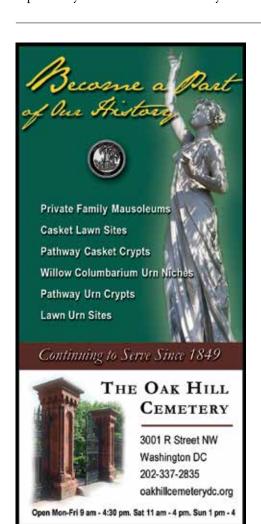
CAG is a community resource, and we invite all Georgetown residents to get involved. If you like to meet neighbors and be up-to-date on Georgetown issues, attend CAG's monthly community meetings, held September through May. If you are interested in helping with public safety, consider becoming a block captain. If you are interested in history and historic preservation, join CAG's committee on the Historic District or volunteer for its oral history program. If you are concerned about infrastructure, participate in CAG's discussions on transportation, parking, trash, and 5G. If you would like to help us expand programs for children and families, join us to revitalize Concerts in the Park and plan new initiatives. If you enjoy interacting with the community and ensuring CAG's strength into the future, consider joining the Development Committee. If you treasure our tree canopy, become active in Trees for Georgetown. If you like to write or edit, help with the newsletter. Visit our website at cagtown.org to learn more. You are welcome, and your involvement will strengthen CAG's impact.

I also look forward to continuing our partnerships with the many other organizations that serve our community by supporting our residents, our businesses, our parks, our



historic properties, our schools, and our green space. All of these groups contribute to the fabric of our wonderful community, and we are stronger together. Please join us!

Cheryl Gray, PRESIDENT



# Heartfelt Thanks from CAG to Past President Pamla Moore



The Citizens Association of would like to thank Pamla Moore, our outgoing President and a long time CAG supporter and community leader before, during and after her several (non-sequential) terms as CAG President for her dedication and leadership to our missions. Pam has been active in the past as President of Rose Park and Georgetown Heritage and is also a supporter of Georgetown Village, Tudor Place, Christ Church and the Georgetown Garden Tour among her many interests.

We at CAG are so grateful for Pamla's guidance in the past year, and hope you will join us in wishing her some wonderful, well-deserved relaxation in Colorado this summer before she returns to resume her role as a board member in the fall.

# **LIFE SWIRLS AROUND**

**Edith Schafer** 

ife swirls around in Georgetown in the spring. Celebrations, benefits, parties, merriment, but we manage to keep our heads throughout it all. Sitting on the sidewalk taking tickets for the Garden Tour, visitors from Europe and Asia engaged us in conversation; we could have been on the banks of the Seine, not the Potomac.

Speaking of art-- we were, weren't we? It's time to showcase an artist every so often. So if you are not familiar with the work of Sidney Lawrence, you probably should be. Born in San Francisco and a graduate of Berkeley, he went to prep school in the east (Brooks) and eventually relocated here. He came to work for the Hirshhorn right after it opened in 1975, started making art "in his off hours"

a few years later, and turned full time to that pursuit after retiring in 2003. Interesting to talk to (and trained in art history), he endorses the idea that one can learn history from art, the Medicis, the Sforzas, and all that.

But a lot of his art is autobiographical. In his current show at the University of California Washington Center (1608 Rhode Island Avenue, NW; daily 9am to 6pm through June 23), the artist depicts himself as an Italian Renaissance baby in a high chair with a huge can of Ghirardelli Ground chocolate - the family business. The infant gestures dramatically outside the window over San Francisco Bay to Berkeley and the rest of the United States. It's a contrarian's riff on the famous New Yorker cover of the United States viewed from Manhattan. You can take the boy out of the West but you can't take the West out of the boy. Loyalties matter.

### **MAY ANNUAL MEETING (CONTINUED)**



Pam Moore, Cathy Farrell, Jack Evans



Muriel Bowser, Lindsey Milstein, Dumbarton Oaks



CAG Treasurer, Jerry Libin, Lisa McCluskey



Karen Daly, Dumbarton House, Shawn Townsend, Director of Mayor's Office of Nightlife and Culture



Rebecca Clerget, Dog Tag Bakery, Jack Evans



Lindsey Milstein, Michael Rankin, Nancy Slade, Lou Slade



Pam Moore, Bob vom Eigen, Jack Evans



Richard Levy and Jack Evans



Darla Jackson and Lisa Koches, Program Committee

# RESIDENTIAL BLOCKS NEAR THE COMMERCIAL STREETS EXPERIENCE MORE VEHICLE BREAK-INS

Catherine Shaw, CAG Public Safety

#### Top residential streets for vehicle break-ins this year:

- N Street, east-side block nearest Wisconsin Avenue (29 thefts from auto)
- 31st Street, north-side block nearest M Street (23)
- O Street, east-side block nearest Wisconsin Avenue (10)

Help the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) enlighten visitors AND residents to NOT leave ANYTHING visible in a vehicle.

For a 90-day TEST period, CAG is posting these signs on the three streets listed above.

- 1. Do you favor expanding the sign program to other residential streets after the 90-day TEST period?
- 2. Would you like to buy a sign like this to post on your block?(estimated \$20 per sign)
- 3. Would you like this message printed as a flyer that you could share with neighbors?





John Rentzepis

Let CAG's Public Safety Coordinator know your thoughts at *catherineshaw@cagtown.org*. Your support makes a difference!

- \* Sign-up for SAFETY ALERTS from CAG by sending SUBSCRIBE in an email to public.safety@cagtown.org.
- \* Become a BLOCK CAPTAIN. Email your interest to *public.safety@cagtown.org* with your name and address.
- \* Support CAG's Public Safety Program by donating today.

\$5,000 Guardian

\$1,000 Sentinel

\$750 Protector

\$500 Defender

\$325 Custodian

To donate visit http://www.cagtown.org/PublicSafety, call our office (202) 337-7313 with your credit card info OR Send check with Public Safety Program in the notation to:

Citizens Association of Georgetown 1365 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 200 Washington, DC 20007

Help CAG's efforts to keep this a lovely village for all! Thank you!

# A Wonderful Day in Georgetown

V V Harrison

The Georgetown Garden Tour's a treat, Bringing neighbors and strangers together, As they peruse secret gardens, Behind historic houses that line the village streets.

It was a real joy on Mother's Day weekend to sit in one of the Georgetown Garden Tour's delightful oases. This annual celebration of Spring brings hundreds of diverse visitors to our village, introducing them to secret gardens generally hidden from view. The green spaces, whether small or spacious, all reflect variations of Mother Nature's gifts. The unique opportunity to experience these special places is due to the generosity of the gardens' owners and the herculean efforts of Georgetown Garden Club members, for which we are all grateful. Each time a group exited the garden where I sat, I heard expressions of gratitude and appreciation. One visitor commented that she had never been on "such a joyful excursion". The Garden Club raises money to expand, cultivate, protect, and beautify our parks and recreation areas. So, kudos to all who participated, and a tip of the hat to the young couple from out of town who stopped to chat, and said they would save their money and be back next year!



Garden Tour Volunteers Kristen Lever and CAG's Leslie Maysak at the Heinz family garden

Photo credit: David Dunning







Est. 1933



# WALK THE BEAT

atch for more opportunities to Walk the Beat with MPD!

Recently East Village residents had the chance to meet and greet MPD 2nd District Commander Bedlion, Officer Atkins and Community Outreach Coordinator, Kyi Branch. MPD plans another walk on the west side soon to encourage residents to meet their neighbors, which is the best way to improve security according to MPD. If your neighbor has a package left on the doorstep, and you know that they are out of town, call them and ask what they would like done with the package—direct advice from Officer Atkins. Take action—it makes a difference!

To learn about future Walk the Beat events, email SUBSCRIBE to public.safety@cagtown.org

Photo credit: Catherine Shaw





# **CAG Oral History Project**

Cathy Farrell, Chair

he Oral History Project has been active recently in its mission to establish a "living "history of Georgetown by recording the memories, reflections, and personal stories of it's citizens. Thank you to volunteers Carey Rivers, Tom Birch, Hazel Denton, Henry Courtney, Pepper van Noppe and Cathy Farrell for collecting interviews over the past few months.

We are in the process of transcribing and posting to the CAG website interviews with Lynn Nicholas, author and long-time resident of Georgetown who told Cathy Farrell about moving to Georgetown as a child and traveling by steamer with her mother from Norfolk to Georgetown. Robert Reinhart shared with Hazel Denton much about the history of his family in Georgetown. Susan Nalezyty, Historian and Archivest at

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School gave a fascinating history of the school and convent from 1799 onward and mentioned that the school has been in existence under every US President with the exception of George Washington. George Hill, life-long resident and 7th generation Georgetowner, talked about large estates areas in colonial times and also plans for Oak Hill in the future. Girma Hailu who came to this country from Ethiopia more than 30 years ago and is the owner and operator with his wife of the 7/11 on P Street talked about the opportunities he has been blessed with and praised the community that has welcomed him. Tom Crocker, an historian, told Henry Courtney about the early development of Georgetown as a seaport. Malcolm (Mike) **Endicott Peabody** whose family has a deep history in Georgetown, told Tom Birch about a member of his family who donated his personal library to the early Georgetown Library and, in appreciation, the library named the Peabody Room after him.

Several residents are scheduled to be interviewed in coming weeks. Soon to be posted to the CAG Oral History's 64 collected interviews on the webpage are the wonderfully informative interviews with Christopher Addison, the late John Laytham, and the late Kathy Graff.

If you enjoy meeting fascinating people and either telling a wonderful story or listening to one, consider joining the Oral History Committee as either an interviewer or interviewee. The experience is a most interesting one that requires little training and not much of a personal time commitment. If you would like to recommend subjects who would be interesting to interview please send their name and contact information on to Cathy Farrell at *cathyfarrellcag@gmail.com*.



### Julia Diaz-Asper

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# The "Siege" of the Venezuelan Embassy in Georgetown

Walter Groszyk, Chair, Infrastructure

have termed the embassy occupation, the protests, and the counter-protests, a siege because it resembles a medieval siege in its complexity. Sieges during that long-ago era were often disputes fostered by malleable interests and marked by transient alliances, and were frequently difficult to unravel. What follows is my attempt to summarize simply the who, the why, and the where of this six-week siege.

In early April, Georgetown became part of a historic story unfolding thousands of miles away.

The Protagonists. (1) At the invitation of Venezuelan officials aligned with President Maduro, the American political activists, Code Pink, entered the embassy at 1099 30th Street. When their visas expired, the Venezuelans returned home, leaving Code Pink as sole occupants. Code Pink supporters arrived, joining the crowd already massed outside the embassy, shouting support and attempting food deliveries to the besieged occupants. (2) Venezuelan emigres and

American citizens of Venezuelan nationality, collectively calling themselves the Venezuelan Diaspora, assembled. As supporters of Juan Guaido, who was declared interim president by the Venezuelan National Assembly, they opposed the presence of the activists inside the embassy. (3) Nearby residents and business owners endured continual disruption and noise. (4) A veritable stew of police forces acted in their various jurisdictional capacities: The Secret Service, the Diplomatic Service (part of State), the Metropolitan Police Department, and the U.S Park Police.

The siege plays out. As the crowd swelled, so did the cacophonous din. Songs of the American civil rights movement were followed by building alarms and sirens, in turn replaced by the incessant sound of both crude and refined noise-making instruments. Loudly amplified salsa and meringue music filled the night. At the battle of Jericho, the ram horns of the Israelites lasted but a day; at the siege on 30th Street, it was a weeks-long war of decibels.

As the days passed, electricity to the building was cut. The perimeter of the embassy

grounds was secured by fencing, and the tented encampment on the sidewalk was cleared and washed clean. The audible onslaught lessened, largely limited to that of protestors in the late afternoon and early evening, sans their noise-makers. In other words, a more typical protest.

The denouement. At the end of April, a coup attempting to oust Maduro failed badly. A successful coup would likely have quickly ended the siege. Instead, the stalemate at the embassy continued until May 16, when the remaining Code Pink occupiers, their numbers reduced from 50 to four, were removed from the building and arrested. Peace restored.

Acknowledgement. Although resolving an embassy siege is a Federal matter, the ANC, particularly commissioner Lisa Palmer; Councilmember Jack Evans' office; and the Mayor's office all worked to urge a quick end to the occupation, and a return to a more normal, quieter environment in lower Georgetown.

In Venezuela, the story continues to unfold.

## TREES FOR GEORGETOWN IN ACTION

Betsy Emes, Chair, Trees for Georgetown

#### PRACTICE 25 TO STAY ALIVE!

New trees were planted this Spring by CAG's Trees for Georgetown. Watering of new trees is entirely up to the residents who live near the tree. So, if there is a new tree on your block, make sure somebody adopts it (or just adopt it yourself). Please make sure new trees receive 25 gallons of water (1.5 inches of rainfall) each week in times of little or no rainfall. Simply fill up the 25–gallon slow release watering bag at the base of the tree when it starts budding in the spring through the autumn months, when the leaves begin to fall. If a new tree is planted in front of a neighbor's who is away or you plan to be away for an extended period of time, especially in the summer, please try to make arrangements to have the tree watered.



The District's government is responsible for planting, removing, and pruning our street trees, but it is important that you notify the city at 311.dc.gov of any problems.

Trees for Georgetown is celebrating 30 years of planting and caring for trees in the neighborhood! Many thanks to all of our supporters- we hope to see you at our Annual Garden Party in September.



# THE LAST STRAW!

Reminder: the ban on plastic straws went into effect Jan. 1, 2019. Businesses have until July 1 to make the change to alternatives before fines kick in. Remind local establishments to eliminate their plastic straw habit. Report them to 311 if need be!

— LEE CHILD Georgetown Garden Club

### CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

# PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM DONATION

	- All do	nations are fully tax deductio	ble -		
GUARDIAN, \$5,000	SENTINEL, \$1,000	PROTECTOR, \$750	DEFENDER, \$500	CUSTODIAN, \$325	
Check here if you have als \$75 businesses or associat	so included your 2019 CAG m te members.)	embership dues. (Dues are \$5	5 individuals; \$75 couples	or families;	
All contributors receive full p	rogram benefits.	\$	_ Public Safety Donation	n 2019	
PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY			Check # (made payable to Citizens Association of Georgetown)		
NAME			Credit Card Visa MasterCard American Express  Card Number Exp. Date		
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WORK OR CELL					
EMAIL		Authorized S	Authorized Signature		
I/We do not want my/or as a supporter(s) of the CAG Program	Public Safety to call and duce hims  **Please return t** ite 200, 1365 Wisconsin And CAG N	would like the CAG patrol at lor stop by our house to interest of the lower control of Citizens Association of C	guard I/We am in ro- Public Safety Bl Public Safety Co Georgetown, PC 20007 – 202-337-73  ETOWN DUES	terested in becoming a ock Captain or joining the ommittee	
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ADDRESS			\$	55 Individual Resident	
PHONE (HOME) WORK OR CELL			\$	75 Family Resident / Business	
EMAIL			\$	10 Student (non-voting)	
Form of Payment: Amount	\$	Card Numbe	er	Exp. Date	
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☐ Credit Card Visa MasterCard American Express Billing address for this card if different from			nt from above		
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CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

# CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

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Lisa McCluskey

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATOR**

Catherine Shaw

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Development: Karin Wheeler
Historic Preservation & Zoning:
Stephanie Bothwell

Infrastructure: Walter Groszyk Meetings: Jennie Buehler Oral History: Cathy Farrell Parking: Hazel Denton

Public Safety: John Rentzepis & Richard Hinds

Transportation: Christopher Mathews Trash & Rodents: Patrick Clawson Trees for Georgetown: Betsy Emes, Christi Cline

**Newsletter Design:** Reverse Flight Design www.reverseflightdesign.com

# COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

Every Wed.	Rose Park Farmers Market, 3:00 – 7 pm, located at O Street and 26th.	
Jun 3	Nichole Saphos Trio for Jazz in the 'Hoods at Tudor Place, hosted by Tudor Place, Hosts the from 6:30-8:30.	
Jul 2	ANC2E Meeting at Georgetown Visitation School.	
Jul 9	Georgetown's Annual Sunset Cinema summer outdoor movie kick off	
Dumbarton House, 8th Annual Jane Austen Film Festival:		
Jul 3	Sense and Sensibility	
Jul 10	Emma	
Jul 17	Persuasions *NEW*	
Jul 24	Love and Friendship	
Jul 31	Pride and Prejudice	
PLANNING AHEAD		
TBD	Citizens Association of Georgetown Meeting	
Sep 3	ANC2E Meeting, Georgetown Visitation School.	

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of Jennifer and David Romm from 6:30-8:30 PM.

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**Sep 15** 

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# OUR FIFTEENTH YEAR AS PROUD UNDERWRITER OF CAG'S PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM

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# 30th Anniversary Trees for Georgetown Garden Party



Sunday, September 15, 2019 6:30 to 8:30 pm

At the Home of Jennifer and David Romm visit www.cagtown.org/trees for more information