



VOLUME XLV | ISSUE 1 | WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

CAG COMMUNITY MEETINGS FOR 2020

TUES, JAN 22, RECEPTION 6:30 PM;
PROGRAM 7-8:00 PM; GRACE CHURCH
MON, FEB 24, RECEPTION 6:30 PM;
PROGRAM 7-8:00 PM; RITZ-CARLTON GEORGETOWN

ur first community meeting will address the issue of people experiencing homelessness. We see them on our streets in the city every day and many of us don't really know the best way to help or whom to contact for support or information. People are living without shelter for a variety of reasons. Every human deserves respect, effective mental health treatment, and the chance to secure adequate and affordable housing. Learn more by attending our **January 22nd** Community Meeting at Grace Episcopal Church on lower Wisconsin Avenue NW.

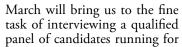
Guest Speakers:

Lindsay Curtin — Policy Advisor, DC Interagency Council on Homelessness

Sean Read — Chief Community Solutions Officer, Friendship Place

John Wiebenson — Director of Operations, Georgetown BID

Our February 24th community meeting at The Ritz-Carlton Georgetown will address public safety including the impact of transportation planning on pedestrian safety. We hope to have a DDOT representative in attendance. CAG will also share the role of our active Public Safety Program that coordinates with MPD and operates solely on generous donations from members of our community.



our local DC Council. Start thinking of questions to ask and issues to address! (Date to be determined.)

All meetings take place from 7pm to 8pm with a short reception at 6:30.



Dubers Host Fall Cocktails: Fundraiser Benefits CAG

he Citizens Association of Georgetown's Fall Cocktail Party on November 5th was a complete success. The evening started with a candle lit stairway leading to the Dubers' elegant Georgetown home full of laughter and beautiful music by multi-talented electric violinist Angela Smart.

Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to visit with friends both old and new. While fine wine flowed and the food was aplenty, Angela Lauria

of The Author Incubator shared her story of success as well as a copy of her book for each guest.

An exciting door prize was awarded to a lucky patron – including a relaxing stay at The Ritz in Georgetown! Thank you to everyone who made the evening so special!

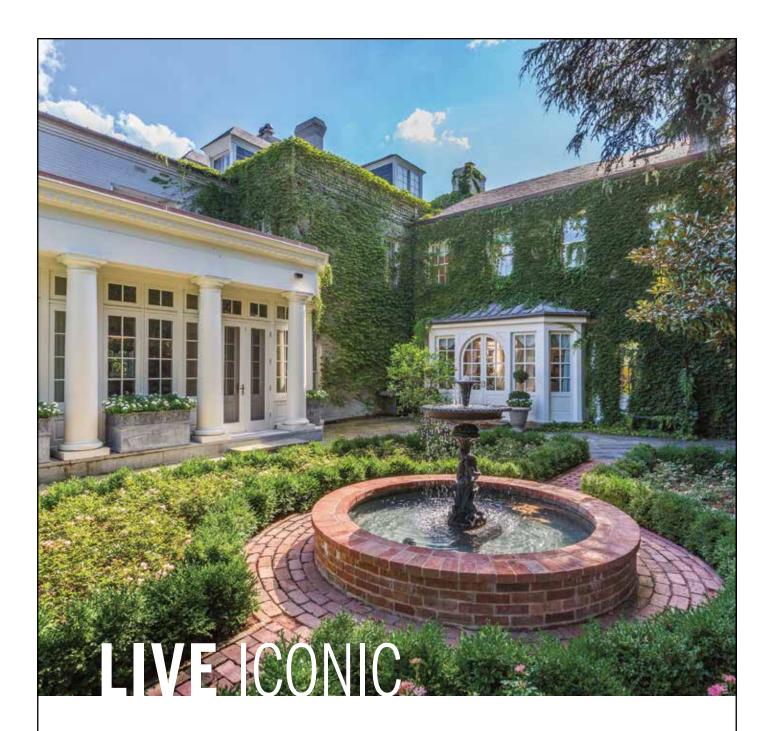
SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE



Leslie Maysak, Mandi Howard, Nancy Duber, Karin Wheeler



LIsa Koches, Jennifer Romm



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President's LETTER

Dear CAG Community,

Happy New Year to all. As 2020 begins I am again reminded how much we Georgetowners have to be thankful for. We live in a lovely neighborhood in an interesting city. We can walk, bike, or take convenient public transportation to most places we want to go, and we have a wealth of stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues to choose from. Public services are generally good, and we benefit from relatively clean and safe streets and a community where many neighbors know and help one another.

It is also clear, however, that not everyone living among us is thriving. On a daily basis we can see the deprivation suffered by the poor and those experiencing homelessness among us. It can be uncomfortable to pass panhandlers on the streets, and if you're like me, we often don't know how best to react.

On Wednesday, January 22nd, CAG will kick off its 2020 community meetings with

a focus on people living without shelter. We have invited experts from the DC government and local nonprofits to brief us on how to deal with challenges of the unhoused, current DC policies and programs addressing the issue, the specific situation in Georgetown, and current and future directions for our local homeless services organization, the Georgetown Ministry Center. www.georgetownministrycenter.org

Residents and local business owners will have an opportunity to ask questions and share thoughts on practical contributions we all can make. The meeting will take place at 7-8pm (reception starting at 6:30) at Grace Episcopal Church at 1041 Wisconsin Avenue NW. We hope you will join us!

If possible, please bring a new hat, scarf or pair of warm gloves to donate. A collection box will be located at the entrance of the meeting. Thank you and happy new year!



Cheryl Gray—President

Holiday Open House

Thank you to all who attended our CAG Holiday Open House at the office in December for sweets, treats and a cup of cheer! After reviewing the success at Art Basel, a beautiful banana was taped to the wall for all to enjoy. People from all walks of life were in attendance which makes for the best conversations. Amr G. Kotb, Ward 2 Liaison for the Mayor's office, was excited to visit CAG's offices and share Mayor Bowser's vision for an energized, dynamic future for DC. Rachel Shank from Georgetown Main Street came by to share what's in the works for promoting small businesses. Executive Director of Dumbarton House Karen Daly and a few members of her team made a special effort to attend so they could personally express thanks for all the extra support provided recently by CAG Security Officer Pringle. Songstress Sandi Grove led the group to enjoy some old fashioned caroling. Many thanks to Girma Hailu from P Street 7-11 for donation of holiday sweets! We look forward to having more events in the future!



THE GEORGETOWN FORUM:

CAG's Community List Serve

he Georgetown Forum is our successful community forum moderated by the CAG staff and volunteers that allows members to share information and stay in touch with happenings in our neighborhood. We were able to move all previous members of our original yahoo forum that was unexpectedly closed. We currently have over 2500 members online! We also have a subgroup on our forum for GEORGETOWN HIKERS and a subgroup for DC PARENTS.

Step one: To subscribe, please send an email to: main+subscribe@georgetownforum.groups.io **Step two:** You will receive a notice to verify your email. Note: The notice may go to SPAM. Questions? Email us at cagmail@cagtown.org or call 202.337.7313.

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Preserving Our Tree Canopy

Christi Cline and Betsy Emes, Trees for Georgetown Committee

hile walking in Georgetown, you've likely encountered several streets that are lined with ginkgo trees. In the fall, the leaves of these majestic trees turn a beautiful shade of yellow and drop to form a yellow carpet, making the streets look like they're paved with gold. Unfortunately, that's not the only thing they drop. Female ginkgos (ginkgos are dioecious, meaning they have two distinct sexes) also produce fruit that is quite pungent. Many find them to be a nuisance on sidewalks, especially residents who live behind the female trees and deal with them daily.



A group of residents on 27th Street and Avon Place have decided they've had enough of the falling fruit and are petitioning to have these trees removed, four on each block. All of the trees are healthy and some are estimated to be as much as 100 years old. Petitions have to be signed by at least 60% of the residents on the block and approved by their City Council member and the ANC.

Trees for Georgetown and CAG have been in discussion with the petitioners and their ANC commissioners in an effort to find a solution that would save the trees. Trees for Georgetown has offered to spearhead and finance the cleaning of the petitioners' blocks - a simple solution. The BID has offered to help us find contractors and equipment needed to do the job. We also hope this effort might result in the creation of a "ginkgo fund". We have already had several offers to help start such a fund.

The two petitions in the meantime were rejected by DDOT's Urban Forestry Division due to a technicality. Neighbors will have to re-petition if they want to continue to try to have the trees removed. We remain hopeful that these gorgeous trees can be saved at this critical time of climate change.





Est. 1933



CAG MEMBERS RECEIVE CURATOR TOUR

aria & Alberto De La Cruz Art Gallery, one of the Georgetown University Art Galleries recently invited CAG for a tour of their exhibition: Design Transfigured/Waste Reimagined which was a true intersection of creativity and sustainability. The impact of the tour is different for everyone and it can completely shift your paradigm. This is one reason why it's so important to support the arts. Have you visited an art gallery lately?







Al Miner, Gallery Director

CAG members learn about the art works



Let's Get Cooking! Neighborhood Cookbook Project





I am working with a committee of friends and neighbors in Georgetown to pull together the first ever Georgetown Community Cookbook! We see this as a fun way to bring our neighborhood together over biscuits and martinis and have a treasured cookbook that we all use for years to come and pass down to our children and grandchildren and give away as hostess and holiday gifts.

We are trying to get as many Georgetown residents as we can to submit a recipe. We are looking for all types of recipes from savory snacks and appetizers to main courses and desserts (or even a favorite cocktail)! You can use a recipe that you love from a favorite cookbook (please cite your source), an old family favorite, or one of your own creations. We would also ask if you could add a short comment/description about why you selected this recipe. "This is my favorite recipe of all time from The Silver Palate Cookbook" or "My grandmother made this every Thanksgiving." This will give each recipe a reference point and provide a personal touch, which is what we're after.

Send your recipe to me in a Word document or just within the body of an email. You can also snap a picture of the recipe and send it to me that way, if it's easier! We have recipes ranging from a banana smoothie to Gold Lobster Salad with Truffle and Taragon.

To give it a special neighborhood flavor, we are asking you to answer a few questions from our questionnaire. Feel free to answer some, all or none. While we may not be able to use all of them, we will sprinkle them throughout the book for a little extra spice. One respondent replied to the question "Words to live by?" with the answer "Rum is a very underrated liquor."

We have already collected almost 100 recipes; we look forward to having recipes collected quickly and the cookbook ready for purchase in 2020. Deadline: February 1st. Please participate!

Elizabeth Miller, ANC2E elizabethhayesmiller@gmail.com

Proust Questionnaire for Cooks

- Your favorite hostess gift to give?
- No dinner party would be complete without?
- Your dream menu includes:
- What is the perfect number of guests and why?
- If you could invite one guest to dinner, living or dead, who would it be?
- Words to live and entertain by?
- What makes for a great guest?
- Chic dinner in the kitchen or formal in the dining room?
- Buffet-style service, family style or served?
- What is the number one rule every good host must remember?
- Coffee at the table or in another room? Why?
- What is the greatest dinner party you ever attended?
- Thank you note, email, text or call?

CAG Fall Cocktail Party (continued)



Mandi Howard, Violinist - Angela Smart, Leslie Maysak



Cristina Bourelly & Mila Nedeljkov of Author Incubator



Cheryl Gray, Scott Altman, John Lever



John Korsmo, Kristen Lever, Amy Kuhnert, John Lever



Nancy & Marc Duber (photo by Robert Devaney)



Robert Devaney, Sonia Bernhardt, Angela Lauria



Angela Smart (photo by Robert Devaney)



Nancy Taylor Bubes, Michelle Korsmo, Nancy Duber



Beth Webster, Lee Murphy, Leslie Maysak

Henry Cabot Lodge II: Kennedy's Neighbor and Rival

Joshua Dill, Guest Contributor-Georgetown Lore, Instagram: @georgetown_lore

132 O St was the home of Henry Cabot Lodge II (1902–1985), a Bostonian senator and ambassador of illustrious pedigree. His grandfather and namesake Henry Cabot Lodge I (subject of a fine painting in the Portrait Gallery) was a nemesis of Woodrow Wilson's and appropriate programment responsible for piving

Wilson's, and arguably the person most responsible for nixing U.S. entrance into the League of Nations. His father George was a poet; his son George II, still living, served as a federal official and professor at Harvard.

Henry Cabot Lodge II was a Republican senator from Massachusetts from 1937 to 1944 and from 1947 to 1953 before being defeated by fellow Harvard man and WWII veteran John F. Kennedy. In 1960, after nearly 8 years as ambassador to the United Nations (what would his grandfather have thought?), Lodge ran for the vice presidency on the Nixon ticket—and lost to JFK again! He served as ambassador to South Vietnam under both Kennedy and Johnson, and later as ambassador to West Germany and the Holy See. (In 1962, following family tradition, George Cabot Lodge II lost the special election to fill JFK's empty senate seat to Ted Kennedy.)

In addition to his ancient rivalry with the Kennedys, Lodge was an old acquaintance of Joe Alsop, the influential newspaper columnist and Georgetown Set scribe, who lived not far away, on Dumbarton Street. Alsop, a ferociously partial journalist who was emotionally committed to the American cause in Vietnam, visited Saigon during Lodge's ambassadorship and briefed him on his meetings with Ngo Dinh Diem and others.

While the Lodges lived here in the 1950s and 60s, records show that this address was home to several other notable individuals. Lauchlin Currie, one of these, was an economic advisor to Franklin Roosevelt who has been convincingly identified as a Soviet spy. In the 1940s, 3132 O was home to Mary Cootes Belin, an educated and cosmopolitan woman who served as a State Department translator, played in the Wimbledon Championships, and whose husband inherited Georgetown's Evermay estate. The house was also the residence of Representative Laurence Curtis of Massachusetts (yet another civic-minded, war-veteran Bostonian Harvard alum). In his journals, Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., mentions hosting Robert McNamara for dinner at this address in 1966. The timing and possible overlap of all these residents isn't entirely clear to me; perhaps some of these people rented from the Lodges.



TEXT 50411



Text 50411 to report a crime directly and anonymously to MPD. A photo or video may be included.

Julia Diaz-Asper

Senior Vice President | The Diaz-Asper Group jasper@ttrsir.com | +1 202 256 1887





ASK ME ABOUT CAG

Lisa Koches, Membership Chair

t many of our CAG community meetings board members and committee chairs often wear a badge that says "Ask me about CAG." This is not just to advertise our association. We really do want people to ask. If you are an active member of CAG you probably are well aware of our projects. But for many people in the Georgetown community CAG remains a mystery.

The most common questions I hear are:

Is CAG a homeowners association? What exactly do I get for my dues? Doesn't CAG just work for businesses? CAG is not a homeowner's association but rather a non-profit civic organization. Our primary goal is citizens advocacy and historic preservation while building a safer, more beautiful and well-connected community. Please take note of non-profit as it explains why we need a strong membership base.

Our reasonable membership dues and donations support numerous efforts in the community including safety. Our security officer is visible on the streets in our CAG patrol car and is always willing to help. CAG is also responsible for posting signs warning people to remove valuables from their cars. Although we don't have hard statistics on the

impact of this initiative, we believe our signs have likely reduced the number of break ins by thieves on our streets.

CAG does not work for businesses but instead tries to build a strong relationship with businesses and residents. It is a give and take process. We want strong, vibrant vendors and they want a supportive community. The CAG/BID meeting last month highlighted this collaborative effort.

So I hope you will keep some of these tidbits in your head for the next time someone asks you "Why should I join CAG?" Please be an advocate and encourage them to become involved in our organization.

The Industrial Hulk that Once Dominated Georgetown

Walter Groszyk, Infrastructure Chair

A photo of an illuminating gas storage tank (sometimes called a gas holder) at Virginia Ave. and 27th St. NW. A similarly sized tank was located in the 2900 block of M St., between M St. And the C&O Canal.

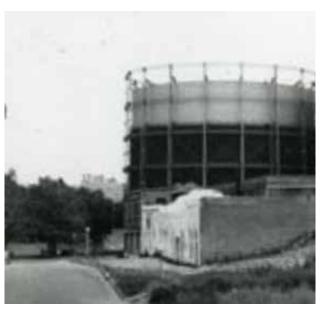
Between the era of oil lamps and candles and that of incandescent light bulbs, homes, buildings, and streets were lit by illuminating gas. Illuminating gas was made by burning bituminous coal and collecting the gaseous byproducts of the combustion. Hence the common name, 'coal gas'.

The gas was mainly composed of hydrogen, carbon monoxide, methane, and volatile hydrocarbons such as ethylene. (The volatile hydrocarbons were called 'illuminators' and gave off a yellow light when lit. The yellow flame was created by soot and incomplete combustion.)

Throughout the 19th Century, the 'gas works' where illuminating gas was manufactured and the tanks for storing and distributing the gas were, of necessity, located close to the users. Pressurized piping systems capable of distributing gas over long distances were a 20th Century invention.

Lower Georgetown became a local center for illuminating gas. For nearly a hundred years, the 'gas works' were located where the Watergate complex now stands, and the illuminating gas was piped from the 'gas works' up the east side of 29th Street to the two storage tanks on the south side of M Street. The pipe path can be traced because toxic contaminants associated with 'coal gas' were found under the sidewalk by the Federal government prior to the sale of the West Heating Plant.

The larger of the two tanks was perhaps 75-80 feet high, the smaller less than half that height. When approaching Georgetown from the east on either M St. or Pennsylvania Ave, this tank loomed large, perhaps even conveying a menacing presence as such tanks were known to explode. Yet this most prominent visual feature also signaled wealth; only the well-to-do could afford to have 'coal gas' piped into their homes.



Surrounding these tanks was a several-sided phalanx of two and a half story stables, sheds, and shops, all belonging to the Washington Gas Light Co. Across 29th St., on the south side of the 2800 block of Pennsylvania Ave., was a large storage yard for the gas light company, with more sheds. Photographs of Lock #1 of the C&O canal show stacks of gas pipe piled near the towpath. This storage yard eventually became the gas company's garage, with several levels. The site of the garage is now the Four Seasons hotel. One might say the hotel is an architectural antiseptic scrubbed into the bones of its much more gritty forebearers.

To be continued in a future issue of the newsletter.

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- CAG dues are fully tax deductible -

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— LEE CHILD Georgetown Garden Club



CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN

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COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

Jan 13-19	Winter Restaurant Week! 12 Georgetown restaurants participating.
Jan 20	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Jan 22	CAG Community Meeting. 6:30pm at Grace Church in Georgetown. People experiencing homelessness.
Jan 23	January Film: Lion King. 4pm at Georgetown Neighborhood Library – 3260 R Street NW.
Jan 28	Georgetown Library – Book Hill Talks "Karl Popper"
Feb 1	Tudor Place: Tours resume. (Closed for the month of January.) www.tudorplace.org
Feb 1	Dumbarton House: New exhibit "Pick Your Poison" begins. Do you prefer wine, beer, liquor, coffee, tea, chocolate? (Closed for the month of January.)
Feb 3	ANC2E Public Meeting. 6:30pm at Georgetown Visitation – 1524 35th Street NW - Heritage Room 2nd floor.
Feb 8	Valentines Tea Party to celebrate female friendship! www.dumbartonhouse.org for more info.
Feb 9 & 10	ZOFO: Two pianists on one piano. 7:00pm at Dumbarton Oaks Music Room. Tickets: <i>doaks.org</i>
Feb 17	President's Day
Feb 24	CAG Community Meeting. 6:30 at The Ritz-Carlton Georgetown. Public safety.
PLANN	IING AHEAD
M 12	CAG Annual Meeting – Dumbarton House – Save the date!

May 12 CAG Annual Meeting – Dumbarton House – Save the date!

May 17 CAG Concerts in the Park – Volta Park

Check out *www.bluesalley.com* for the latest show schedule at Georgetown's famous jazz & supper club!



GAS LEAK? CALL 911

By Catherine Shaw, CAG Public Safety Coordinator

It's easier than ever to report a gas leak, dial 911. The fire department is now trained to deal with gas leaks, and they prefer you to call with any suspicion. When in doubt, call! You may be saving a life.

DC FAIR SKIES COALITION – UPDATE

By Richard Hinds, CAG General Council

The FAA will begin testing a pilot of the new northbound departure for the two thirds of the flights headed west on Jan20. Planes headed east, which are the most likely to fly closer to DC will continue to use the old ADAXE WP. Assuming the 90-day pilot is a success, all flights will fly the new route. As a result, the reduction in noise for DC will be somewhat lower than originally anticipated but it should still be significant.

















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