Over 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 Sakaida 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 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
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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Brooke House 1607 28th Street NW Washington, DC
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)
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?

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!

*Photo credit: David Dunning*
Julia Diaz-Asper

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

CAG Oral History Project

The 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 its 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 Archivist 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.

WALK THE BEAT

Watch 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
The “Siege” of the Venezuelan Embassy in Georgetown

Walter Groszyk, Chair, Infrastructure

I 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 merengue 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 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.

— LEE CHILD
Georgetown Garden Club
PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAM DONATION

- All donations are fully tax deductible -

___ GUARDIAN, $5,000  ___ SENTINEL, $1,000  ___ PROTECTOR, $750  ___ DEFENDER, $500  ___ CUSTODIAN, $325

___ Check here if you have also included your 2019 CAG membership dues. (Dues are $55 individuals; $75 couples or families; $75 businesses or associate members.)

All contributors receive full program benefits.

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$__________ Public Safety Donation 2019

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Authorized Signature ____________________________

You may also donate online: www.cagtown.org and click on Public Safety Program

___ I/We do not want my/our names listed as a supporter(s) of the CAG Public Safety Program

___ I/We would like the CAG patrol guard to call and or stop by our house to introduce himself

___ I/We am interested in becoming a Public Safety Block Captain or joining the Public Safety Committee

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

CAG MEMBERSHIP DUES

- CAG dues are fully tax deductible -

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Form of Payment: Amount $ ____________

☐ Check (made payable to CAG)

☐ Credit Card   __ Visa   __ MasterCard   __ American Express

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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.

Sep 15  Trees for Georgetown 30th Annual Garden Party will be hosted at the home of Jennifer and David Romm from 6:30-8:30 PM.

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HELLO

Summer TIME

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