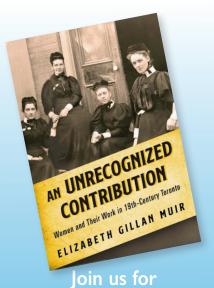
Cabbagetown Preservation Association

EWSLETTER

Celebrating the architectural integrity and historic character of our neighbourhood





CPA's Annual General Meeting

Meeting House at Riverdale Farm Tuesday May 30, 2023 7:00 PM

Elizabeth Muir talks on her book An Unrecognized Contribution

Also, Peggy Kurtin Award for Excellence in Restoration

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Spring 2023 Volume 33 issue 1

Friends and neighbours,

Welcome to the Spring 2023 issue of the CPA Newsletter.

Spring has arrived for the second time this year, and fortunately some forsythia were still in bloom in Wellesley Park for the annual Cabbagetown Residents' Association (CRA) Forsythia Festival. This year the Cabbagetown Preservation Association (CPA) was a Silver Sponsor as well as contributing some of our swag to the raffle. Thanks to the CRA for agreeing to host an installation by Shalaine Sedres, one of the winners of the 2022-2023 CPA Student Experience Programme Award launched this year. More on this award later in the newsletter, but as Shalaine's project was on inclusive playgrounds, this festival focussing on our neighbourhood children was the perfect venue.

It's been another busy year for the CPA .We held the Hidden Gardens & Private Spaces Tour last summer and had lots of visitors to our booth at the fall Cabbagetown Festival. Last month, we were finally able to come together at the Meeting House at the Farm for a Cabbagetown Talk. The talk entitled Re-Imagining Planning: The Saint Luke's United Church Redevelopment Project was developed by Sarah MacKinnon, the second student holding a CPA Student Experience Programme Award. Planning is now activity underway for a fall Tour of Homes; our first since 2019. If anyone is interested in volunteering please get in touch with us, and there are perks for volunteers. New information on the tour is appearing regularly on our website.

Heritage issues are central to the CPA's mandate and the past year has been a time of growing concern about the place of heritage in Ontario. There was considerable opposition to Ontario's Bill 23 and we have joined a number of historical associations to stay up to date with trends in the field, and have participated in conferences to engage in what the National Trust for Canada is calling a heritage reset.

We've continued this year to improve our organisation behind the scenes. We now have an online working repository and archive, and we have moved to a TD Community Not-for-Profit Plan that reduces our bank charges. As well, their longer hours offer more flexibility when we do have to go to the bank in person. The Barbara Mercer Endowment Fund has been set up, and we have written procedures for managing these funds. We're grateful for the stability and security that this gift has given the CPA, and to remind everyone in the community about making a gift, even a small one, to one of your favourite local volunteer associations who do so much visible and invisible work on your behalf.

We've created a new welcome brochure that will be launched at our Spring AGM taking place at the Meeting House at the Farm on Tuesday, May 30th at 7:00 pm. I hope you'll join us for this meeting which features a talk by Elizabeth Muir on her most recent book titled, An Unrecognized Contribution: Women and Their Work in 19th-Century Toronto. I hope to see many of you there now that we can once again meet in person to catch up, review our progress over the past year, and listen to this engaging speaker.

This will be my last Chair's Letter as my term ends with this AGM. I'll continue as Past-Chair for another year. By that time I will have been on the board for almost a decade. It's been an amazing experience to be part of this team and the excellent work done by the all-volunteer CPA Board. Steve Yeates, our current Vice-Chair, will be the next Chair. Our new Constitution, passed at the 2021 AGM clarified and formalised our practices in ways that make succession planning smoother.

Thank you to everyone for their support over the past five years I've been in this Chair.

Gale

Gale Moore, Chair, Cabbagetown Preservation Association

Elizabeth Muir

By Virginia Van Vliet

But what did Victorian woman actually do?

The image of women in Victorian Toronto is that they cooked, cleaned, cared for their families, had babies and died. Some of the poorer, unmarried women or widows might have been servants, washerwomen or worked at other low level jobs, but, in general, the dominant idea is that woman in 19th century Toronto were not integral to public life. In her recent book, An Unrecognized Contribution; woman and their work in 19th-Century Toronto, Dr. Gillian Elizabeth Moore proves just how wrong this idea is.

Dr. Muir holds degrees from Queen's University, the Harvard Business School, and a PhD from McGill University. She taught Canadian history at Waterloo University and the University of Toronto. She has written extensively on the role of women in Upper Canada and is the author *Riverdale*: east of the Don.

In her book she points out that Toronto was shaped by women, from Mrs. Simcoe and the hard working wives of settlers to professional woman including doctors, teachers and librarians. For example,

when Emily Stowe applied to study to become a doctor at the Toronto School of Medicine in 1865, she was told by the vice-president of the University of Toronto that "the doors of the University are not open to women...and I trust they never will be". Instead Stowe graduated from medical school in the United States, returning to Toronto to open the Women's Medical School on Sumach Street in 1883. Many woman ran boarding houses, taverns and hotels, including the still extant Wheat Sheaf Tavern at King and Bathurst, thought to be the oldest existing tavern in Toronto. Other women owned successful businesses, working as seamstresses,

AN UNRECOGNIZED CONTRIBUTION CONTRIBUTION Women and Their Work in 19th-Century Toronto ELIZABETH GILLAN MUIR

milliners and hairdressers, or owned shops, selling confectionary, groceries, fruit, fish or fancy goods. Historian C. Pelham Mulvaney noted that after the death of Peter Rothwell Lamb, founder

of Lamb's Blacking and Glue Factory in what is now Wellesley Park, the company was run by his son Daniel and his widowed mother. In the 1880s, with the growth of industry, women began to work in factories and as saleswomen in larger stores. At least three corset factories were the properties of women. The position of switch board operators for Bell Telephone Company quickly became a woman's job, though employees were poorly paid and often received electrical shocks resulting in heart attacks and deafness.

Did nothing? I don't think so.

CPA Student Experience Programme Award

By Gale Moore

In the summer of 2022 the CPA launched a pilot project which offered two awards, each worth \$1500 to graduate students whose research was, in some way, relevant to this historic Toronto neighbourhood. The idea was to bring relevant research and ideas from the university to the community through some form of public engagement — a talk, an installation, etc. The objectives were to showcase graduate student work, to give students hands-on experience with managing a small award (structured as a contract),

to provide an opportunity to add to their portfolios and CVs, and for them to appreciate, perhaps in new ways, the importance of heritage in a community.

We are currently at the evaluation stage of this pilot, and if the Board decides we should go forward, the Programme will be launched as a competition on our website later this summer, and promoted widely within the local academic community.

For 2022-2023, the two award holders are Sarah MacKinnon, a M.Sc. in Planning Candidate, at the University of Toronto, and Shalaine Sedres, a MSc in Rehabilitation Science Candidate at the University of Toronto. Both these students did exemplary work.

Sarah had a longstanding interest in the Saint Luke's United Church Redevelopment Project as a model of creative mixed-use building. Sarah put together an outstanding panel of experts — all directly engaged with this project and this approach to design. This was presented in April as a Cabbagetown Talk. (see page 3)

Shalaine's installation, The All-Abilities Adventure, was launched at the CRA's Forsythia Festival on May 7th. For a description of the installation please see page 5.

Congratulations to both our 2022-2023 SEP Award winners.



Cabbagetown Talks Return

Re-imagining Planning: The Saint Luke's United Church Redevelopment Project

By Steve Yeates

The CPA's program of Cabbagetown Talks returned on April 13th with a panel discussion of the re-development of Saint Luke's United Church. This project at the corner of Sherbourne and Carlton Streets provides an opportunity to look at the intersection of development and heritage preservation.

Arranged and moderated by Sarah MacKinnon, M.Sc. in Planning Candidate, University of Toronto & Holder of a 2022-2023 CPA Student Experience Programme Award, the panel represented the variety of people involved in this complex project. The panelists included Tim Blair, CEO, Kindred Works; David Constable, Chief Development Officer, Kindred Works; Marianne McKenna, Founding Partner, KPMB Architects and Rev. Jim Keenan, Saint Luke's United Church.

Creative mixed-use buildings blend public, private, and non-profit spaces into the same structure, creating innovative solutions to combine residential accommodations with community services. The Saint Luke's United Church redevelopment project is a case study for exploring the avenues necessary to balance housing development, continuity of social services, and heritage restoration.

The Richardsonian Romanesque church, a registered heritage property, was designed by architects Henry Langley and his nephew Edmund Burke in 1887 and is one of many church structures in Toronto, including the Necropolis chapel, designed by Langley.

As with many dwindling congregations, the church's Sunday attendance of roughly 200 is dwarfed by its massive sanctuary. Damaged plaster from roof leaks contrasts with its beautiful stained-glass windows. With scaled down accommodation for the congregation, the space can be more versatile in accommodating community use.

The project design is headed by KPMB Architects, on behalf of the United Property Resource Corporation — now Kindred Works— which the United Church of Canada created to work on a number of development projects, one part of which is their church properties. As planned, if



KPMB Architects

approved by the City, the original church and Sunday school would be retained and joined by two additions. Additions built after the original church, such as the covered outdoor porch and the gymnasium, would be removed. While the church would continue as a place of worship, 100 housing units, including 30 affordable apartments in a twelve story structure, would be built along with commercial and community spaces. A second floor community hall with an outdoor terrace looking over Allan Gardens would be joined by a café below.

The church's role as a centre of the community will remain and be enhanced. As an affirming church, it is an impressively generous host to several groups and congregations. Its organizational tenants are the Ontario Coalition Against Poverty, Mixed Company Theatre and Fu-Gen Theatre. Congregations worshipping at Saint Luke's United Church include Holy City Church, Sheep Flock Korean Presbyterian Church, Redeemer's Love Gospel Fellowship, Church of Praise Full Gospel Fellowship and Tanzanian Pentecostal Fellowship. There are also several 12 Step Programs at Saint Luke's: Fresh Start Al-Anon, Gay Sober Men AA, Crystal Meth Anonymous. And Saint Luke's hosts two Food Security efforts; a biweekly hot meal program and a food bank.

By owning its facilities the United Church is able to host a mix of facilities and activities that would not be possible in a for-profit development. With this project the Church will be able to continue to deliver on its social impact mandate and to be part of the solution to the housing crisis.

Nominate a front garden for the

Streetscapes In Bloom Award.

See page 7. Nominations close June 10, 2023. info@cabbagetownpa.ca



Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show

A Cabbagetown Tradition Since 1988



The Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show is held each year at the same time as the Cabbagetown Festival and Riverdale Farm Fall Festival. During the weekend after Labour Day, the outdoor show, which runs for two-and-a-half days, attracts thousands of visitors to Riverdale Park West, where close to 200 exhibitors show and sell their work.

Exhibitor tents line the park's walkways. Overarching trees provide shade. There's a delicious selection of food for sale, picnic tables for family gatherings, music for everyone and entertainment for kids. It's a unique event in a unique community.

Buy better, buy handmade, buy local...

The Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show is a community in itself – a place for artists to gather and for visitors to stroll and soak it all in. It's an outdoor gallery for passionate art and craft lovers to experience the carefully juried exhibits, talk to artists, designers and artisans and buy one-of-a-kind pieces from some of Canada's most creative talent.

The show's organizers believe that conscious shopping decisions are better shopping decisions. When you buy local and buy handmade, you're helping professional artists rise above the noise of big business and over-consumption.

Who runs the show?

The Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show is community-based and not-for-profit. Following

the retirement of local founder Randy Brown in 2022, a new Board have taken over running the event.

The organizers believe that art inspires the soul. Their commitment is to support art and craft creators, to encourage appreciation of the visual arts and to give artists a place to showcase and sell their work.

By promoting Canadian artists, this juried show generates funding that allows the organizers to give back to the Cabbagetown community and helps support its important causes.

Although the show happens on the same weekend as Cabbagetown Festival and the Riverdale Farm Fall Festival, the three events are run by separate organizations.

Creativity within communities

Each year, prospective exhibitors submit their applications to a panel of jurors — fellow practising artists with a deep knowledge of the local creative landscape. It's the jury's selections that determine who will exhibit their work in September.

The jurying process ensures that the show consistently hosts the highest quality, most innovative, skilled and creative art every year. The result is a weekend full of arts in a beautiful park at a time when Cabbagetown is in its most festive mood. And, with the built heritage of Cabbagetown as a backdrop, it's the ideal location to celebrate the importance of creativity within communities.

A juried selection

All the art and craft accepted into the show is designed and made by artists. Jurors base their selections on a mix of creativity, skill, presentation, uniqueness, process and display. They also look to achieve a balance of categories and a fit for the audience.

Visitors can expect to see a wide variety of creative genres, including Accessories, Ceramics and Glass, Clothing, Culinary, Fine Art, Jewellery, Metal, Mixed Media, Photography and Digital Media, Sculpture, Textiles and Fibre Arts, Wood.

A list of 2023 Exhibitors is published at www. cabbagetownartandcraft.org once juried selection is complete. Anyone interested can also visit the Artist Directory to browse for past exhibitors by name or category.

2022 award winners

First-prize went to multidisciplinary artist Ruth Wickremesooriya, who weaves value into waste. Ceramic artist Celina Kang took second prize with her work inspired by nature. Danielle Jones and James Laish are wood and mixed media artists. They were awarded third prize for their modern minimalist art objects with a touch of whimsy.

There's more to discover

Artists Interested in exhibiting can sign up at www.cabbagetownartandcraft.org to receive information and updates. And they can apply on the website. The Second round of jurying closes May 31.

Continued on next page





Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show continued from page 4

Anyone interested in visiting can sign up at www. cabbagetownartandcraft.org to receive news and updates about the show and what's happening in the neighbourhood throughout the year.

Follow on social media

If you'd prefer to get updates on social, you can follow on:

Facebook: Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show Instagram: @cabbagetownartandcraftshow

Volunteers and sponsors

Like any community not-for-profit event, the Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show welcomes the kind help of an army of volunteers. Over

the years, the show has also been generously supported by sponsors. It's what helps give back to the artist community and the Cabbagetown neighbourhood. If you'd like to help in either way, you can contact the organizers at info@ cabbagetownartandcraft.org.

2023 Dates: Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show

Friday, September 8, Ipm - 6pm Saturday September 9, 10am - 6pm Sunday September 10, 10am - 5pm

www.cabbagetownartandcraft.org Facebook: Cabbagetown Art & Craft Show Instagram: @cabbagetownartandcraftshow









All-Abilities Adventure

An All-Abilities Adventure, designed by Shalaine Sedres, MSc in Rehabilitation Science Candidate at the University of Toronto & Holder of a 2022-2023 CPA Student Experience Programme Award, debuted at the CRA's Forsythia Festival, May 7 (see CPA Student Experience Award, page 2).

The installation is inspired by the view that children of all abilities should have equal access to playgrounds that enable them to play alongside their peers, to discover new wonders, and to enjoy the outdoors. Increasingly, playground designers are recognizing the relevance of this research, known as inclusivity design research, and are bringing this into their practice. Thanks to the CRA for hosting this installation.





st Cabbagetown Reople's Betty Oliphy Benjamin Brick

Dr. Rowena Hume, M.D. 1877 - 1966

A Founder of Women's College Hospital Plaque located at: 226 Carlton Street, Toronto, ON, Canada



In 1966, the murder of Dr. Rowena Hume – in her Carlton Street home – marked the end of an era in Cabbagetown. She was 89 and likely the last direct witness of the important role Cabbagetown played in the development of health services in Toronto.

It all started with marshes, cows and a controversy.

The first Toronto General Hospital, built in the 1820s at King and John streets, quickly grew obsolete. The peak of Irish immigration in

1847(www.insidetoronto.com/news-story/5535576-cabbagetown-uncovered-the-versatile-cabbage-planted-inirish-immigrants-front-yards-inspired-neigh/) was the final blow. A new larger facility was needed and a piece of land – a former park reserve – just east of Parliament Street was going to be its new address. But not everyone agreed and controversy erupted as some people felt that the marshy and sewage-filled Don River, just a few hundred feet away, and the neighbouring grazing cows, were making this location unhealthy and thus unsuitable for a hospital.

But it went ahead and an impressive Gothic Revival structure opened in 1856 on Gerrard Street, between Sumach and Sackville. It was a "state-of-the-art" hospital with 250 beds. It had an operating "theatre", maternity wards, lying-in wards, a mortuary and son room, and also housed a nursing school.

It operated there for more than 50 years, but suffered the same fate as its predecessor: Toronto quickly grew in the second half of the 19th century and its hospital became too small and obsolete. In 1913, the TGH moved into what we know today as the MaRS building on College Street and expanded southward.

The building on Gerrard Street was used as barracks and infirmary for soldiers during the First World War. It was finally torn down in the early 1920s.

Within blocks of the Gerrard Street hospital, not one but three medical schools were operating. The most intriguing one was Ontario Medical College for Women. on Sumach Street. That it simply existed was an incredible achievement considering that, at the time, it was felt that medical

education was too difficult for women and that "it might spoil their modesty, cause mental collapse or even render them infertile".

Dr. Emily Stowe and a few others had none of it, and forcefully championed the school

Dr. Rowena Hume studied medicine at the college and the clinic that followed, which were the seed from which the Women's College Hospital grew (1911). Hume was its first president and chief of gynecology.

Rowena Grace Douglas Hume was born in Galt, Ontario, the youngest of 12 children. She was a graduate of Galt Collegiate Institute, and University of Trinity College. She took post-graduate studies in England and the United States before returning to Canada to take a position at the Ontario Medical College for Women.

A pioneer of planned parenthood programs, she formed the Birth Control Clinic, the first in Canada, in Hamilton, Ontario. It opened March 3, 1932, and Doctor Rowena Hume was the first doctor in attendance.

She was also actively involved in Alcoholics Anonymous, the Salvation Army's Harbour Light Centre, and the Fred Victor Mission. After retiring, she ran a private practice in Toronto.

In her retirement, always trying to find ways to help, Hume was in the habit of hiring "derelicts" to do odd jobs around her home.

Dr Hume's murder as reported in the Montreal Gazette, October 1966:

On October 2, 1966, Dr. Hume was found dead in her house on Carlton Street. She had been murdered.

Deputy police chief Jim Noble's (1924-2003) obituary gives us interesting insights in the arrest in Dr. Hume's case (Noble was the officer who arrested the murderer):

"in one of many infamous cases that he handled, Noble solved the murder of an 89-year-old female doctor, Rowena Hume, who was viciously beaten to death by a Salvation Army derelict whom she had hired to do a few odd jobs. Two days after the murder, having followed a series of clues, Noble nabbed the suspect on a downtown street; the man blurted out a confession almost instantly."

But beyond the sad story of her death, Dr. Hume's memory conjures up the image of a great Cabbagetowner: a caring person, a humanist, and a pioneer.



Nurse's pin, 1884, Enid Kreiner, Pinterest



Preserving Architectural Heritage





Owning a property in one of our four Heritage Conservation Districts (HCDs) gives you the advantage of living in a beautiful historic neighbourhood of leafy, human-scaled streets, Victorian era architecture and a tangible connection to Toronto's past. These characteristics that we find so attractive are protected by the Ontario Heritage Act and the Guidelines of each district's HCD Plan.

Most property owners in Cabbagetown know that when they make changes to parts of their homes that are visible from the street, a Heritage Permit needs to be obtained from the City of Toronto's Heritage Preservation Services. However, those who are new to the neighbourhood may not be aware of the protocol or may be confused about what approach to take, what to consider, or where to find help.

A Heritage Permit Is Required For:

- Any renovations, alterations or additions that are visible from the street (this includes: windows, doors, porches, siding, and brick).
- Repairs using a material other than the original or the existing material.
- Renovations that have an impact on the building's heritage attributes. If a renovation involves demolition, property owners will need to submit an application to secure a permit.

Note that to secure a Building Permit in an HCD, even if the work does not have any heritage aspects, will require review and approval from the City's Heritage Preservation Services

Considerations:

- New additions, including items such as skylights, will need to be located to the rear and side, away from the main elevation.
- New garages and parking spaces will need to be located in unobtrusive areas, normally to the rear and side yards.
- Additions must be sensitive to the character of their neighbours in size and height.

A Heritage Permit Is Not Required For:

- Painting of wood, existing stucco or metal finishes.
- Repair of existing features, including roofs, wall cladding, dormers, cresting, cupolas, cornices, brackets, columns, balustrades, porches as well as steps, entrances, windows, foundations, and decorative wood, metal, stone or terra cotta, provided that the same type of materials are used.

Your Home's History

Many Cabbagetowners have tried out the Property Search that is available on the Cabbagetown Heritage District Advisory Committee (HDC) website. It enables you to view details of your home's origin. Since the late nineties, the Cabbagetown HCD has been surveying the homes of the current HCD areas and, recently, the proposed HCD area southwest of Carlton/Parliament.

For over a decade, volunteers have photographed each home in the area and researched its history. The information includes, where it is available, the home's date of construction, date of occupation, the original and later owners, the home's architectural style and more. The information is required by the City as part of the process of establishing the area as a heritage district.

Most of this material had been stored as paper documents and has been digitized so that all of the material can be presented online. Half of the \$3000 cost of organizing the information into a searchable data base has been covered by the CPA; the other major donor is local realtor Norman Hathaway (norman@bostokhathaway.com), also one of this paper's sponsors and a donor is being sought to complete the sum.

In the thousands of pages of hand written, typed and computer input material, there were inaccuracies and transpositions. if you find something when searching a property that you know to be in error, please contact the Cabbagetown HCD at info@cabbagetownhcd.ca

Nominate a garden for the 2023 SSB AWARD info@cabbagetownpa.ca

Gardening is a passion on the rise. The pandemic encouraged so many of us to devote more time then ever getting our hands dirty. A recent study showed garden related spending shot up significantly last year and that nearly half of newbie gardeners are under 45 years old. The new cohort are quite 'climate-conscious' and eager to experiment with colour. This has my green thumb tickled pink!

The front gardens of Cabbagetown reflect these trends and the Streetscapes in Bloom Judging

Committee is looking forward to celebrating a truly spectacular garden with this year's award. The winner of this award receives a unique art glass medallion from Kitras Glass in Elora and a water-colour portrait of the garden by a local artist.

Front gardens are judged using specific criteria found on our website and a panel of judges visits each nominated gardens once monthly from June to September. They then tabulate the results of these visits and select the winning

garden. The award is presented at our public meeting in the Fall.

We would love to hear from you! Nominations are open until June 10, 2023. Any street facing garden in Cabbagetown (boundaries can be found on our home page) may be nominated directly through our website. You will also find a list of previous winners dating back to 1996!

Please contact info@cabbagetownpa.ca



The CPA Board 2022-2023

Gale Moore – Chair
Steve Yeates – Vice Chair
Mary Martin – Treasurer
Virginia Van Vliet - Secretary
Daniel Bloch
Sarah Vagg
Gilles Huot
David Pretlove
George Rust-D'Eye
Christina Jackson

Comments? Contact us at info@cabbagetownpa.ca

CPA: Who We Are

Founded in 1988 to encourage the preservation of the architectural integrity and historic character of Cabbagetown, the CPA does that and more:

Cabbagetown Walks

Scheduled historical and architectural walking tours. Tours on demand.

Cabbagetown Talks

Lively discussions about Cabbagetown's past, present and future

Cabbagetown People

Celebrating the lives of remarkable people.

Garden and Home Tours

The Hidden Gardens & Private Spaces Tour The Cabbagetown Tour of Homes

Award Programs

The Peggy Kurtin Awards Program
The Streetscapes in Bloom Award
The CPA Recognition Award
The CPA Student Experience Program

For more information go to cabbagetownpa.ca

Join us! Become a member of the CPA.



The Cabbagetown Tour of Homes

The CPA is proud to welcome back the Cabbagetown Tour of Homes after a long hiatus due to the Pandemic. The last three years have given us time to reflect and we have both new ideas and directions for this year. One of which will be that a portion of the proceeds don't only go to the many activities we support around the neighbourhood, but also to a local Indigenous charity, blended with other new initiatives.

We have an exciting tour lined up for Sunday September 17th, so please mark it in your calendar! There will be a variety of homes featured, with Cabbagetown residents showing off their work and renovations along with some homes which are an ode to how this neighbourhood once was, with extremely well preserved floors and mouldings. Plenty of character all around with the new and the old. Many homeowners have also used local trades in the neighbourhood, including local architects and designers. A little bit of something for everyone. We

are excited to welcome you back! Please keep an eye out for tickets available online and through local outlets from July onwards.

One last note is a call for volunteers on September 17th which you can register by emailing info@ cabbagetownpa.ca

We are grateful for the support of the CPA Board and the Tour of Homes Committee.

Daniel Bloch Chair, 2023 Tour of Homes



Watch for new CPA bags at future meetings and events.



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