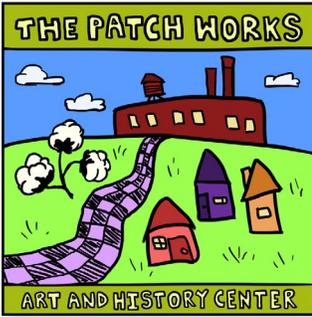


# “WHERE ELSE DOES THIS HAPPEN?”

By Nina & Jake Elsas, The Patch Works Art And History Center



*Dear readers, at the end of last month's article, we left y'all with one of our patented, juicy, nail-biting, cliffhanger endings.*

After entralling y'all with yet another mind-blowing account of Cabbagetown's untold story (untold, except for the reams of comprehensive documentation by

Kuhn, Fink, Tech, Emory, GSU, APC, AHC, B.B. King, dig it, dig it), we \*sort of\* mentioned that THIS month's article would focus on the 1950s. But really, would y'all consider that a promise? Just because we said we'd do something, does that mean we'd actually do it? Did anyone shake pinkies??? Meh. Our pinky remains entirely unshook. So, let that be a lesson to y'all: beware the Cotton-Mill-Industrial-Complex History Center. Anyhoo...

**The Cabbagetown Reunion Day Festival is turning 51-ish! Hot patooties!**

Since y'all are meta-glancing at this article on June 1<sup>st</sup> (give or take a day), y'all better glance quickly, because it will self-destruct after June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Yes, SATURDAY, JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup>!!! At exactly 11a, this article will combust and turn into illegible ash! (And there was much rejoicing.)

Okay fine. This is a gratuitous plug for our favorite day of the year, when all residents – past and present – hang out on Carroll Street for a day of games, live music, meeting new friends, and catching up with old friends (“old” being the operative word, especially in our case).

*“Why is this day so important?,” y'all ask.* (Whoa, there. Clearly, y'all have sat through one-too-many, sweet-wine-sodden Passover Seders.) “Because, child, this is yet another example of the uniqueness of Cabbagetown. Dayenu.”

**The Cabbagetown Reunion Day Festival has become an intrinsic part of our neighborhood's history.** If y'all don't already know the story behind the event, well, we're more than happy to repeat it over and over (and over and over and over). The idea began in the early 1970s, when mill-era residents sought to maintain connections with their close friends, many of whom were departing as The Mill started its decade-long decline.

**Remember! Old Cabbagetown was more than just a bunch of houses with faceless, nameless people.** It was a community. It was a Family – mostly metaphorically, but many times literally: generations from the same bloodlines existed here. The loss of one person sent shockwaves rippling across the neighborhood, from Boulevard to Pearl. Today, this Family has endured a near-total exodus that has driven loved ones to other towns, cities, and states. They have experienced their own diaspora.

**And today, there is a New Cabbagetown. A new community.** Another STRONG community. A collection of people who have come to love the neighborhood for the same reason as the past residents: we're Family. And when one of us leaves, a piece of us goes with them.

This is no high school reunion. Nothing that banal. It is a merging of worlds that occupy the same space. A time to appreciate the Past, while enjoying the Present and rejoicing in the knowledge that Cabbagetown is forever.

*So, now we ask y'all, “Where else does this happen?”*

The 2022 Cabbagetown Reunion Day Festival, Carroll Street, Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 11a to 5p. Music. Cake Walks. Giant Jenga. Rock Painting. Living history. Friendship. Be there.

## A Champion of Georgia

By Sophie Stepakoff

**On May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022, Senator Nan Orrock received the Champion of Georgia's Cities Award from the Georgia Municipal Association (GMA), an award presented to state legislators who have shown continued and active support for major municipal initiatives and goals.**



Senator Nan Orrock (center) with a large group of admirers.

*“It is such an honor to be recognized by the Georgia Municipal Association for my advocacy on local issues and for my work to ensure the passage of critical legislation for local issues in our state,”* said Sen. Orrock. *“Many long hours were spent considering issues such as tax parity and funding for local law enforcement agencies as well as defending municipal bond ratings throughout the state. I will continue to fight for the local needs of Georgia as they arise. I would like to thank GMA for the work they do each day to anticipate local needs and assist municipal governments in achieving their legislative goals.”*

The Georgia Municipal Association was founded in 1933 and represents municipal governments in Georgia. You can learn more about the goals and initiatives of the association by visiting their website at [www.gacities.com/Home.aspx](http://www.gacities.com/Home.aspx).