

Newsletter

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February 2017

My Great-Grandfather's Slave Master Professor Selwyn Cudjoe Thursday, February 23, 7:00 pm, Wellesley College Club



Dr. Cudjoe grew up in Trinidad, West Indies, in a tiny village of not more than 2,000 people. Most of the villagers worked on the Trinidad Sugar Estates, owned previously by William Hardin Burnley. As a boy, Cudjoe didn't know that Burnley was one of the biggest slave owners on the island and in the West Indies. His great-grandfather, born in 1833, grandfather, uncles, brother and even he, for a brief stint, worked on the Estates. For the past twenty years he has been trying to write a biography of William Harding Burnley, the focus of his talk.

Selwyn R. Cudjoe is Professor of Africana Studies at Wellesley College, where from 1995 to 1999 he held the Marion Butler McLean Chair in the History of Ideas. He

received a B.A. in English and a master's degree in American Literature from Fordham University, and a Ph.D. in American Literature from Cornell University.

He is the author and editor of several books, has produced several documentaries, and has written for *The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Boston Globe,* and other publications.

Celebrating 15 Years of the Village Movement: Atul Gawande, M.D., M.P.H., Will Address Villagers Across the Country Monday February 13, 4:30 pm at the Wellesley College Club



Dr. Gawande, renowned surgeon, public health researcher, and author of *Being Mortal*, will speak about "The Value of Community and Choice as We Grow Older." This talk will be live-streamed as a webinar from the Boston Public Library, beginning at 5:00 pm. WN members will gather at 4:30 pm at the Wellesley College Club for refreshments before the presentation. Be sure to register for this event.

WN members have the option of attending Dr. Gawande's lecture at no charge at the Boston Public Library. There will be a reception from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm at the Lenox Hotel, costing \$45 for members. If you wish to attend the lecture and/or the Reception, you must call 617-723-9713 by February 7.

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From the President: Help and Be Helped--Beginning a Conversation



A WN member found himself unable to unload his trash at the dump because of ice on the ground. Two women spontaneously offered to help. Our member wondered whether WN members are, like his helpers, actively reaching out to other members who need assistance. Our member is right -- we should be making sure we pay attention to other members in need. Invite someone to share a meal (either home cooked, or what a friend calls "home bought") or to watch a movie or TV show. Offer to take someone's trash with yours to the dump, or pick up something while you are at the grocery store. And, of course, we all know of many times when WN members have reached out to other members in just these ways.

There is a delicate question here. Each of us strikes a different balance on our independence, our privacy, and, therefore, on when we need or want assistance. Unfortunately, this fact may put members in the position of needing to be mind-readers about when someone else will accept help. So we all also must learn how to be comfortable asking for help -- directly from other members or through Joyce.

The *Newsletter* published a list last month of things our member volunteers are happy to do for each of us. We need to re-frame our sense of independence so that we perceive ourselves to be in charge, and acting to take care of ourselves, when we reach out for help.

Nancy

Reserve Now for April 1 Yale Art Museum Trip

Reserve your place now for the WN bus trip to the Yale Art Museum on April 1. Participation is limited to 24. Members may bring guests if space is available. The primary exhibit is *It Was a New Century: Reflections on Modern America*, featuring 60 prints, watercolors and drawings by well-known artists such as Childe Hassam, Winslow Homer and others. Exhibits also include *Let Us March On: Lee Friedlander and the Prayer Pilgrimage for Freedom*, a collection of the famed photographer's images of Martin Luther



King, Rosa Parks, Harry Belafonte and other civil rights leaders who participated in the May 17, 1957, demonstration in Washington, D.C. A short distance from the main museum is the Yale Center for British Art, which contains the largest and most comprehensive collection of British Art outside the United Kingdom.

The bus will leave 888 Worcester Street on April 1 at 8:45 am and return around 6:30 pm. Parking is available at the rear of the building. Cost is \$44 per person, lunch not included. Entrance to the museum is free. Additional details can be found on our website at http://bit.ly/2jMtXWk, or on our homepage Upcoming Events.

The deadline for registration is Friday, February 24. To register, call Joyce Wadlington at 781-283-0417. Ext 1. Additional questions? Contact Joyce at 781-283-0417 Ext 1 or at director@wellesleyneighbors.org.



January Service and Support

Service Request: Handyman
Support requests: Rides (4), Computer (3), TV help

To request service or support, call Joyce at 781-283-0417, ext 1.





From the Executive Director: Baby Boomers' Thoughts About Retirement

As Wellesley Neighbors experiences its sixth year of operation, it's likely that an increasing number of members will be Baby Boomers. What are that group's thoughts about retirement?

For seventeen years the Transamerica Annual Retirement Survey has polled American workers and their employers about attitudes and behaviors regarding retirement security and benefits. An online survey was conducted last April and May among a representative sample of 4,161 full-time and part-time workers, with a supplementary survey among 1,198 workers in August for a subset of questions. Workers were categorized as Millennials (born 1979 – 2000), Generation X (born 1965 – 1978) and Baby Boomers (born 1946 – 1964).

Some of the findings about Baby Boomers include:

- 50 percent plan to work after retirement, most on a part-time basis;
- 62 percent are confident that they will be able to retire comfortably, and 51 percent somewhat or strongly agree that they are building a large

- enough retirement nest egg;
- 84 percent believe that a 401(k) or similar plan is a somewhat or very important employee benefit;
- 87 percent expect to rely on Social Security for their retirement income;



- 67 percent are concerned that Social Security won't be there for them when they are ready to retire;
- 59 percent cite traveling as a retirement dream;
- 51 percent note time with family and friends as their second most frequently cited dream;
- Boomers plan to live to age 85 (median).

You can review the entire survey at http://www.transamericacenter.org/.

Joyce

SHORT TAKES

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR FOR US TO PREPARE FOR WINTER WEATHER EMERGENCIES. One of our members suggests we identify the main water line that enters the house, probably in the basement, and tie a big tag to its shut-off valve to easily identify it, should a water pipe burst and the water system need to be shut off.

THE WN MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE HOSTED A VERY SUCCESSFUL INFORMATIONAL COFFEE at Wellesley Green on Saturday, January 14. Some 30 residents who are potential members learned about WN from Committee members and from many of the 13 residents who are members. Joyce made a presentation highlighting our various activities and services, and a question period followed.

ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, the WN BOARD will combine its monthly meeting with its Fourth Annual Retreat. This will be an important opportunity to fine-tune our organization and discuss possible new initiatives. In her *Newsletter* message last month, President Nancy Gans asked WN members to "send us ideas you have about things you think we can do better, new things we should be trying, and things you think we are doing very well that we should preserve or expand." Your suggestions are welcome, and it's not too late to send them to Nancy.

WN MEMBER, RUTH TREITMAN will describe the process of making silver loop-in-loop chains, used in her jewelry projects, at the Wellesley Hills Library on Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 pm. She will present a demonstration, and some of her work will be offered for sale.

Holiday Party

Pot Luck Luncheon













The Whitings' granddaughters helped make the party a success







February 2017

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February 2017 Calendar

Wed. Feb. 1, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out at CPK RSVP

Thur. Feb. 2, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at WCC RSVP

Mon. Feb. 6, 10 am Wellesley Neighbors Board retreat

Wed. Feb. 8, 6 pm Closet Exchange shopping, Needham RSVP

Fri. Feb. 10 Deadline for "Sleeping Beauty" Payment

Fri. Feb. 10, 12 noon Cottage Restaurant Wellesley lunch RSVP

Mon. Feb. 13, 4:30 pm WCC, Webinar, Atul Gawande RSVP

Tue. Feb. 14, 2:30 pm Fancy That Tea Room, Walpole RSVP

Wed. Feb. 15 Lottery deadline for "Artifact" Ballet (Mar. 5)—email info to come! RSVP

Thur. Feb. 16, 12 noon All members lunch at WCC RSVP

Mon. Feb. 20, 12 noon Juniper lunch RSVP

Thur. Feb. 23, 10:30 am BC McMullen Museum RSVP

Thur. Feb. 23, 12:30 Brio's lunch RSVF

Thur. Feb. 23, 7 pm Speaker Series, Selwyn Cudjoe at WCC RSVP

Sat. Feb. 25, 8 pm Homegrown Coffee House, Needham RSVP

Tue. Feb.28, 5:30 pm Lemon Thai dinner RSVP

Note: Times and dates are subject to change. Email notices will be sent prior to events.

- ♦ Register on the website, call 781 283-0417, ext. 2, or email events@wellesleyneighbors.org
- Tell us if you need a ride or can offer a ride.
- RSVP at least 24 hours before an event to ensure adequate seating and refreshments.
- Please call or email to cancel if you find you cannot attend an event.
- Most events are open to non-members who would like to get acquainted with WN.

Early March Events

Wed. Mar. 1, 5:30 pm Women's Night Out RSVP

Sun. Mar. 5, 1 pm Boston Ballet "Artifact"

Thur. Mar. 9, 12:30 pm Men's Lunch at Wellesley College Club RSVP

Boston Ballet presents 2 Ballets

"Artifact"

"Artifact" is a contemporary ballet, transforming audiences as dancers push the limits of their physicality. WN has purchased 8 discounted tickets for this event at \$30 each. As we have only 8, a lottery will be held.

LOTTERY DEADLINE: Noon, Wed. Feb. 15

Question? Call Maureen at 781-237-1154 or email Maureendonlon2002@verizon.net

"Sleeping Beauty"

Boston Opera House—Sat. April 29, 1 pm

\$35 paid by February 10—PAYABLE To Boston Ballet

Your registration is not confirmed until your payment is received.

SEND TO Wellesley Neighbors, 888 Worcester Street, Suite 260, Wellesley, MA 02482

Include a SASE for the return of your tickets.

Questions? Call Lena Tung 781-237-7279

«Name»
«Street» «Addr 2»
«Town, State, Zip»

February Newsletter

Wellesley, MA 02482

888 Worcester Street Suite 260

Wellesley Neighbors

Board of Directors

Nancy Gans, President Ilse Sangree, Vice President Ann Swanson, Clerk Stan Treitman, Treasurer

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Sara-Jane Green Ralph Wagner

"I live in that solitude which is painful in youth, but delicious in the years of maturity."

Albert Einstein

How to Contact Wellesley Neighbors

Phone:



Website:



www.wellesleyneighbors.org

Executive Director: 781 283-0417, ext. 1

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Wellesley Neighbors

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