Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee Talk at CAG Meeting

Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee will be the featured guests at CAG’s first fall meeting on Monday, September 8. Famous as journalists, gregarious hosts, and participants in social and current events, Sally and Ben are longtime residents of N Street who have generously supported many Georgetown organizations. They are the Honorary Chairs of the 2008 CAG Gala.

As a reporter for The Washington Post “Style” section in the 1970’s and 80’s, Sally Quinn was known for her irreverent and controversial profiles of celebrities and politicians. She wrote about reporters, politicians and social climbers in the nation’s capital in her first novel, Regrets Only and its sequel, Happy Endings. Her book The Party is an insider’s look at Washington entertaining and the value of friendship. Television experience as the co-anchor for “CBS Morning News” supplied her with material for We’re Going to Make You a Star.

As executive editor of The Washington Post from 1968 to 1991, Ben Bradlee challenged the federal government over the right to publish the Pentagon papers and oversaw the publication of Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein’s stories documenting the Watergate scandal. He is currently vice president at-large of The Washington Post and in 1995 published his autobiography, A Good Life: Newspapering and Other Adventures.

Loyal friends to many famous people during the past half century, Sally and Ben are know for their wit, intelligence, and casual fun-loving approach to life. Their New Year’s Eve parties are legendary for the eclectic mix of media, celebrity and political types. Jason Robards played Ben in “All The President’s Men”; Stockard Channing played Sally in “Heartburn.”

Please join CAG on Monday, September 8, for an informal chat with the quintessential Georgetown power couple, Sally and Ben.

Next CAG Meeting
Monday, September 8, 2008
Featuring Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee (pictured at left)
St. John’s Church Parish Hall
Potomac and O Streets, NW
Reception 7 pm; Program 7:30 pm
Parking during meeting across the street at Hyde School

CAG Gala Features Black and White Ball at Halcyon House

The CAG 2008 Gala will be on Thursday evening, October 2, at historic Halcyon House overlooking the Potomac River. The theme is a Black & White Masked Ball modeled on the famous “party of the century” given by Truman Capote in honor of Katherine Graham in 1966. Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee are honorary chairs of the Gala Ball which brings together Georgetown residents, businesses, politicians, schools, and organizations to highlight CAG’s mission of historic preservation and improving the life of the community. Two outstanding Georgetowners — Frida Burling and Luca Pivato — will be honored for their exceptional contributions to our neighborhood.
I hope everybody is rested and ready because we have a lot going on this fall. The most important event is our annual Fall Gala on Thursday evening, October 2. While this has evolved into the party of the year, the core reason behind this glittering night is raising the necessary funds to keep CAG healthy and growing. This one night allows us to staff and maintain our office, and tackle the tough and important issues affecting our community. This one night paves the road to our future.

John Dreyfuss has graciously made his magnificently restored mansion, sculpture studio and grounds available for the Gala. The early response from the business community has been outstanding. Western Development Corporation has stepped up to the plate to be the lead sponsor. Also joining the cause at significant levels are: BB&T; Capital Restaurant Concepts; Clydes Restaurant Group; Eastbanc; Georgetown University, Georgetown University Hospital; M.C. Dean, Inc.; Opus East; Security Services, USA, Inc.; The Georgetown Retirement Residence; Refuel Consultants & Surreal Vodka and The Georgetown Current. The Board of Directors and the entire membership thank these sponsors for their important support.

Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee are Honorary Chairs of this year’s gala and to kick off the season, they will be our headliners for the Monday, September 8, membership meeting. Look for some very interesting insights into historic newsmaking moments and Georgetown’s impact on the politics of our country.

Coming Up

Our other fall membership meetings will take a step out of the ordinary. The Volta Bureau is slated to host a tour and reception in their striking headquarters on the corner of Volta and 35th Street. Another meeting will feature a panel discussing “Aging in Place”, a concept born in Boston and spreading to other metropolitan areas across the country.

Put December 7 in big letters on your calendar. CAG and the Business Improvement District are coordinating a fantastic holiday celebration in the heart of Georgetown. An afternoon of entertainment and visits with Santa will culminate in community candlelight caroling.

Our Student Neighbors

The Georgetown Office of Student Off-Campus Living asked me to write a short piece for their orientation newsletter. I know the difficulties that can and have arisen, but I truly believe it’s worth the effort to keep trying to make the situation better. Here is what I said to the students.

“Welcome to Georgetown...but here, I mean the town that will be your new home for the coming year. This is a closely knit town steeped in history and proud of its heritage. For 257 years, Georgetowners have worked tirelessly to create a quality of life we all can share and enjoy.

One of the particular joys of our village is our diversity. The senior citizens that have lived here most of their lives have given us our legacy. Those of us in the middle are trying to keep things going. The young couples with toddlers who are moving in at a rapid rate bring a vibrant promise for the future. And our student population brings great energy for the present.

The residents, the local businesses and the University have worked hard and hard in hand to build and maintain an atmosphere of cooperation and understanding. I urge you to reach out and meet your neighbors that are permanent residents. Get to know them...let them know you. Borrow a hose...share a beer. Become invested in your new community and your new neighborhood. When both sides can “put a face” on their neighbor, friendships are built, leading to mutual understanding, trust and respect.

Georgetown is a terrific place and we are fortunate to call it home. Now, it’s your home too. Treat it with care. On behalf of the residential community, I welcome you to Georgetown.”

— Denise R. Cunningham

President’s Letter

President’s letter

CAG Board of Directors

CAG Gala Features Black and White Ball at Halcyon House

Continued from page 1

Doc Scantlin Band and Shue Shue, shown here entertaining guests at last year’s Gala, will be featured at this year’s Black and White Ball.

The evening begins at seven o’clock with cocktails on the terrace and proceeds to a sumptuous buffet and dancing to the fabulous Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra until eleven. In keeping with the 1960’s theme, there will be a dance contest, as well as a dazzling silent auction offering luxurious stays at the Four Seasons & Ritz Carlton; and the divine dinners at Neyla, Café Milano, Agraria, private clubs and other favorite spots; fabulous original works of art; heavenly spa services from salons such as ILO; and stays in far flung vacation homes.

John Dreyfuss has graciously made his magnificently restored mansion, sculpture studio and grounds available for the Ball. Western Development Corporation has generously stepped up to be the lead sponsor of the festive evening, along with BB&T, Capital Restaurant Concepts, Clyde’s Restaurant Group, EastBanc, Georgetown University, Georgetown University Hospital, The Georgetown Retirement Residence, M.C. Dean, Inc., Opus East, Securitas Security Services USA, Inc., Refuel Consultants & Surreal Vodka and The Georgetown Current.

The Gala will be a formal but fun evening with black tie and masks optional. The Gala committee, chaired by Jennifer Altemus, promises additional surprises (watch out for the paparazzi) so brush up on your jitterbug, pull out that tux and track down your most glamorous or funky black and white fashions (Elizabeth Miller is remodeling her wedding dress) to get together with friends and neighbors for a celebratory evening to benefit CAG. Tickets are $150 per person for CAG members and $175 per person for non-members. Invitations go in the mail soon and you may also call the CAG office for advance reservations.

Back to School

Hyde School parents Mark Bel (with daughter Juliette), Christi Cline, and Elizabeth Miller (on right) weeded the tree boxes to provide the finishing touches on the totally renovated playground and fences.
Windows

Multiple choice question: Let’s say this is another winter when you’ll avoid sitting by your lovely but old windows, hating that cold draft, that wind-driven rattle. You dread lowering the storm windows because you can’t lift the sticking or suddenly-falling sash without help, and you can’t get it locked again when you finish. Will you:

A) Muddle through the winter with sweaters and hot tea?
B) Scour the phone book for someone to repair, weatherstrip and caulk, replace broken pulley ropes, and paint?
C) Spend the winter in Florida?
D) Succumb to the siren song of crisp new replacement windows?

Actually, the only wrong answer is D but you’re not alone if you were drawn to the idea of those thermal, easy-clean dreamboats. Google “replacement windows” and you’ll get something like 3 million hits. Try window restoration or window repair and you’ll get only a fraction of that number. The reason: window repair isn’t easily packaged and sold, it’s labor intensive and local in nature, and referral-driven. But the greater initial effort to have them restored to their original glory will be rewarded on many dimensions:
even in their old age they’ll outlast the new ones, be more trouble-free, probably keep you just as warm; and you can brag about helping both the local economy and ecology.

More than likely you’ve never experienced your windows working the way they were intended. This is not because of incompetent materials, workmanship or design; it is because of lack of maintenance at some point in their history. And despite that, these windows have survived for more than a century. In fact, the material, workmanship and design of pre-WWII windows is probably superior to even the most high-end of custom replacement windows in the U.S.

Those replacement windows come with some serious caveats that you don’t often hear. First, the double glazing of each pane relies on a seal that is fairly easily broken, allowing condensation to form inside the airspace. (You’ve probably seen foggy new windows somewhere recently.) Replacing the glass is not an easy process, so you’ll more likely need to replace the whole sash, and as custom size to fit your window, that will not be quick or inexpensive. Second, the double glazing helps reduce only one of two ways windows lose heat (thermal transfer and infiltration are the technical terms). Infiltration, or “draftiness,” is reduced by weatherstripping and caulking, same as with your existing windows. In fact, the insulation value improvements touted for replacement windows are made by comparing the new window to unrestored older windows without storms. Relatively inexpensive storm windows outside the old window will provide about the same insulation against thermal transfer, but in addition will reduce drafts, and as a bonus they’ll protect the window. Add in new caulking and weatherstripping and the old windows can keep you just as warm.

ABOUT VINYL REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
Windows, the “eyes” of a building, are an essential feature of a building’s historic integrity and its value as a contributing piece of an historic district. Any replacement window on a street-fronting elevation or which is highly visible from a public street must replicate the material, profile, dimensions, operability, and light configuration of the original windows. Vinyl windows will not be approved on these visible elevations.

It makes little sense from any perspective to replace original wood windows with vinyl or vinyl-clad unless you consider only first cost (they can be inexpensive). Their parts will break, their color fade, their glazing fail, and their appearance will rapidly deteriorate. The loss of the irreplaceable original wood windows, combined with the short replacement cycle of the vinyl windows, make vinyl replacement windows a poor choice for an historic building.

Continued on page 5

Martin’s Tavern, est. 1933
Wisconsin Avenue and N Street
202-333-7370
Serving the freshest seafood, pastas, shellfish, prime steaks, chops and more!

Martin’s has had the honor of serving every president from Harry Truman to George W. Bush

Dine in the Truman booth, the Kennedy booth the LBJ booth or the Nixon booth

Reservations Suggested

Brunch, Lunch and Dinner Served Every Day

Continued on page 5
In historic districts, according to DC Municipal Regulations [Title 10A, Section 304.2 (b)], a permit is required for replacement of windows and doors. You can get help with permits from the DCRA Homeowners Center. Call (202) 442-9470 to make an appointment to:

- Get general information;
- Hold a pre-submittal meeting to learn about any permit requirements for your specific project; and
- Hold a plan review meeting when you are ready to have your project plan approved.

Another caveat: these modern replacement windows often have springs or plastic parts that can break. The tilt-out feature is very appealing in the sample but in a bigger window, the parts often can’t bear the weight of the sash and are the first thing to go (and watch out for those thermal seals when you tilt the sash!) Even the largest, heaviest old window was cleverly designed to be balanced and easy to operate - even with one hand! A little restoration, maybe just replacing the weight cord, can return it to that reliable state. Unlike all “modern” windows, it does not have any springs to wear out or plastic parts to break.

Possibly the most compelling argument against even the most luxurious replacement window is the wood itself: America’s older buildings (essentially, Pre-WWII) are built from lumber that came from virgin forests, where trees grew slowly and straight, fighting for nutrients. With up to 30 growth rings per inch, this clear and dense wood is superior in stability and decay resistance to today’s commercially available lumber. With the old growth gone, lumber companies now plant to harvest in 15 years or less. This material, far less dense and resinous, is less stable (expanding and contracting at a high rate), doesn’t hold paint well, warps more easily, and is more prone to decay. Check the warranty and see for yourself!

Like the best antiques, your windows are virtually irreplaceable and worth the effort to maintain and restore.

— Louise Brodnitz
CAG Historic Preservation & Zoning Committee
Often put in the my-eyes-glaze-over category, zoning regulations are actually the vital backbone of our community. They constitute a social contract between the people and their government about what can and cannot happen next door, across the street, or down the block. Since the biggest investment most families make is the purchase of their home, zoning’s protection of property rights is much more real than theoretical. It even affects business development: most small businesses are financed with mortgages on family homes.

The zoning regulations we currently use date from a 1958 document, which has been amended to fix particular problems over the years. Now the DC Council has funded a complete review of the regulations to accomplish several goals: to fix outdated provisions; to reflect new technologies and changing lifestyles; and to make the regulations consistent with the policies in the newly adopted Comprehensive Plan. This total overhaul of DC Zoning may have far reaching consequences for DC and Georgetown.

Mayor Fenty has directed his Office of Planning (OP) to undertake this review. OP has divided the task into 20 subject areas (parking, low- and moderate-density housing, building height, for example). The areas are being considered sequentially by working groups that are open to participation by anyone who is interested. OP then makes proposals for changes and presents them to an advisory task force whose members were appointed by the Mayor or Council members.

I have been participating in numerous groups, and several other CAG Board and committee members have participated in the working groups on Parking (Louise Brod-
Donors to CAG Public Safety Program 2008 (after April 24, 2008)

Thanks to the generosity of the following people, CAG has raised most of the required revenue for the 2008 expanded Public Safety Program. (Donations made earlier than April 24 were listed in the May 2008 newsletter.) We urge everyone else to contribute soon. Forms are available from the CAG office and on the website; www.cagtown.org — or simply send your check to CAG made out to CAG — Public Safety! All donations are tax deductible.

Sentinels
Martin & Julie Doerschlag
Georgetown Visitation
Paul & Lynn George
Jon & Donna Gerstenfeld
Linda Berkeley & William Pecau

Protectors
Mr. & Mrs. Val Hawkins

Defenders
Kathy Bissell & Lee Congdon
B.J. & Carol Cutler
Bob & Andy Dodds
Dumbarton United Methodist Church
Steve Fischer
C. Boyden Gray
Wallace F. Holladay
Beverly & Peter Jost
James H. Lemon
Timothy & Jane Matz
Patrick McGettigan
Evelyn S. Nef
William McNulty & Janis Orlowski
Eileen & Charles Read
Alvaro Roche
Gnacio Cabrera & W. Sawyer
Dickinson Sella
Mr. & Mrs. Robert K. Steel
Henry & Jessica Townsend
Elizabeth Verville
Shannon & John Warner
Samuel P. Harrington & Debbie Weil
Mrs. Frances P. Wilkinson

Custodians
Elizabeth & Steven Barentzen
Richard D. Bernstein
Edith Bralove
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar H. Brenner
Stephen Breyer
Jay & Margaret Costan
James & Karen Cruse
John K. Culman
Paul & Diana Dennett

John & Danielle Dooley
Dumbarton House
Helen Runnells Dubois
Richard Levy & Loaraine Gallard
Carmen Caneda & Richard Gilfillan
Linda L. Haan
John & Ingela Hodges
Laura Rose Handman & Harold Ickes
Russell Katz
Brent Glass & Cathryn Keller
Kitty Kelley
Arlene & Martin Klepper
Laurie Kramer
Patricia Goldman & Stephen Kurzman
Robert Lighthizer
Mr. & Mrs. Malcolm Lovell
James Lowenstein
Frank Loy
Louise Lynch
John D. Macomber
Ms. Dana Madalon
Pamela Aall McPherson &
Charles P. McPherson
Sara Hope Franks & Mike Moore
Philip & Karen Morrison
Gerald Musarra & Carlos Ortiz
Jose P. & Cristina Ortiz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Page
Richard B. Parker
Malcolm & Pamela Peabody
Curt & Lynda Plott
E. S. Porter
Ruthi Postow
Richard & Anne Poulson
Sandra & Ren Renfro
David & Nancy Roll
Elizabeth Ross
Gail Scott
Charles Silverman
Elizabeth Stevens
Paul & Heidi Strain
William Sunderlin
David W. Swetzoff
Barbara Upton
Edward Weidenfeld
Elsa Walsh & Bob Woodward

Hans Wyss
Joe & Dorothy Zaring

Other
F. Gregory Ahern
Ingrid Beach
Dominica E. Bottea
Richard & A. Brown
Marcia Carter
Christian A. Chapman
Philippe & Agnes de Dreuzy
Edward A. Dent III
Vera V. Dickey
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Earle
David Farrell
Michael & Sandra Getler
Collette & Allan Goodman
Barbara W. Gordon
Paul Greenstein
Nancy M. Johnson
Wooward A. Kay
Wayne Koonce
Habib & Farah Ladjevardi
Mirella Levinas
Joe & Patricia Lonardo
Wendy W Makins
Catherine & Jeff Miller
Kathryn Minor
Mary Kae LaRose & Marc Montagner
Greg & Lynn Myer
Mr. & Mrs. Steuart Pittman
Resha Putzrath & Lawrence Olson
Elizabeth Phillips
Mrs. John E. Preston
Kimberly Davis & Josh Reyher
Ruth MacKenzie Saxe
Doug Schifman
August & Susan Schumacher
Keith & Megan Shugarman
Susan & Richard Silverman
Dick & Susi Stoll
Mrs. William Tanaka
Dena & Charles Verrill
Ann & David Williams
Plans for Georgetown Library Unveiled

The proposal for the library rebuilding program was showcased at a community meeting on July 17th by DC Chief Librarian Ginnie Cooper, the architectural team of Martinez and Johnson, and the landscape design firm of Lee & Papas. The plans show a beautiful and expanded facility which reflects “residents’ hopes and dreams” gathered at previous community meetings.

The design preserves the two large reading rooms on the first floor, improves traffic flow and adds an outdoor reading terrace off the south façade. Reading rooms for adults and young adults are on the second floor which has been opened up to reveal striking views over Book Hill Park and beyond.

The two most dramatic changes are in the Peabody Room and the children’s room. A new roof, which eliminates interior trusses, will bring previously unused “attic” space into play. The Peabody Collection will be housed in this top floor, which is twice the size of the old Peabody Room. The children’s library and a new community meeting room accommodating 100 people will be located in the basement level, with direct exterior access.

The landscape team proposes replacing the current parking lot with a slightly sloped grassy area lined with shrubs leading into Book Hill Park. Parking would be moved to the southeast side of the property. The ultimate impact of the building and the landscaping is intended to be graceful and user friendly. Plans can be viewed on the library website: dcpl.dc.gov.

The Interim Georgetown Library

The Interim Georgetown Library construction build out will begin on September 2 and is expected to last 3 months, followed by set up and move in (computer set up, book delivery, etc.). The Library plans to open the Interim by mid-December. This new space will have the same hours as all other branch libraries, including being open 2 nights/week and 1-5 pm on Sundays. It will have 20 public access computers and free WiFi. The Book Mobile will continue to serve the Georgetown neighborhood (at Jellef Boys & Girls Club) until the Interim Library opens on M Street.

Continued on page 9
Plans for Georgetown Library Unveiled
Continued from page 8

The new Peabody Room will be on the Third Floor of the Library, created by capturing previously unused space under the roofline and will feature a central skylight in the cupola.

Georgetown Transportation Study Final Recommendations

We’re on the home stretch — and on to action! The fourth and final community meeting was held on July 24 to provide an overview of the Georgetown Transportation Study and a review of the final recommendations being made by the consultants (HNTB) to the Department of Transportation.

The study was initiated a year ago, with the goal of improving pedestrian and bicycle mobility and safety; improving traffic flow; and protecting the residential areas from traffic impacts. During the year, over 800 comments have been submitted, community members have participated in discussions, and the Technical Advisory Committee (which includes representatives from the ANC, BID, and CAG) has been actively involved. The study took into account other earlier studies such as the Whitehurst Freeway Deconstruction Feasibility Study.

The final draft recommendations were grouped into short, medium, and long term, expanding over 12 months, 1-6 years, and 6+ years respectively. Short Term recommendations include increased use of Traffic Control Officers at key intersections (in particular along M Street); improved signage, especially around schools; improved lane markings and traffic synchronization; left turns by east-bound traffic from M to Wisconsin; introduction of speed cameras and enforcement cameras; and improvements to sidewalks and curb ramps.

Medium Term recommendations include bus lanes in peak hours on Wisconsin and M; pressure plates to activate flashers at certain pedestrian crossings (such as P and Rock Creek Parkway); and introduction of a bike box on 27th at K Street. Long Term recommendations include consideration of making 31st Street north-bound and 30th Street south-bound, but the TAC insisted on being on record that this could only be tried if the majority of affected residents agree.

See the draft final report at www.GeorgetownTransportationStudy.com.

While we should not expect to see sudden and dramatic improvement in our densely traveled neighborhood, the numerous “tweaks” to the system should enable some of those irritating hold-ups to be eased, and enable residents to enjoy a less frustrating traffic experience.

– Hazel Denton
Chair,
CAG Transportation Committee
Shop Where your CAG Priority Merchant Card Counts!

Over 36 local businesses offer CAG members special discounts and other benefits when you present your CAG membership card. The card (pictured here) is sent to every member and lists the Priority Merchants. Use it two or three times, and your membership has paid for itself! A special welcome to Appalachian Spring and District Fine Arts who are the newest participants in CAG’s Priority Merchant program.

CAG Priority Merchants now display this official sign in their window or on their counter

Appalachian Spring (1415 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on all regularly priced items
Bacchus Wine Cellar (1635 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount
Bridge Street Books (2814 Pa. Ave.): 10% discount
Briggs Passport & Visa Expeditors, Inc. (1054 31st St.): 15% discount
Cafe Divan (1834 Wisc. Ave.): free dessert
CABANAS (3050 K Street): free appetizer with purchase of two entrees
Cafe Bonaparte (1522 Wisc. Ave.): free coffee when ordering dessert
Cafe Divan (1834 Wisc. Ave.): free dessert
Chadwicks (3205 K St.): half price entrée with purchase of entrée of equal or greater value
Cherry Antiques & Design (1526 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on decorative accessories
Clyde’s of Georgetown (3236 M St.): complimentary crab & artichoke dip
District Fine Arts (1639 Wisconsin Ave.): 10% discount
English Rose Garden (3209 O St.): 10% off regularly priced items
Garrett’s Restaurant & Tavern (3003 M St.): second entree half off with purchase of first
Georgetown Cafe (1623 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount
Georgetown Wine & Spirits (2701 P Street): 10% discount; free delivery w/ $50 purchase
Georgetown Yoga: $5 first class; Haagen-Dazs (3120 M St.): 20% on ice cream
Hugo Boss (1517 Wisc. Ave.): 20% discount on regular price suits
Jaryam (1631 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount
Just Paper (3232 P St.): 10% on personalized stationary
Mie N Yu (3125 M St.): complimentary dessert with brunch or lunch
Mendocino Grille (2917 M St.): 15% discount
Sands of Time Antiquities (3003 P St.): 10% discount
Sassanova (1641 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount
Sherman Pickey (1647 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount
Spiral Flight Yoga (1826 Wisc. Ave.): $5 first class, 10% workshops
Sugar (1633 Wisc. Ave.): 15% discount
Susquehanna Antique Co. (3216 O St.): 10% discount
Tabar Boutique (1624 Wisc. Ave., 298-6363): 15% discount
The Old Print Gallery (1220 31st St.): 10% discount
The Georgetown Pet Gallery (3204 O St): 15% discount
The Phoenix (1514 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on jewelry
Tudor Place Gift Shop (1644 31st St.): 10% discount
Washington Walks (www.washingtonwalks.com): half price on any walking tour;
W.T. Weaver & Sons Hardware (1208 Wisc. Ave., 2nd Floor): 15% discount
Yiro “All Organic Children's Clothing” (3236 P St.): 10% discount
Urban Forestry Administration Hires Inspector

The DC Urban Forestry Administration recently hired Carlson Klapthor to be an inspector enforcing laws regarding trees and public space.

Carlson grew up on Capitol Hill, graduated from Gonzaga High School, and received a BS degree from Lewis and Clark University. He developed a love of trees as a Boy Scout and, as a teenager, helped his forester brother conduct forest surveys. Mr. Klapthor previously worked with DDOT as an infrastructure inspector, and more recently with the Executive Office of Mayor Williams as a Core Team Leader for Community Relations /Neighborhood Services, working with Ward 2 and Ward 6. He is well acquainted with inspectors from all branches of the DC Government and has worked closely with ANCs and citizens’ associations.

Much of Mr. Klapthor’s first week on the job was spent in Georgetown. His first emergency call was from a neighbor reporting that a very large tree was being removed and no permit was displayed. He advised the neighbor to take pictures of the incident, get the name of the contractor removing the tree and the address of the tree. Within the half hour Mr. Klapthor was on site and has since determined that neither the homeowner nor the contractor had a permit to remove the tree, which was a “Special Tree.” A violation notice is being issued to the homeowner; minimum fine for such a violation is $5,500.

A “Special Tree” is a tree that has a minimum circumference of fifty-five inches. Requirements for issuance of a permit to remove a “Special Tree” are:

1. An International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certified arborist asserts the tree as hazardous to life and/or property.
2. The tree is one of three species exempt from the law: Ailanthus altissima (Tree of Heaven); Morus species (Mulberry); Acer platanoides (Norway maple).
3. The property owner declares on the permit application to: (a) plant a quantity of saplings whose aggregated circumference equals or exceeds the circumference of the Special Tree(s) to be removed; (b) pay into a Special Tree Fund a tree replacement fee of $35 per inch of circumference of each “Special Tree” to be removed; or (c) perform a combination of both (a) and (b).

Failure to comply with these conditions constitutes a violation subject to a fine of not less than $100 per each inch of the circumference of the Special Tree in question.

Carlson Klapthor has dealt with other situations in Georgetown, including a construction vehicle traveling off-street causing damage to a sidewalk and tree root ball, pruning of a street tree without a permit, no/improper protection of street trees at a construction site, and double-decker buses.

If you see any tree/public space violations, please inform Mr. Klapthor. If a violation is in progress (constituting an emergency), please call him immediately on his cell phone and take pictures of the incident, including an address and any vehicles with company names displayed, if possible. Catching the perpetrators in the act is important. Otherwise, report the violation to him at the Urban Forestry Administration: (202) 671-5133; email: Carlson.Klapthor@dc.gov; cell phone (for emergencies only): (202) 437-1249.

Mr. Klapthor’s appointment has been long awaited. He is knowledgeable and easy to work with — thoughtful and mindful of the community and its neighbors.

— Betsy Emes
Chair, Trees for Georgetown

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The CAG Concert in the Park on July 13 was a rousing finale. Hundreds of Georgetowners were up on their feet, dancing to the reggae beat of The Image Band. Councilmember Jack Evans picked the winner of the $1500-value dining extravaganza raffle ticket, which went to Rebecca O’Neill, whose children attend Hyde School. It was a terrific concert season. Many thanks to all who made it happen.
Waterfront Park Features Unique Labyrinth

The Georgetown Waterfront Park is nearing completion; the finishing touches are being put in place for the opening in September.

A distinctive feature of the Park is a unique labyrinth (pictured below) located at the western end near 34th Street. The labyrinth will have a bench where visitors can sit quietly and record their impressions in a notebook.

A labyrinth is a circular pattern on which one walks as a way of contemplation and meditation. It features an unbroken path with only one way in and one way out, unlike a maze which is designed to confuse those who enter. The labyrinth is poured concrete incised and painted with a design that originated in ancient Crete in the 6th century B.C.

Labyrinth designs have been associated with many religions and cultures throughout recorded history. Since the 1990s labyrinths have been used in non-religious settings such as hospitals, wellness centers, assisted living communities, business complexes and neighborhood parks. Walking the path of a labyrinth is an experience that can bring a sense of calm and a connection to nature.

The Waterfront Park labyrinth has been funded by the TKF Foundation founded by Tom and Kitty Stoner from Annapolis, Maryland. Tom, along with Carolyn Rapp, has written a book on labyrinths: Open Spaces, Sacred Places, to be published in September. The book contains beautiful photos of labyrinths that TKF has funded over the last ten years. More information on the new book, labyrinths and TKF can be found at the website, www.tkffoundation.org; sign up online to subscribe to their e-newsletter, Connections.

— Barbara Downs
**September Community Events and Calendar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Sept. 2</td>
<td>Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation, 35th &amp; Volta Streets; (agenda available at <a href="http://www.anc2E.com">www.anc2E.com</a>); call 338-7427 for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. Sept. 8</td>
<td>Citizens Association of Georgetown Meeting featuring Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee; reception at 7 and program at 7:30 pm; St. John’s Church Parish Hall, Potomac and O Streets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat. Sept. 13</td>
<td>Partnership for Problem Solving (PPS) Meeting Sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department to discuss community issues at 10:30 am; MPD 2nd District, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Sept. 16</td>
<td>Georgetown Preschool Preview sponsored by Intown &amp; Blue Igloo Playgroups &amp; the Georgetownmoms group; 5:30 - 7:30 pm; 3110 O Street; free of charge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Sept. 17</td>
<td>Nathans Community Lunch featuring NBC News political director Chuck Todd; Noon; call 338-2000 for reservations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. Sept. 24</td>
<td>Fall Foliage Fun (childrens program) at Tudor Place: tour and craft-making for ages 3 -5; 10:30 am; 1644 31st Street; members $7 (per child/adult pair), nonmembers $12 (per child/adult pair), additional adults &amp; children $5, supplies included in price; Advance reservations necessary, call 965-0400.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues. Sept. 30</td>
<td>Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation, 35th &amp; Volta Streets; (agenda available at <a href="http://www.anc2E.com">www.anc2E.com</a>); call 338-7427 for more information.</td>
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**Save the Date...CAG Gala on October 2**