

VOLUME XXII / ISSUE 7 / SEPTEMBER 2008

WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

# Sally Quinn and Ben Bradlee Talk at CAG Meeting

ally 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*.

# 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

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.

# **CAG Gala Features Black and White Ball at Halcyon House**



(left to right:) Diane Salisbury, Patty Murphy and Kelly Phillips enjoy last year's Gala.

he 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.

Continued on page 3

# President's Letter

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; Securitas 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 hand 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

#### **CAG Board of Directors**



Seated (left to right): Diane Colasanto, Hazel Denton, Brenda Moorman, Denise Cunningham, Barbara Zartman. Standing (left to right): Tara Scopelliti, Jennifer Altemus, Barbara Downs, Rob Housman, Luca Pivato, Louise Brodnitz, Karen Cruse. Not pictured: Bob Laycock, Richard Hinds.

#### CONTINUED FROM COVER

### **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.

# SUSAN CALLOWAY FINE ARTS

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# **Jane Sun** Poetry in Nature

Opening Reception September 12 6-8:30 pm



# **Back to School**

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

# **Windows**

ultiple 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 suddenlyfalling 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 vou 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 tech-

### 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.

nical 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.

Continued on page 5

## Martin's Tavern, est. 1933 Wisconsin Avenue and N Street 202-333-7370

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#### **Windows**

Continued from page 4

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

# **NEWSBYTES**

Got kids? Check out the cute new place in Georgetown Park called **CREATIVITY**, an interactive destination offering toys and crafts for kids to create in the store or at home, plus a variety of monthly and seasonal activities such as kid yoga and storytime.....Shabby Chic, furniture and accessories, is coming to Georgetown at 3307 M Street..... around the corner at 1211 Potomac Avenue, Philly Pizza and Grill is slated for a late summer opening....and further down M at 3001, an IceBerry Yogurt Store will replace CD Warehouse.....3025 M Street will soon house the hip t-shirt store **American** Apparel....



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# **Write about Your Favorite Place**

The Northwest Current prints personal essays each week about places in DC and invites you to submit entries. Stories should be personal essays told through the framework of a place — a childhood experience of a Smithsonian museum, for instance, or a first date in a Georgetown restaurant — or detailed descriptions of a place and why it appeals to you.

Stories should be 600 to 900 words, written in the first person and focused on a specific place in DC. Authors must be available to pose for a photo and each author may write only one piece. A payment of \$50 is made upon publication. For more information, email features@currentnewspapers.com.

# **Zoning Changes: How They Effect You**

ften put in the my-eyesglaze-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 Brodnitz), on Historic Structures (Leslie Kamrad), and on Campus Plans (Richard Hinds). You can follow this work process on the website: www.dczoningupdate.org.

This total overhaul of DC Zoning may have far reaching consequences for DC and Georgetown.

CAG is monitoring proposals from the Office of Planning, and offering comments both to OP and to the Zoning Commission, which is the independent body empowered to adopt new regulations. For example, the CAG Board wrote to the Commission to say that the first set of proposals eliminating minimum parking requirements for construction of new condo or apartment buildings would add to the parking woes in Georgetown, as would a proposal to limit the amount of parking a developer would be permitted to provide.

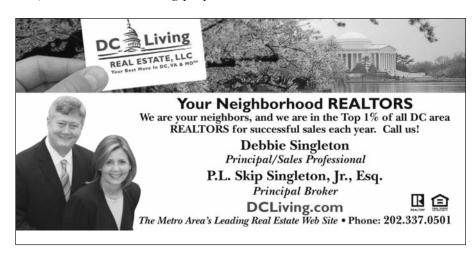
The next area on which we will concentrate will be Arts and Culture, with some far-reaching proposals for allowing performance and entertainment uses in many areas where they cannot currently locate. The task force made many recommendations for change to these proposals from OP; we await what will be in the proposal to the Zoning Commission.

Another area of concern is loading docks, which sound like something of concern primarily to businesses. We agree with OP's goal of eliminating curb cuts and locating docks at the rear of property; however, there will need to be appropriate limits regarding what residential streets can be used by large trucks to reach new rear-of-site loading docks.

Regulations regarding measuring building height also sounds obscure — until someone wants to add enough building mass to block valued views, or your row house neighbor wants to add a big rooftop addition that comes right to your common wall.

All this will keep CAG busy, and we welcome those who would like to join in the endeavor. And of course we will keep our members informed of developments as this process unfolds over the next two years.

— Barbara Zartman Chair, CAG Historic Preservation & Zoning Committee



# Donors to CAG Public Safety Program 2008 (after April 24, 2008)

hanks 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**

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# **Plans for Georgetown Library Unveiled**

he proposal for the library rebuilding program was show-cased 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 proposed landscape plan for the Library shifts parking to the east of the building, allowing a smooth transition between the building and Book Hill Park. The image shows an outdoor reading terrace on the south side, leading straight out to a grass expanse that connects seamlessly to **Book Hill Park.** Landscape design by Lee & Papas.

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

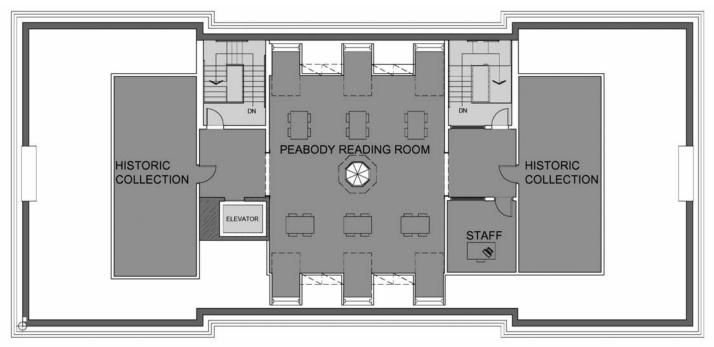
The Interim Georgetown Library construction build out will begin on September 2 and is expected to last 3 months, followed by set up and move in (computer set up, book delivery, etc.). The Library plans to open the Interim by mid-December. This new space will have the same hours as all other branch libraries, 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**

e'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

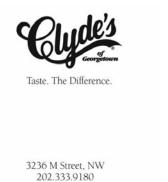
Parkway); and introduction of a bike box on 27th at K Street. Long Term recommendations include consideration of making 31st Street north-bound and 30th Street south-bound, but the TAC insisted on being on record that this could only be tried if the majority of affected residents agree.

See the draft final report at www.GeorgetownTransportation Study.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







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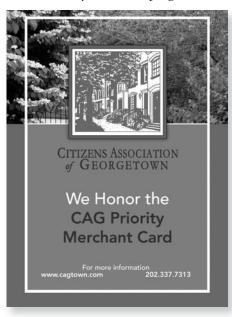
ver 36 local businesses offer CAG members special discounts and other benefits when you present your CAG membership card. The card (pictured here) is sent to every member and lists the Priority Merchants. Use it



George Town

1365 Wisconsin Ave., NW Suite 200 Washington DC 20007 202.337.7313 www.cagtown.org cagmail@cagtown.org

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% 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

Café Bonaparte (1522 Wisc. Ave.): free coffee when ordering dessert

Café 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 Café (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%

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%

Sassanova (1641 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount

Sherman Pickey (1647 Wisc. Ave.): 10%

Spiral Flight Yoga (1826 Wisc. Ave.): \$5 first class, 10% workshops

Sugar (1633 Wisc. Ave.): 15% discount

Susquehanna Antique Co. (3216 O St.): 10%

Tabar Boutique (1624 Wisc. Ave., 298-6363): 15% discount

The Old Print Gallery (1220 31st St.): 10%

The Georgetown Pet Gallery (3204 O St): 15 %

The Phoenix (1514 Wisc. Ave.): 10% discount on jewelry

Tudor Place Gift Shop (1644 31st St.): 10%

Washington Walks

(www.washingtonwalks.com): half price on any walking tour;

W.T. Weaver & Sons Hardware (1208 Wisc. Ave. 2nd Floor): 15%

Yiro "All Organic Children's Clothing" (3236 P St.): 10% discount

# **Urban Forestry Administration Hires Inspector**

he 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 fiftyfive inches. Requirements for issuance of a permit to remove a "Special Tree" are:

- (1) An International Society of Aboriculture (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



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.



# Citizens Association of Georgetown

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# **Waterfront Park Features Unique Labyrinth**

he 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.



Barbara Downs talks with labyrinth builders.

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

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### **Citizens Association of Georgetown**

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### SEPTEMBER **COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR** Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Tues. Sept. 2 Visitation, 35th & Volta Streets; (agenda available at www.anc2E.com); call 338-7427 for more information. Mon. Sept. 8 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. Partnership for Problem Solving (PPS) Meeting Sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department Sat. Sept. 13 to discuss community issues at 10:30 am; MPD 2nd District, 3320 Idaho Avenue, NW. Tues. Sept. 16 Georgetown Preschool Preview sponsored by Intown & Blue Igloo Playgroups & the Georgetownmoms group; 5:30 - 7:30 pm; 3110 O Street; free of charge. Wed. Sept. 17 Nathans Community Lunch featuring NBC News political director Chuck Todd; Noon; call 338-2000 for reservations. Wed. Sept. 24 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 & children \$5, supplies included in price; Advance reservations necessary, call 965-0400. Tues. Sept. 30 Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2E) Public Meeting; 6:30 pm; Heritage Room, Georgetown Visitation, 35th & Volta Streets; (agenda available at www.anc2E.com); call 338-7427 for more information.

SAVE THE DATE...CAG GALA ON OCTOBER 2