



# The Southwester

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Serving the Southwest and Capitol Riverfront Communities

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## Potbelly Sandwich Shop Opens in Navy Yard

Potbelly Sandwich Shop announces the opening of its newest neighborhood shop at 301 Tingey St., located in the historic Navy Yard neighborhood. Situated at the corner of 3<sup>rd</sup> and Tingey, the shop resides below the Yards Foundry Lofts and is the 45<sup>th</sup> Potbelly to open in the metropolitan Washington D.C. area. James Carpenter is the general manager and will head the brand's new operations at the shop. Born and raised in Washington D.C., Carpenter has nearly half a decade of experience in the restaurant industry, fulfilling a variety of roles ranging from baker to manager. Carpenter first joined Potbelly in 2010 as an assistant manager at the Union Station shop. The location is open every day from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. The shop offers delivery Monday through Friday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Sky House Commences Construction

On March 12, Urban Atlantic and The JBG Companies, together with their development partners, civic and community leaders and business representatives, celebrated the official commencement of construction for Sky House, two residential buildings totaling 530 units located at the corner of Fourth and M Streets SW.

Sky House is an adaptive reuse of two commercial buildings into two new luxury residential communities. The two tallest buildings in Southwest DC, Sky House will feature stunning panoramic views from a mix of studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom residences with floor-to-ceiling windows.

Sky House is scheduled to open Fall 2013. When complete, Sky House will have



The first building under construction,

sleek interior designs, upscale fixtures, hardwood flooring and contemporary kitchens. The community is pet-friendly and amenities include a rooftop deck with pool, e-lounge, resident clubroom with gaming elements, pool table and movie screening area, extensive gym, and an outdoor courtyard with sitting areas, TVs, gas fireplace and grills.

District of Columbia Mayor Vincent C. Gray attended the event. "The development of Sky House represents a significant step in the evolution of the Southwest Waterfront, helping to define the area as a premier urban location to live and enjoy the benefits of waterfront amenities, Metro accessibility and a thriving, culturally rich local community," said Mayor Gray, in a press release.

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An architectural rendering of the proposed Wharf development

## Wharf Planning Update

By William Rich

On February 27, there was a presentation of the Stage Two PUD for phase I of development at the Southwest Waterfront (called The Wharf) by the Hoffman-Madison Waterfront team at Arena Stage. At the presentation, the developers and master planner gave a description of what is planned for parcels 2, 3, 4, 11, and public places including District Pier, Transit Pier, Waterfront Park, and 7th Street Park. The Stage Two PUD application was submitted to the Zoning Commission on February 3rd.

Monty Hoffman from PN Hoffman gave his vision for the project and mentioned some of the refinements made to the plan since the Stage One PUD was approved in the fall. For instance, the proposed traffic circle in front of Arena Stage has been removed from the plan.

### What's Next?

Next in the timeline is a set down hearing with the Zoning Commission in April, followed by a presentation to the ANC and vote in May. Public hearings will be held in June and July, with approval anticipated by the Zoning Commission in the fall and groundbreaking in the first quarter of 2013.

At the water's edge, wooden fending has been added to wrap around the bulkhead and provide a nicer face to the shoreline, especially at the District Pier and Transit Pier. Earlier in the process, a streetcar line was proposed for Wharf Street, but that has been shifted to Maine Avenue due to safety concerns.

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## Breakthroughs on Parks and Recreation

By Kael Anderson

March was a busy month of planning focused around Southwest's parks and recreation facilities. Fortunately, we have significant progress to report.

First, Randall Recreation Center. Two projects will help activate this relatively forlorn area of Southwest, increasing safety. With the help of Ron McBee, DC Revitalizing Baseball in Inner Cities is now using the fields and adjacent Friendship Baptist Church site. Colloquially known as DC RBI, this is a baseball and mentoring program for children. The church site will host a pitching and batting area. In the remainder of the church site, Washington Parks and People is installing an innovative urban garden. Kidpower, a mentoring organization operating out of Amidon-Bowen Elementary is developing a program for students focused on planned vegetable gardens.

The DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) has committed to activating other facilities at Randall, particularly the multipurpose building that have been closed off to the community. Currently the building is leased to an outside outfit for day care by the DC Department of General Services (DGS). Approximately half of the building sits unused. We're exploring whether the community can use this idle space, even if just for storage.

Lansburgh Park is also slated for more use. DPR agreed to hold its Easter/Spring Event at Lansburgh, scheduled for March 31 from 10 am – 2 pm. The event will include an assortment of activities including gospel fitness, a music stage, roller skating, food and refreshments, poetry contest, and line dancing. We'll be working with DPR to roll-out subsequent events at Lansburgh

including National Night Out and SW Unity Day. To get involved in future planning efforts for Lansburgh Park, see the related announcement of the April 28<sup>th</sup> open house.

Over at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center (K-G), Ron McBee and I have been working with DPR to complete long-deferred maintenance and selected improvements. See the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's testimony at DPR's oversight hearing held by Councilmember Tommy Wells, which can be accessed at www.swdc.org. Part of the challenge is that the District recently transferred direct responsibility of DPR facilities (including capital improvements, maintenance, and daily cleaning) to the newly-established DC Department of General Services (DGS). For various reasons, DGS has been unable to manage DPR facility needs. Fortunately DPR has been a helpful liaison.

Among the list of newly-completed items at K-G: exterior lights that improve security at the building's rear, new pole lamps, a newly-operable front door, repaired tennis courts, replacement of a bullet-riddled window, permanently patched peep-holes between the bathrooms, additional trash containers and new exterior signage. DPR (via DGS) has also committed to additional items, including a new room divider to allow for dual uses in the multipurpose room, replacement flooring in the basketball arena, repairs to the bleachers so they're once again retractable, and a new surveillance system.

We've also been making progress on the programming front at K-G. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, I chaired a meeting with Ward 6 Manager Clyntia Graham and Tonya Plater-McBride attended by over a dozen service providers and stakeholders. In the meeting, DPR staff unveiled

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# New at Waterfront Station!



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## Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Announcements

By Kael Anderson, President,  
Southwest Neighborhood Assembly

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly would like to announce five events, including our Annual Meeting. Also, during the past month we provided testimony at Councilmember Tommy Wells' oversight hearing for the Department of Parks and Recreation and Mayor Gray's hearing on DC's public education budget.

On another note, we continue to welcome volunteers for our various activities, including the Southwester.

### Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Annual Meeting

March 26, 2012, 7:00 pm St. Augustine's Church - 600 M Street SW -Tommy Wells, Ward 6 Councilmember and Chair of DC Council Committee on Libraries, Parks, Recreation, and Planning

- Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Annual Report
- Season announcements and raffle from Washington Nationals and Spirit Cruises

### At-Large Candidates Forum

March 20, 2012, 7:00-8:30 pm  
Brent Elementary School - 301 North Carolina Ave., SE

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly is Co-sponsoring an At-Large Candidates Forum hosted by the Ward 6 Democrats next week. The candidates will face off at a forum moderated by WTOP's Mark Segraves.

### Easter/Spring Event

March 31, 2012, 10 am - 2:00 pm  
Lansburgh Park  
The DC Department of Parks and Recreation is holding its annual Easter/Spring event at the Park. The event includes Easter activities, Gospel fitness, roller skating, food and refreshments, poetry contest, line dancing and an assortment of other activities.

## The Southwester

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To contact the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, Inc., please leave a message at 202-580-8188.

# Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority News

## Request Additional Bus Service in Southwest

By Kael Anderson

The Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority is currently studying its 52/53/54 bus line, including service rtunately it currently terminates at L'Enfant Plaza, just short of our neighborhood.

With the last year's termination of three bus lines, the 50's represent a remarkable opportunity to correct for the service losses. Southwest bus ridership along the WMATA's 70s/DC Circulator line plummeted to half of what was before the service cuts. WMATA has been diligently working to improve the operation of the 74. However the introduction of WMATA's 50's line to our neighborhood would be a transformative improvement in our bus service.

More information on the 50's line is available at <http://www.metrobus-studies.com/52-53-54/52-53-54.htm>. You can send comments directly through this webpage. Southwesters are encouraged to ask for service to be extended to Waterfront Station, a realistic walking distance for most Southwest residents.

Alternatively you can attend a meeting. A open house is scheduled for Thursday, April 12th at the Northern Bus Division in the Community Room at 4627 14th Street, NW between 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. At this meeting, WMATA will discuss possible 14th Street Line service improvement options with riders. An additional meeting will be held on Monday, April 16th at a site to be determined.

## Improvements to WMATA's 74 Bus Underway

By Kael Anderson and Ron McBee

Washington Metropolitan Authority's Route 74 bus will be undergoing minor name, routing, and signage modifications to improve service.

These are recommendations made by the "74 Bus Committee," a steering committee of community stakeholders and WMATA staff. Led by Rhonda Hamilton and Pat Graham, the Committee is a unique collaborative effort to develop a successful new bus line. A demonstration of WMATA's commitment to Southwest, the Committee is also considered a testing ground for improved service region-wide.

Specific Route 74 changes that will be unveiled in the coming weeks are:

The name of the southern destination will be changed from "O and Half Street" to "Nationals Park." Patrons however should understand that there is no change to the physical destination. The objective of this name change is to provide a recognizable destination, particularly for tourists and ballpark patrons.

The Buzzard Point loop will be dropped on June 17th due to lack of ridership. This will decrease the time between buses to approximately 12-15 minutes, making the 74 Bus more frequent and easier for passengers to catch.

WMATA has issued Next Bus installation bids for a number of bus shelters not only on the 74 Bus route but the 70 and 79 routes as well. "Next Bus" is an information display system that posts real-time estimated arrival times at individual bus stops along routes. It is expected these contracts will be in place before the summer. Pepco will then provide electricity to these shelters to effect the Next Bus signage as well as lighting for the display ads. The lights are a welcome addition to the shelters. Alternative power sources like solar were considered but ultimately deemed inadequate power sources.

WMATA is evaluating how to accommodate Virginia Rail Express passenger demand in the morning at L'Enfant Plaza stop. This includes the Route 54 Bus as well as other approaches.

## Southwest Resident Bill S. Ashley Publishes Book

Bill S. Ashley, a southwest resident since 1971, has just published a book about his travels over the past 50 years. The title of the book is *The Diary of A Compulsive World Traveler*.

Ashley knew that he had a love of travel at an early age. However, being brought up on a tenant farm in North Carolina, these dreams had to be curtailed until after college graduation. He is now retired after teaching for 34 years in the state of Virginia, most of those in the business department at T. C. Williams High School in Alexandria. By the time he retired, Ashley had visited more than 100 countries, and now that he has more time to travel that number has now grown to over 200!

Ashley is a member of the Circumnavigators Club and the Travelers Century Club, both of which are international travel organizations with chapters in Washington, D.C. Members of



Photo by Ray Olson

Elaine Graves of River Park Mutual Homes Activities Committee introduced author and world traveler Bill S. Ashley, who discussed his newly published book, *The Diary of A Compulsive Traveler* during a recent River Park event.

the Circumnavigators Club have been around the world in a single trip and members of the Travelers Century Club have visited more than 100 countries. These two organizations will have their first joint meeting at a luncheon on April 14 at the Pier 7 Restaurant to coincide with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the sinking of the Titanic.

Dr. Ashley will attend the April 14 meeting to sign copies of the book for members of those two organizations. This event follows a previous book signing at River Park Mutual Homes on March 8, where he talked about his travels and displayed several items he bought in various countries.

*The Diary of A Compulsive World Traveler* was published by Xlibris Publishing Company and is available through amazon.com, Barnes & Noble and his website: [www.billsashley.com](http://www.billsashley.com). A second edition of the book featuring Ashley's subsequent travels is highly possible.

## Audacious Divas to Host Golf Tournament

The Audacious Divas will be hosting their Inaugural Golf Tournament fundraiser April 25, 2012 at East Potomac Golf Course, 972 Ohio Drive, SW, Washington, DC 20024. Check-in for the tournament begins at 7 a.m. and a shotgun start will begin at 8 a.m.

The two-person scramble includes contests for the longest drive and closest-to-pin, raffle drawings, and a reception following the tournament. The cost is \$90 per person or \$160 per two-person team, with a 54-team maximum. Sponsorship opportunities ranging from \$100 to \$750 are available.

For more information, or to register please go to [www.audaciousdivas.com/golf](http://www.audaciousdivas.com/golf).

Founded in 2009 by Debbi Shaffer & Tammy Musselwhite, The Audacious Divas were formed as a team for the Washington DC 3-Day for the Cure. To date the Divas have raised over \$40,000 for breast cancer research and awareness. This October, the team will be participating in their third 3-Day event. The Golf Tournament is just one of the many fundraising projects the team has planned to raise money for breast cancer research and awareness. To learn more about The Audacious Divas visit [www.audaciousdivas.com](http://www.audaciousdivas.com).

## Velodrome Coming to Buzzard Point

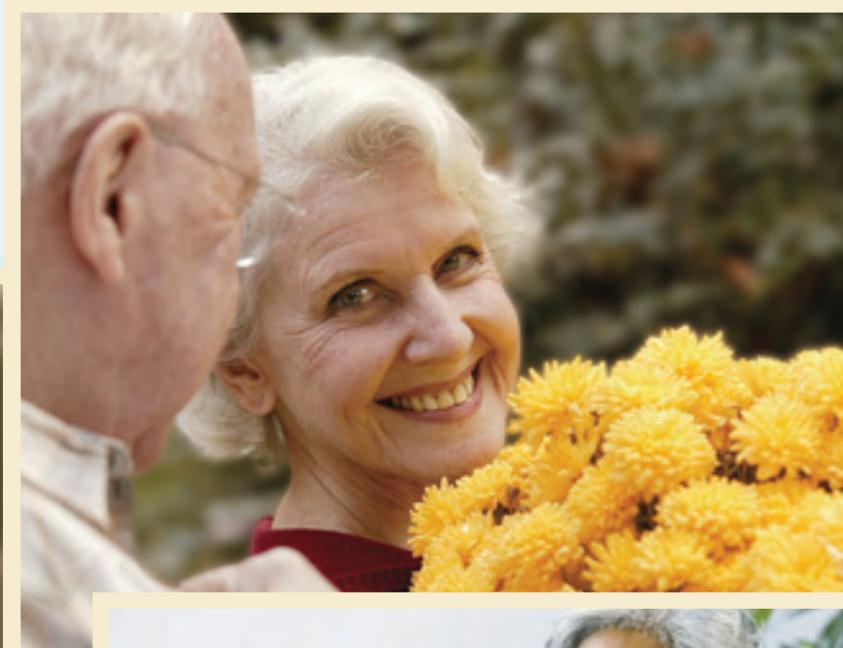
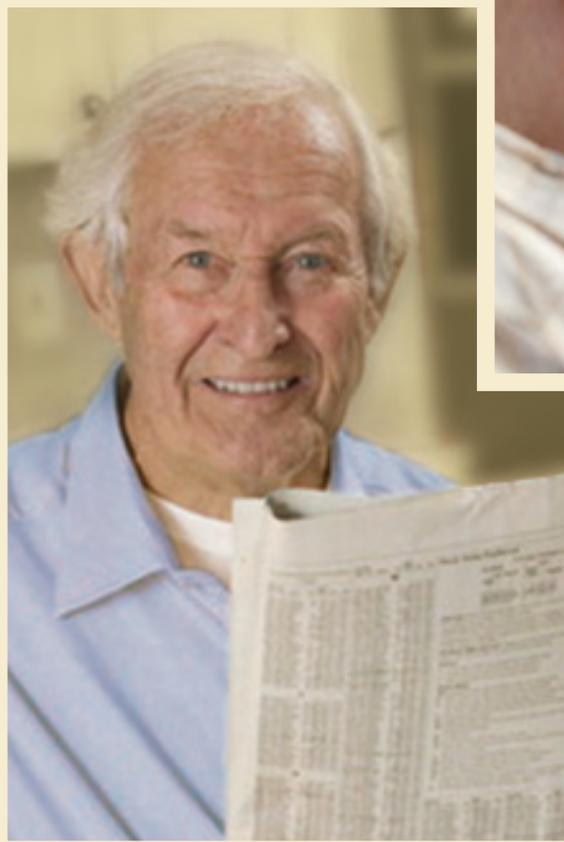
By William Rich

After several months of speculation, a lease has been signed between Akridge and DC Velodrome, a local non-profit corporation that is bringing a velodrome facility to Buzzard Point. The velodrome will be temporarily located at 1<sup>st</sup> and V Street, which will eventually become a mixed-use complex.

A portion of the Akridge site may also become part of a new stadium planned for DC United. Over the next few months, a portable cycling track will be installed at the site, along with a small grandstand, public address system, lights, public toilets, and a concessions stand. Parking will be available for 50 cars. The velodrome will host events, as well as offer classes throughout the season.

DC Velodrome is in the process of raising \$300,000 to build the facility, which will be up and running at Buzzard Point by June and will be around for the next 3-5 years.

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## Down the Gangplank: Our Little Pink House(boats)

By Karen Anderson, Gangplank Slipholders Association

Undeniable signs of spring are all around the marina. Winter water is turned off for the year. Recreational boaters we haven't seen since Thanksgiving are out in force, getting their boats ready for the season. And it's not just blooming across the Washington Channel and around the Tidal Basin, but here at Gangplank, too, as our little pink houseboats get all lit up for the SW Waterfront Fireworks Festival on April 7.

A lot of us can't resist a chance to deck our docks and boats in seasonal finery. Once confined to the Christmas season, for years now the boats that call the Channel home have embraced cherry

blossom season too. We have already got lights, and lanterns and bridges. I suspect parasols and pagodas are on the way. It gets more than a little competitive down here, with prizes and bragging rights on the line.

It also brings out the cooperative, community feel that makes living at the marina different from the twenty plus places I have lived before buying a boat and moving here last summer. At Christmas my dockmates shared tips on laser controls and passed around extra lights, zip ties and lumber. With the National Cherry Blossom Festival just days away, workshop space under winter shrink wrap is being shared with neighbors with a little less elbow room and smaller tool chests. Advice and a pair of helping hands are usually just a slip away.

Marina management gets into the act, too.

They are lighting up office space and dock gates, building some ferocious floating fish and helping plan a pretty spectacular day on the waterfront on April 7. With the National Cherry Blossom Festival, the Washington Waterfront Association, the Port of Washington Yacht Club and the Gangplank Slipholders Association they will be helping put on the Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival that should bring thousands of visitors to our sometimes sleepy quadrant of the city.

We don't mind sharing. In fact we can be downright exhibitionist after a long winter on a small boat. So come on down to the waterfront and drink in the lights. Wave to us on the gangplank. Ask us about life on the water. And enjoy the chance to experience the largest live-aboard community on the East Coast.

## Southwest Community Gardens

Sweet carrots, juicy tomatoes, crisp lettuce—these are just some of the fresh produce that gardeners throughout Southwest Washington are preparing to plant in the coming weeks. But with two of the Southwest community gardens marked for redevelopment—the Water Street Garden as part of The Wharf and the garden located between the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum and the U.S. Department of Education slated for the Eisenhower Memorial—local enthusiasts are seeking a new permanent space to grow their flowers, herbs and vegetables.

At Delaware and I Streets, Lansburgh Park, a vast grassy field that is largely ignored by Southwest residents is a promising location for a new community garden. The park is spacious enough to accommodate forty plots alongside a dog park, playground, picnic area and more.

Community gardens offer city residents living in apartments or with tiny back yards the opportunity to grow healthy, nutritious food often at a more affordable price than can be found in local grocery stores. Community gardens are also great centers of activity, bringing people together over a shared passion or simple curiosity about what is flourishing in the garden. The added presence of gardeners at all hours of the day can make city parks feel safer, and the active use of communities' green spaces helps them remain green.

A design charrette—a meeting to get community input on improvements to Lansburgh Park and to discuss potential uses of the space—will be held in March. The organizers are soliciting feedback on the plans for a community garden. If you are interested in becoming part of the community garden at Lansburgh Park, please email [swdcgardeners@gmail.com](mailto:swdcgardeners@gmail.com)

### In Brief: Community News & Events

#### Youth Movement Block Party

A Youth Movement Block Party will be held on Saturday, April 21, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. It will be at the King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N. St. SW. The event will feature an open mic, dance performances, free photo booth, DJ, free gift cards, HIV testing, prize drawings and a health fair.

#### Feedback Requested

Did you attend SWArtsFest 2011? Organizers want to hear what you think. Visit [www.swdcartsfest.org](http://www.swdcartsfest.org) to provide feedback.

#### CROP Hunger Walk is May 5

You are invited to join this sponsored walk to raise awareness and funds for local hunger fighting agencies and international relief and development programs, through Church World Service. The walk is on Saturday, May 5, beginning at 10 a.m., at Christ United Methodist Church, 4<sup>th</sup> and I St., SW. Registration begins at 9 a.m. The 5 K walk will go through several neighborhoods of Southwest, and conclude at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6<sup>th</sup> and M St.

CROP Hunger Walks take place in 2000 communities all across the United States, raising \$16 million dollars in 2010, to fight hunger in the United States and around the world. The DC Walk contributes 25 percent of money raised to Martha's Table and DC Hunger Solutions, an advocacy organization, plus contributes canned goods for the food pantry of Edgewood/ Brookland Family Support Collaborative, serving Wards 5 and 6.

For more information and to participate in the walk, contact: Walk Coordinator: LeVatrice Nora-Meullion [lnorameullion@gmail.com](mailto:lnorameullion@gmail.com).



Early arrivals before beginning their "Zumba party" are left to right: Pauline Allen, Janice Jackson, Dolly Davis (instructor), Marva Gilchrist, and Jacqueline Sherrill. Their costumes include hip scarves or "coin skirts" (sold at stands at Eastern Market and many other markets). When you hear the jingles you know you're moving.

## Participants Ditch the Workout, Join the Party

By Dolly Davis, Instructor

The Zumba Gold exercise/dance class at King Greenleaf Recreation Center is a low-impact, Latin-inspired class provided to seniors, beginners and those folks with limited mobility. The class is offered on Fridays, 11 am to noon, as a part of the YMCA Fit & Well Seniors Program and is FREE to all DC residents 55 years old and over.

As the YMCA describes it, "Zumba Gold strives to improve balance, strength, flexibility and, most importantly, cardiovascular health." Participants are encouraged to bring a water

bottle and towel to class.

The beauty of Zumba is you don't need to know how to dance. Zumba is a party atmosphere featuring upbeat music and contemporary rhythms featuring Latin, rock, hip hop, reggae, R&B, soul, country and more.

For additional information regarding the YMCA Fit & Well Seniors program call (202) 797-4489 or contact Sylvia Gwathmey, Seniors Program Manager, King Greenleaf Recreation Center at (202) 645-7454.

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As Southwesters know, Lansburgh Park features open space, mature trees, park benches, a pavilion, a hill, and active uses like tennis courts. The design sensitively accommodates a mix of uses. However in recent years, no recreational activity—organized or spontaneous, has occurred at the park. Representing the largest and most centrally located public space in Southwest, Lansburgh Park is a

woefully underutilized community asset.

Recognizing this unfortunate state, the "Friends of Lansburgh Park" was formed by stakeholders including the Advisory Neighborhood Commission, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, and other interested users with the assistance of Tommy Wells' office and

## Lansburgh Park Open House

the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR). To kick start the planning and improvement process, the Friends of Lansburgh Park is organizing an open house with the assistance of DPR and Tommy Wells' office.

**WHERE:** King-Greenleaf Recreation Center

**WHEN:** 10 am – 2 pm April 28

**WHAT:** Information on the park, potential uses, and improvements will be displayed

**WHO:** All Southwesters are invited to attend, learn, express their suggestions, and indicate how they'd like to be engaged in the revitalization of Lansburgh. Councilmember Tommy Wells and DPR staff are also attending and will be available to facilitate and answer questions.

### APRIL

**MON. 2 - MON. 9,** Spring Break at D.C. Public Schools

**TUES. 3, 7 A.M. - 8 P.M.,** Primary Election Day

**TUES. 3, 6:30 P.M.,** Police Citizens Advisory Council meeting, MPD 1 Hdqtrs, 101 M Street S.W.

**WED. 4, 10 A.M.,** Department of Parks and Recreation, Budget Oversight Hearings, Room 412, John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Penn Ave NW. Wish to participate, contact Ms. Shuford at (202) 727-8204 or via email [tshuford@dccouncil.us](mailto:tshuford@dccouncil.us)

**WED. 4, 5 P.M.-8 P.M. AND THURS. 5 - FRI. 6, 12 P.M.-8 P.M.** Kimono Sale to benefit Cherry Blossom Festival, Mandarin Oriental Hotel, 1330 Maryland Ave. SW.

**THURS. 5, 8 A.M.-9:30 A.M.,** Tommy Wells office hours, Pier 7 café, 7<sup>th</sup> & Water Streets SW

**FRI. 6,** Good Friday Anacostia Canoe Trip, for more information call Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW, (202) 484-7700

**SAT. 7, 12 P.M.,** Fountains Ceremony and Japanese Classical Music. Join the Neighbors of Southwest Duck Pond and Councilman Tommy Wells in the annual inauguration of the duck pond fountains, then enjoy classical Japanese music prior to the Southwest Fireworks Festival. More details soon. [www.southwestduckpond.org](http://www.southwestduckpond.org)

**MON. 9, 7 P.M. - 10 P.M.** ANC6D monthly public meeting, 1100 4<sup>th</sup> St. SW, DCRA meeting room on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**TUES. 10, 6 P.M. - 7 P.M.,** meeting at the Amidon-Bowen Elementary School to discuss renovation plans

**THURS. 12, 1:05 P.M.** Nationals Opening Day vs Cincinnati Reds, Nationals Ballpark

**SAT. 14, 1 P.M.-4 P.M.** Navy Blessing of the Fleet, Navy Memorial, 8<sup>th</sup> Street NW &

Pennsylvania Avenue NW, after Cherry Blossom Parade

**MON. 16,** Emancipation Day Holiday in D.C. No Classes in Public Schools

**WED. 18, 12 P.M.** AARP-Southwest Waterfront Chapter 4751, Dr. John M. Thompson, Executive Director, dc Office on Aging (DCOA), will speak on his vision for DCOA and the establishment of Senior Villages. Current AARP member and new prospective members are welcome. River Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave. SW. For further information, contact Chapter President Evelyn Dorsey, [Dorseydear@aol.com](mailto:Dorseydear@aol.com) or 202-488-9685.

**FRI. 20, 10 A.M.** Public Hearings from Councilmember Wells, Office of Planning, Budget Oversight Hearings, Room 120, John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Penn Ave NW. To participate, contact Ms. Shuford at (202) 727-8204 or via email [tshuford@dccouncil.us](mailto:tshuford@dccouncil.us)

**FRI. 20, 6 P.M.-9 P.M.** Jazz Night Special, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW

**MON. 23, 7 P.M.** SWNA Monthly Meeting, St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street SW

**SAT. 28, 1 P.M.** Kitchen Table Book Discussion. Copies of April title 'The Guns of August' by Barbara Tuchman are available for checkout at the library.

### MAY

**SAT. 12, 8 A.M.** Bright Beginnings 5K, Hains Point, for more information, [www.active.com/running/washington-dc/bright-beginnings-5k-race-2012](http://www.active.com/running/washington-dc/bright-beginnings-5k-race-2012)

### WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

**AARP-SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT CHAPTER 4751,** Third Wednesday of each month, except June, July and August, River

Park Mutual Homes community room, 1311 Delaware Ave., SW. For further information, contact Chapter President Evelyn Dorsey, [Dorseydear@aol.com](mailto:Dorseydear@aol.com) or 202-488-9685.

**BLUES MONDAYS,** 6 p.m.- 9 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW, Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale.

**COMPUTER CLASSES,** SW Library, 900 Wesley Pl. SW, Thursday 10 a.m.-12 noon

**THURS. 5** Introduction to PCs

**THURS. 12** Introduction to the Internet

**THURS. 19** DC Public Library Website

**THURS. 26** EMAIL BASICS

**HAND DANCING CLASSES,** Jitterbug, Lindy Hop, Saturdays, 12 p.m.-2 p.m. Classes by Markus Smith of Swing Anatomy Dance. \$10/class for adults, \$5/class for children 8-17. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth SW, Community room off Wesley Place, SW.

**JAZZ NIGHT IN SW,** Fridays, 6 p.m.-9 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW, Various Jazz musicians and singers featured each Friday. \$5. Food for sale.

**THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT,** Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street SW, every first and third Monday from 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

**WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS,** Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW, 4 p.m. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). 5 p.m. Tai Chi (Manifest Ra). 5:30 p.m. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). 6:45 p.m. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). 7 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous SW Free-Way Meeting

**WEDNESDAY EVENING CHESS,** 6:30pm-8:30pm, SW Library, 900 Wesley Place SW

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 105, COMMUNITY MEETING,** every Third Thurs-

day, 7 p.m.-8 p.m., Location announced at previous meeting

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 106,** Community meeting, every Fourth Saturday, 10 a.m.-11 a.m., PSA Community room, 900 5<sup>th</sup> Street S.E.

**SOUTHWEST LIBRARY, 900** Wesley Place SW (off I (Eye) Str. Between 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) Wednesday evenings, 7 p.m.-8 p.m. April 11-May 30.

**SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA,** Alcoholics Anonymous group, Mondays, 8:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street SW, (202) 554-3222

**SOUTHWEST SEWING GROUP,** Mondays, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., St. Augustine's Church, 600 M Street SW, Contact Mary Henderson at (301) 336-9058. Open to all interested in working on their own sewing projects and/or machine sewing skills. Mondays, except June, July and August.

**SW FREEWAY, NA,** Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, 7 p.m.-8 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street SW

**TAI CHI CLASS,** 12 p.m.-1 p.m., Thursdays, (April-May), St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street SW. 8 Week course, fee \$80. Contact: Brenda Coley, (410) 693-6978; email: [coleyscritters@aol.com](mailto:coleyscritters@aol.com)

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB,** 7 p.m.-9 p.m. First and Third Wednesday each month. Buy, trade and sell stamps Refreshments, auctions and programs. Christ United Methodist Church, 900 Fourth Street SW, 202-291-6229

**YOGA CLASS,** 12 p.m.-1p.m., Tuesdays, St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 600 M Street SW, \$10 per class with Kelly Anne. Contact: [kellymelsted@gmail.com](mailto:kellymelsted@gmail.com)

**ZUMBA GOLD,** 11 a.m.-noon. Fridays, Low-impact exercise/dance class for seniors, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N St SW.

## Community Calendar

View our on-line calendar at [www.swdc.org/calendar](http://www.swdc.org/calendar).

Please submit calendar items by the 13th day of the preceding month to [calendar@thesouthwester.com](mailto:calendar@thesouthwester.com).

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Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival

# Waterfront Festival to Feature Japanese Fireworks

(Adapted from a feature by Corinne Whiting in the 2012 NCBF commemorative program)

The Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival, in partnership with the Washington Waterfront Association, Hoffman-Madison Waterfront, and the Festival and presented by Safeway and *The Washington Examiner*, returns Saturday, April 7, from 1 to 9 p.m. This year's event includes a special display of Japanese fireworks, presented by the City of Nagaoka, Japan. Nagaoka is renowned throughout Japan for its spectacular two-day fireworks festival.

For the Centennial, Nagaoka and supporters bring the fireworks show to D.C. as a symbol of world peace, friendship between the two countries, and to express appreciation for U.S. support following the 2011 Japan earthquake and Pacific Tsunami. The display will begin with three white fireworks to evoke the feeling of tranquility.

In Japan, fireworks originally honored those who had lost their lives, but today the Japanese set off fireworks for celebrations as well. Each firework is meant to be appreciated individually, mirroring the philosophy that views cherry blossoms as fleeting beauty. These fireworks differ from those typically seen in the U.S. due to their hues and the manner in which they linger in the air.

The Festival Fireworks Show lights up the sky (rain or shine) over the Washington Channel at 8:30 p.m.



**The Festival Fireworks Show lights up the sky (rain or shine) over the Washington Channel at 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 7.**



event has undergone "a gradual evolution." The community festival, formerly a separate neighborhood event that was a prelude to the Fireworks, began as an arts festival in 1991 and later expanded to include a parade of lighted boats. In 2004, the Washington Waterfront Association hosted the first mini-fest that also featured fireworks (presented by the National Cherry Blossom Festival).

Although the event now runs for a full day, in early years it lasted for only two and a half hours and had a smaller footprint.



Before the fireworks, families enjoy an eight-hour free extravaganza held across four blocks (Water Street SW between 6th and 9th). The event boasts hands-on activities, cultural experiences and live entertainment on four stages, including Cherry Blossom Stadium presented by Lincoln. A marketplace features artists and crafts vendors plus food trucks offering cherry-inspired foods. As nightfall nears, boats begin to illuminate in a pink palooza along the waterfront.

"This year there is more emphasis on the water," said National Cherry Blossom Festival Board Member Barbara Ehrlich, who noted that the Southwest Waterfront offers one of the city's best views of the blossoms, thanks to its location directly across from East Potomac Park.

Ehrlich, who has worked with the Southwest Waterfront Festival for the past 21 years, said the



Ehrlich credits her longtime involvement to the efforts of many individuals and groups who make the event possible, including volunteers, organizers, the military contingency (due to the proximity to Ft. McNair and Ft. Myer), boaters, the Navy and local businesses like Arena Stage, Phillips Flagship Restaurant and Entertainment Cruises.

Ehrlich said these people's "willingness to figure it out, to do the best they can" is responsible for the event's continued success.

Mark Your Calendars



**Gala Dinner Cruise**  
Thursday, April 12

**National Cherry Blossom Festival Parade®**  
Saturday, April 14

**Sakura Matsuri – Japanese Street Festival**  
Saturday, April 14

*Produced by The Japan-America Society of Washington DC*

**Jazz at the Jefferson**  
Thursday - Sunday, April 19 - 22



Download the Free App



[nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org)



# Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival



The Southwest Waterfront community, home of the cherry blossoms, honors the 100-year anniversary of the gift of trees from Tokyo to Washington, DC with eight celebratory hours of free music, water-related activities, cultural experiences, live entertainment and delicious foods.

**Kastles Stadium at The Wharf**—800 Water Street, SW, a waterfront arena with multiple outdoor areas:

- Cherry Blossom Stage at Kastles Stadium—presented by Lincoln, showcasing:
  - Rousing Musical Festival Kick-off
  - 1:00pm: US Navy Band and Presentation of the Colors by a Joint Color Guard
  - Popular music from well-known regional bands
  - 2:15pm: Mr. Greengenes
  - 4:15pm: Band of Heathens
  - Fireworks Prelude Musical Salute
  - 6:00pm: US Army Band's "Downrange"
  - 7:30pm: US Army Blues
- Food Truck Rally with the District's culinary favorites—presented by Safeway
- Cherry Blossom Beach featuring a Waterfront Beer Garden—presented by Kirin Brewery
- The Very Cherry Marketplace with artists and crafts—presented by Diverse Markets Management
- National Cherry Blossom Festival merchandise

**Free Commemorative Gift**—The first 500 guests arriving to Kastles Stadium at 1pm for the Festival Kickoff will be given a free Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival bag

**The Washington Channel Stage**—700 Water Street, SW, will serve as the backdrop for:

- Waterfront Activities—presented by Glade Expressions Collection including:
  - 2:30pm: Dragon Boat and sailing demonstrations throughout the day
  - 3:00pm: John H. Glenn Fireboat Spectacular from the Channel
  - 7:45pm: Pink Palooza from lighted docked vessels along the seawall
  - 8:00pm: Theatrical performance by Dance Afire
  - 8:05pm: School of swimming Koi light up the Channel
  - 8:10pm: Imaginative pink flaming salute to the Centennial Celebration



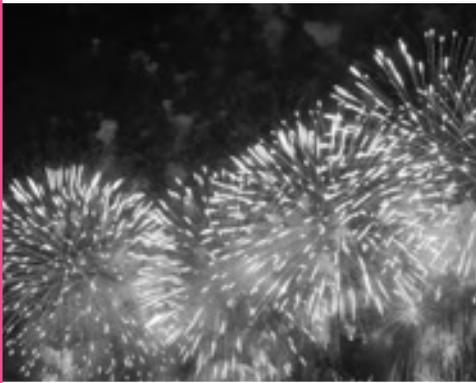
The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2012 Festival, March 20 - April 27, includes five spectacular weeks of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. The 2012 Festival commemorates the 100th anniversary of the gift of the cherry blossom trees and the enduring friendship between the United States and Japan. For information 877.44.BLOOM or [www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://www.nationalcherryblossomfestival.org) or @CherryBlossFest // [facebook.com/CherryBlossomFestival](https://facebook.com/CherryBlossomFestival).

The Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival is produced by:

**National Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington Waterfront Association and Hoffman-Madison Waterfront**

Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival is a signature event of the National Cherry Blossom Festival 2012 Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees

*Saturday, April 7 from 1-9 pm on Water Street*



The Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival includes four performance areas featuring free live entertainment and concludes with the Centennial Fireworks Spectacular, provided by the City of Nagaoka, Japan, over the historic Washington Channel at 8:30pm.

**Gangplank Marina Park**—600 Water Street, SW, a family-focused water view park will include:

- Gangplank Stage Entertainment—presented by Pepsi-Cola, featuring:
  - 2:00pm: Wil Gravatt Band
  - 4:00pm: Lloyd Dobler Effect
  - 6:00pm: The Diggity Dudes
  - 8:00pm: Nen Daiko Japanese Drummers
- Model Boat Making and Launch by SeaWorthy
- Face Painting and Balloon Art
- Photographs with Costumed Characters
- Participatory Children's T-Shirt Art by DC Harbor Police
- Family Favorites Food Offerings by Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall's "BOSS" Soldiers

**7th Street Landing**—700 Water Street, SW, a tree-lined waterfront park will feature:

- 7th Street Landing Stage—presented by The Washington Examiner, showcasing Jazz and Blues produced by Jazz Night in Southwest:
  - 2:30pm: The Lavenia Nesmith Quintet
  - 4:30pm: The Nighthawks
  - 6:30pm: Curtis Pope and The Midnight Movers
- Fine Art of Japanese Origami with National Cherry Blossom Festival Goodwill Ambassadors
- Strolling entertainers, Japanese candy making and Mukimono demonstrations throughout the day
- Japanese Koinobori making (Koi Windssocks)—presented by American Airlines
- Grilled foods and seafood, frozen treats and home-made pink desserts, popcorn and cotton candy

**Centennial Fireworks**—Fireworks are an original display, provided by the City of Nagaoka, renowned throughout Japan for its spectacular fireworks festival, created especially for the 2012 Centennial.

8:30pm: Fireworks will light up the Washington Channel

Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival is presented by:



Southwest Waterfront Fireworks Festival is supported by:



American Airlines • BIG 100.3 • Glade Expressions Collection • HOT 99.5 • Kirin Brewery • Mandarin Oriental, Washington DC  
Entertainment Cruises—Odyssey and Spirit • Pepsi-Cola • Phillips Flagship Restaurant • Pinkberry

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development



# Sending out to the World Our Prayer for the Pursuit of Peace

~ Nagaoka's Fireworks in Washington D.C. ~

In honor of the Centennial Celebration of the gift of trees, fireworks have been brought from Nagaoka City, Japan, made possible with additional support from the following companies:



**Nagaoka City, Japan**

# The Parks of Southwest: Amidon Sidewalk Park

By Hayden M. Wetzel

*This is the last of a series of five articles describing the history of parks in the 1950-70s Urban Renewal Project in Southwest Washington.*



Amidon Sidewalk Park

Redevelopment of Southwest Washington from the beginning envisioned a great deal of green public space – something not common in the earlier Southwest. This carried into the generous sidewalks and minor street amenities such as the little circles on G Street and the many closed streets made into public walkways. Fourth Street was always a major street in Southwest, and the Urban Renewal plan continued this, both in the first commercial center (which did not cut off Fourth) and the second, the Waterside Mall (which did). An imposing and inviting walk along Fourth to the new Town Center Park and then to the Mall and its plaza seemed natural to city planners.

Land Agency's (RLA) design office, headed by Stanley Sherman, began work on the "Amidon Promenade" along the western side of 4<sup>th</sup> Street to consist of "considerable planting and paving" – trees and repetitive lines of bricks, costing \$200,000.

Besides the new Mall, planners had the freedom of a new school – Amidon – which was built on the superblock created between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>/I and G Streets in 1960. The land behind the school, running to G Street, was assigned by the National Park Service to the city "for playground purposes." At the same time the Redevelopment

Along G Street, behind the playground, discussions from 1961 had separated a 20-foot strip

*Continued on Page 12*

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TIBER ISLAND COOPERATIVE HOMES  
WASHINGTON WATERFRONT ASSOCIATION

## Obituary: Henry Soladay Shryock Jr.

**H**enry Soladay Shryock Jr., a long-time resident of Southwest, died at home at Harbour Square just short of his 100th birthday. His wife, Pauline Le Marie, survives him and remains a resident of Harbour Square. She is 100.

A native of Baltimore, Henry died on Feb. 17. He was widely recognized in the field of demographics and worked for the U.S. Army Air Corps in World War II and the U.S. Census Bureau in overseas posts including India, Korea and Japan. He later taught at Georgetown University.

Henry also was a member of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) for a half century. He and Pauline led hikes into their 90s around the greater Washington area including along the C&O Canal.

Born on May 12, 1912, Henry grew up in Maryland. He was the oldest of three children. He received his bachelor of arts degree from St. John's College before pursuing graduate studies at Duke University. He received a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Wisconsin.

Henry was a member of the prestigious Cosmos Club for more than 40 years.

Henry's first wife, Annie Francis Shryock, who was a talented artist, died. He and his second wife, Pauline, were married for 30 years They traveled worldwide.

Henry is survived by his sister-in-law, Mary Dickson Shryock; nieces Margaret H. Plummer and Mary Dickson Meraw; neph-



ew Richard P. Shryock; great-nieces Carrie Plummer, Mary Meraw and Heather Meraw; great-nephews Christopher Plummer, Charlie Delph, Colt Meraw and Troy Meraw. He had no children of his own.

A memorial service was held at the Cosmos Club. Henry's internment was Feb. 27 at his family plot, on the grounds of St. Thomas Church in Owings Mills, Maryland.

## In Brief: Arts & Entertainment

### Portrait Artist Presentation April 4

On April 4, at 7 p.m., portrait Artist Jill Cohen will show examples from the hundreds of portraits she's painted in her over 30 year career and talk about the art of portraiture. A graduate of the University of Illinois and winner of numerous awards, both local and national, she worked in Alexandria's Torpedo Factory since the 1980's. Her favorite media are pastel and watercolor. Susan Davidson in "The Washingtonian" said "There's an Impressionistic romanticism about Jill Cohen's watercolor and pastel portraits.. (she) paints subjects of all ages, but has a particular sensitivity toward children. Q and A with the artist will follow presentation. Coffee and deserts. Donations accepted. The event is at St. Augustine's Art & Spirit Coffeehouse, 600 M St SW. For information, call (202) 554-3222.

### At Arena Stage:

#### Long Day's Journey Into Night

The Arena Stage will present Long Day's Journey Into Night March 30-May 6, 2012. This play by Eugene O'Neill is part of the Eugene O'Neill Festival and will run in the Kreeger Theater. Delusion and disenchantment have pitted the Tyrone family members against one another for decades. One fateful day, as their increasingly drunken hours slip by, they must either confront their defeated dreams or else be forever doomed to a cycle of guilt and resentment. Eugene O'Neill's autobiographical masterpiece exposes the lies we tell, the deceptions we craft, and the undercurrent of compassion that, if uncovered, can redeem us in the end. This Pulitzer Prize-winning American treasure "restores the drama to literature and the theater to art" (New York Times).

## National Gallery hosts 'Colorful Realm'

**T**he Cherry Blossom Centennial celebrates the 100th anniversary of the planting of the first trees — a gift of Japan to the United States — in the Tidal Basin on March 27, 1912. (The Festival was first held in 1935.)

In honor of this event, The National Gallery of Art is hosting an extraordinary loan from the Imperial Household.

*Colorful Realm of Living Beings (J. Doshoku sai-e; c. 1757-1766)* is the premier example of the bird-and-flower tradition. Described as both dynamic and meditative, this 30-scroll set transcends the natural world to capture the essence of the Buddha nature itself.

### Details

*Colorful Realm: Japanese Bird-and-Flower Paintings by Ito Jakuchu (1716-1800)*  
National Gallery of Art, West Wing  
March 30-April 29, 2012  
Information: (202) 737-4215 or [www.nga.gov](http://www.nga.gov)

Along with this masterpiece is Jakuchu's triptych of the Buddha Sakyamuni from the Zen monastery Shokokuji in Kyoto. The triptych was displayed them in a large temple room during Buddhist rituals.

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## AMIDON

From p. 11

from Amidon and placed it outside the school's fence. ("The plans for this area became the subject of extended debate," noted an official.) This area, including benches interspaced with "games" and the current brick "play sculpture," was finalized in 1965. The park was built in 1967 when it was featured in the RLA's annual report. A photo of children climbing on the brick structure includes Sherman's own son. Although never officially named, it is called Amidon Sidewalk Park in the RLA report, and that seems a good title.

This pocket of green adds grace and calm to the neighborhood. One need only walk two blocks west on G Street to 6<sup>th</sup>, where the playground of Jefferson Junior High School simply runs to the street and then a bare fence. A narrow sidewalk and a row of rather small trees (with no benches) make this stretch of G Street barren and uninviting. How much nicer if it also had a little slice of park running alongside it.



The brick "play sculpture," in 1967.

The research for this project, conducted at the request of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, was conducted utilizing documents of the government agencies involved in the Urban Renewal Project. The author is a Washington tour guide and active preservationist.

## BREAKTHROUGH

From p. 1

their programming plans and we discussed how community members can get involved, offering programming and services. The current and planned programming is generally as follows:

■ Current (until summer camps): Young Ladies on the Rise, Young Men Striving for Success, College Prep + Readiness, Afterschool Access, and various senior activities through

DPR's Senior Division

■ Summer: Summer is oriented around free recreation camps. The week-long camps run from June 18 – August 17.

■ Fall: Afterschool Program, Family Game Night, Creative Expression, Young Ladies on the Rise, Young Men Striving for Success, SAT and College Prep, Rec Tech Club, Senior Rec Tech Program, Storytelling and Book Club, and various fitness & sports programs

Program descriptions and details are available at K-G Recreation Center.



K.C.'s dream players. Back row: Dayonna Harris, Jaida Murray, Tasia Bailey, Aarianna Scott, Khalil Warren, Trevon Evans, Ms. Suzanne Edgar (director) and Denitra McDonald. Front row: Nevaeh Edwards, Phillip Thomas, Shomari Edwards and Aleema Banks.

## Black Historic Figures Teach Valuable Lessons in 'K.C.'s Dream'

By Meg Brinckman

Amidon-Bowen Elementary School students, under the direction of Ms. Edgar, Special Education Teacher, Ms. Gray, Third Grade Teacher, and Ms. Zeiler, Librarian, presented a one-act play, "K.C.'s Dream" by Brenda B. Covert to students and parents. The play uses a dream sequence to bring forward the accomplishments of black civil rights fighters, scientists, business people and sports figures.

The play begins with K.C., played by Nevaeh Edwards, at the end of a long day spent grappling with issues of race and equality in her class at school. She is feeling the sting of comments made by fellow students because she is black. Harriet Tubman, played by Jaida Murray, appears in her dream and says, "You and I need to have a talk." Tubman proceeds to remind K.C. that what she did to survive slavery in the time of the Underground Railroad took courage and most of all believing in oneself.

George Washington Carver (Phillip Thom-

as), whom K.C. recognizes as "the peanut butter guy," points out that education was the key to his ability to help make life better for southern farmers. He adds that believing in yourself means hard work and no excuses. Madam C.J. Walker (Denitra McDonald), who built her business in the early 1900s--a time when she did not have the right to vote and few women of any race were developing businesses--tells K.C. to ignore those who "badmouth you" and believe in yourself.

In succession Martin Luther King (Clarence Eggleston), Coretta Scott King (Aarianna Scott), Oprah Winfrey (Shomari Edwards), Michael Jordan (Trevon Evans) and President Barack Obama (Khalil Warren) each appear to K.C. They tell of their contributions to the country at large and to the black community. They remind her that it took hard work and sacrifices to make those gains. The Chorus (Tasia Bailey, Dayonna Harris and Aleema Banks) echo the underlying theme, "believe in yourself."

## (e)merge Art Fair Accepting Exhibitor Applications

The second edition of the (e)merge art fair will take place Oct. 4-7, within blocks of the museums on the National Mall, at the modernist Morris Lapidus-designed Capitol Skyline hotel.

The 2011 inaugural edition of (e)merge featured 80 vetted exhibitors with works by artists from 21 countries. More than 5500 attendees visited the gallery and artist exhibitions, performances, panel discussions, curatorial museum walk-throughs and private collection tours.

(e)merge has partnered with The National Gallery of Art, The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, The Phillips Collection, The Corcoran Gallery of Art and The National Museum of Women in the Arts to develop special events and programs surrounding the time of the upcoming fair.

Online applications are now being accepted for galleries, nonprofit spaces and artists. The application deadline is April 27.

Art may include works in all media: instal-

lation, painting, photography, new media, performance, sculpture, works on paper and video. Whereas work in all media will be carefully considered, projects involving experimental works in non-traditional formats are especially encouraged. Such work may include installation, conceptual art, performance, new media or the inventive use of materials to express challenging concepts.

Artists whose proposals are accepted by the selection committee will be provided with exhibition space at the fair free of charge. To be eligible for artist exhibition space, artist applicants must be currently without gallery representation and may have had solo gallery shows but may not have had solo museum or Kunsthalle exhibitions.

Additional information may be found by visiting the exhibitor services page at [www.emergeartfair.com/exhibitor-services](http://www.emergeartfair.com/exhibitor-services) or emailing at [info@emergeartfair.com](mailto:info@emergeartfair.com).

## Southwest Chamber Players Announce 15th Anniversary Concert

In conjunction with the National Cherry Blossom Festival, the Southwest Chamber Players (SWCP), our community's resident chamber music group, will present a gala concert program on Friday, March 30, at Saint Augustine's Episcopal Church at Maine Avenue and Sixth Street beginning at 7:30pm. As is customary, admission is free; however, contributions are greatly appreciated.

The SWCP has presented virtually monthly concerts ever since its March 1997 founding. That's 161 concerts in all! And this one will be quite extravagant.

The centerpiece is the newly commissioned Piano Trio by New York composer Lembit Beecher,

which will also be played by Mr. Beecher, Surrounding this work will be a representative sampling of the group's past repertoire to include works of J.S. Bach, Mozart, Schubert, Brahms, Mendelssohn and more.

The players, many of whose pedigrees are quite eminent, will include the following individuals: Regino Madrid and Emily Daggett Smith, violin; Sara Hart, viola; Charlie Powers and Karen Ouzounian, cello; Gwyn Jones, flute; Jerry Schwarz and Bernard Arons, clarinet; Dilyana Kirova, bassoon; Marje Palmieri, Joyce Bouvier, and C.J. Reden-Liotta, singers; and David Ehrlich and Lembit Beecher, piano.

## Japanese Kimono Exhibit and Fundraiser

In honor of the 100-year anniversary of the gift of trees from Tokyo to Washington, D.C., a special kimono exhibit and fundraiser, *100 years of Japanese Kimono*, is taking place at the Mandarin Oriental (1330 Maryland Ave., SW) Feb. 15 through April 30, 2012. Hours vary by day, please call 301-806-0337 before your visit.

The collection features intricate, beautiful and finely woven kimono time span and showcases techniques and the evolution of kimono-making over 100 years. Paul MacLardy and Tena Turner of Arise Bazaar Gallery of Japanese and Asian artifacts are curators of the exhibit. Their carefully selected display expresses a shared vision of motifs that demonstrate Japanese culture, society and history. All kimono are from the personal collection of MacLardy, Arise Gallery and several collectors.

Coinciding with the exhibit, a 3-day fundraiser

will take place in the Corcoran Room of the hotel on April 4 (5-8 p.m.), and April 5-6 (noon-8 p.m.). Beautiful kimono will be on sale, as well as accessories, jewelry, and a variety of Japanese items including yukata robes, obi socks, and obi and getta shoes. MacLardy, a Japanese textile connoisseur, will sign copies of his book, *Kimono, Vanishing Tradition*. A collection of official National Cherry Blossom Festival merchandise will also be available. To preview the offerings, visit [arisedc.net](http://arisedc.net) and [nationalcherryblossomfestival.org](http://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org)

The kimono available will appeal to a wide range of tastes and budgets. The collection includes a range of kimono starting at \$10, attractive to quilters and sewers, to kimono from \$245 to \$1,000 for lovers of fashion and traditional Japanese wear.

*Allen A. Flood, M.D.*

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By J. Nickerson

# The Titanic Memorial: A History

On April 14, 1912, the R.M.S. Titanic struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland during its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York. It was considered the greatest technological achievement of its time, but in less than 3 hours, Titanic sank to the bottom of the Atlantic, and 1,517 lives were lost.

On April 14, 2012, it will have been one hundred years since the sinking of the Titanic, and yet we remain captivated by its tragic story and the tales of heroism that have been handed down through generations. Forever etched into our collective consciousness are the stories of men who stood aside so that women and children could be saved; of a father who selflessly put his two young sons in a lifeboat, knowing he would never see them again; of a woman who refused to leave her husband's side, even though it meant certain death; of the brave musicians who kept playing till the very end to comfort those who stayed behind on the doomed ship.

Southwest DC may be thousands of miles away from the site of the Titanic tragedy, but we have a special connection to the Titanic. The Titanic Memorial is a unique feature of our Waterfront that is well-known and loved by many Southwesters. Tucked away in a quiet corner of Waterfront Park next to Fort McNair, this memorial is dedicated to the men who gave their lives during the sinking of the Titanic so

that women and children might be saved.

I first encountered the Woman's Titanic Memorial (its original name) from the Washington Channel as a sailing instructor. From this vantage point, the memorial appears nothing less than the crucifixion of Christ. This misapprehension in this led to sailing instructions that went something like "Take us down south of Jesus and come about." As it turns out, the memorial is about self-sacrifice, albeit patriarchal stereotypes regarding the role of men and women in the early twentieth century.

Considering its designer Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney was anything but conventional, one biographer described her as "existing in two worlds. In one, she was the perfect, icy formal uptown matron ... in [the] other she was a passionate bohemian who took lover after lover; a lady bountiful to impoverished American artists with whom she shared a riotous life in Greenwich Village," it is difficult to reconcile her life as an artist with the art she produced.

In addition to being an heiress to the New York Railroad and Standard Oil fortunes, Whitney, had a fair bit of maritime history in her family. Her great grandfather was Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, and her father-in-law, Secretary of the Navy William C. Whitney. More to the point, she had experienced the direct effects

of maritime disaster as her own brother, Alfred Vanderbilt, would perish in the sinking of the Lusitania the same year she began bronze studies for the Woman's Titanic Memorial. Several critics have noted a striking resemblance between the memorial's features and her brother's.

After the sinking of the Titanic in 1912, an organization which went by the same name as the memorial was formed in Washington and, by July, occupied multiple offices collecting donations from across the country for construction of a memorial, as the New York Times described, to commemorate "woman's tribute to the chivalry and bravery of man as exemplified in the Titanic disaster." Within two years, the organization had raised \$43,000 towards the \$50,000 commission for the winning design.

On January 14, 1914, the Washington Fine Arts Commission selected Whitney's design which, according to the Commission, "showed the figure of Heroism, a man of noble proportions, fifteen feet high, the face, arms, and whole posture of the body exemplifying a willing sacrifice, a smiling welcome to death," over seven other "sculptors of prominence."

Whitney began bronze studies for the final work in 1915. One of these has survived in Collington, Maryland at the Holy Trinity Cemetery affixed to the gravesite of a Whitney relative.

This early study, signed and dated by Whitney, differs from the Woman's Titanic Memorial in that the male figure is completely nude with drapery flowing over his shoulder.

The final work, which is considered Whitney's greatest achievement in sculpture, was unveiled by President Taft's widow on May 26, 1931, along Rock Creek Parkway near New Hampshire Avenue. The 18-foot figure was actually sculpted by John Horrigan from a single block of red granite in Quincy, Massachusetts. The entire work, including its 6-foot pedestal and 30-foot long exedra designed by the architect of the Lincoln Memorial, Henry Bacon, was completed in 1930.

In 1966, the Memorial was removed and stored at Ft. Washington, Maryland during the construction of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. It was re-erected in 1968 without ceremony on the Washington Channel.

Those responsible for its current site selection could hardly have picked a more inauspicious location. Leaving aside whether Whitney or the memorial merit inclusion in the pantheon of American art, the memorial remains relevant, not as an homage to chivalry as the Committee intended but, far more darkly, industrialization's gift to modernity—spectacular carnage on an unprecedented scale. This is, after all, the very essence of the fascination with the Titanic and is equally apropos for what would establish itself as the most violent century in history.

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**HONOLULU MARATHON** 12.9.12



A rendering of what Sky House will look like when finished.

## SKY HOUSE

From p. 1

Urban Atlantic is the developer for the project. The JBG Companies is the financial partner and will serve as the management company. Sky House was designed by Wienczek + Associates Architects + Planners DC, LLC and is being constructed by Hamel Builders of Washington, LLC.



Participants in the ceremony included Andy Litsky, Chair of ANC 6D; Edward Chaglassian, Senior Vice President, The JBG Companies; DC Mayor Vincent C. Gray; DC Councilmember Tommy Wells and Vicki Davis, President, Urban Atlantic.

## WHARF

From p. 1

An extra mews was added to separate the office building and hotel planned for parcel 3. In addition, the facades have been broken down at street level to have more of a human scale to them.

The Hoffman Madison Waterfront team is working with Washington Gas on building a Combined Heating and Power Facility (or Co-Gen plant) on Maine Avenue that would use clean-burning natural gas to power the rest of the development. As a result of the Co-Gen plant, over 1,000 coal cars per year will be saved since most of the city is powered using coal fuel.

Next up was Stan Eckstut from Perkins Eastman, who gave an overview of what's planned in the development. As much attention was given to the water plan as the land plan, and in fact, the water plan was done first.

Eckstut mentioned that the only other city in the United States that has a comprehensive water plan for their waterfront is Baltimore. Along the water's edge at The Wharf, there will be a continuous bench (about 2,000 feet) instead of a railing, so people can enjoy the water more easily. Lighting will be near the base for safety purposes at night, as well as blue lighting along the water's edge to serve as a way to define the waterfront that can be seen from passersby crossing the Case Bridge into the District.

The Transit Pier is triangular in shape and is located near Parcel 2. This is where most of the dinner cruise ships, water taxi, and charter boats will dock. Music barges will also dock here for festivals.

Down-channel from the Transit Pier is the District Pier, which will serve at the ceremonial entrance for tall ships and other vessels from around the world that visit the city. The District Pier is very large - 650 feet long (more than twice as long as a football field), stretching from Maine Avenue out into the Washington Channel. The public space created here will be larger than comparable spaces in other cities, including Covent Garden in London, outside of Faneuil Hall in Boston, or Harborplace in Baltimore. District Pier is designed to serve a variety of purposes, with permanent scaffolding along the sides to facilitate the set-up for events and festivals throughout the year.

For instance, the pier can serve as a venue for

the National Cherry Blossom Festival, or become a large ice rink in the winter. Closer to Maine Avenue, there will be a large water feature called Water Court next to where people will emerge from a parking garage underneath the District Pier. At the channel end of the pier, there will be the Dock Master building with a pavilion affording views out to the water and back towards the city.

On the land side of the development, the design of the retail space along the wharf and Maine Avenue will vary, but will be smaller format with no big box retail. Along the wharf there will include mostly restaurants, as well as kiosks, while Maine Avenue retail will focus more on neighborhood-serving retail. Meanwhile, retail along the mews will be cafes, and some entertainment venues along what is dubbed "Jazz Alley" between Parcel 4 and Parcel 5.

The design of the buildings will include more masonry than glass in most areas, with the exception of the condo building planned for Parcel 4. Buildings facing Maine Avenue will more closely resemble the design of buildings in the rest of the city, while the wharf-facing buildings will have more windows to allow views out to the water. In addition, at least 50% of the roofs will be green.

Parking will all be below grade, which is rare for waterfronts in the United States and will accommodate around 1,500 cars. Nearly the same amount of bike parking spaces will be provided. A second Capital Bikeshare station will be installed at 9th Street and Maine Avenue to join the one already at 7th Street. Other planned public spaces in Phase I include 7th Street Park and Waterfront Park.

After Mr. Eckstut's presentation, Shawn Seaman from PN Hoffman went over the sustainability measures planned for the development. The Wharf will seek LEED-New Development Gold, while the individual buildings will strive for a minimum of LEED-Silver. An elaborate 675,000 gallon cistern system will be constructed to capture the more than 25 million gallons of runoff each year that currently dumps into the Washington Channel due to the lack of permeable surfaces at present. The captured runoff will be recycled to the greatest extent possible, including the provision of chilled water for the Co-Gen plant. Solar power may also be used for lighting throughout the development.

## ANC 6D Business Meeting Highlights

By B. K. Lunde

On March 12, the Commission heard a presentation by Cecille Chen, head of SWNA's SW Heritage project on plans to install a Public Information Display near the Waterfront Metro Station, by the door of Safeway. It will show when the next trains are coming and have information about the attractions in our neighborhood, such as the plays at Arena Stage and the cruises on the river. The ANC voted to send a letter to the DC Department of Transportation supporting the development of the display.

Bridget Gonzales of the group, PAWS of Southwest reported on their proposal to create a dog park, as a place for dogs to socialize and exercise, off leash. The ANC agreed to write a letter to the DC Department of Parks and Recreation recognizing the PAWS of Southwest and supporting its work for a dog park. They have identified Lansburgh Park as a suitable location. Two hundred and sixteen people have signed a petition for the park at [www.petitions.com/petition/swdogpark/](http://www.petitions.com/petition/swdogpark/).

Gene Solon pointed out that the developers of the proposed Wharf project have not yet presented an Environmental Impact Statement for the development, and that the National Marine Fisheries Service has questioned the five piers that The Wharf propose building into the Washington Channel in their \$1.5 billion project.

The Cherry Blossom Festival will go on from March 20-April 17. Saturday, April 7, will be the special time for Southwest Washington. From 1-9 PM, Water Street is expected to attract 30,000 people for various events from the U.S. Army Band to Nen Daiko Japanese Drummers. Thirty minutes of fireworks, brought over from Japan, will start at 8:30.

Barbara Ehrlich, a prominent Southwester, is the Secretary of the National Cherry Blossom Festival. She reported that the Washington Examiner will have a huge guide to the entire festival and a 96 page booklet will be distributed at events. Jay Nickerson, chair of the Washington Waterfront Association announced 25 art projects to be unveiled at the Cherry Blossom Festival, including a very large xylophone to be installed in front of Arena Stage. People will be allowed to play it with provided hammers. Also, a floating pentagon, eleven feet across, is coming to the Washington Channel. It will play songs from World War 1 through the Washington DC protests of the 1960's, but not late at night.

The ANC Commissioners passed a Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Coralie Farlee in recognition of her devoted service for six years as the first Chairman of the ANC's Alcohol Beverage Control Committee. They said she "brought focus to a process that was previously handled in less than a tidy manner and has solidly established a reputation for our Southwest and near SE neighborhood as one which handles our alcohol beverage control issues with business-like precision so that applicants know where they stand and what they need to do to expedite the regulatory process - all the while protecting the greater interests of our neighborhood residents" Dr. Coralie Farlee resigned, and the board appointed Christopher Thiemann as the Chairman of the Alcohol Beverage Control Committee.

The next regular business meeting of ANC 6D is scheduled for Monday, April 9 at 7 p.m., in the District Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) Hearing Room, 1100 Fourth St. SW, 2nd Floor. For additional information or a meeting agenda, visit [www.acn6d.org](http://www.acn6d.org)

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Local residents at the 2011 Neighborhood Night.

## Nationals Neighborhood Night is April 19

To celebrate the return of Major League baseball to the Southwest and near-Southeast community, the Nationals are inviting local residents out to Neighborhood Night at Nationals Park on Thursday, April 19, at 7:05 p.m.

The team will honor the vibrant spirit of the neighborhood by featuring local residents in various pregame activities, including throwing out the first pitch, delivering the lineup card and greeting the players as they take their positions on the field.

“We’re excited to kick off the start of the 2012 season by welcoming local residents back to Nationals Park for Neighborhood Night,” Nationals Director of Community Relations Israel Negron said.

As part of their commitment to engaging the neighborhood surrounding Nationals Park, the team supports community-based programs and

**Discount tickets for Southwest residents**

The Nationals will once again offer a special discount to local residents for all games throughout the 2012 season. Fans in the Southwest and near-Southeast community can visit [nationals.com](http://nationals.com) to purchase tickets and enter the coupon code **SOUTHWEST** when prompted to receive a discount on tickets. Starting at just \$7, tickets will be available at various price points in seating areas across the ballpark.

provides opportunities for local youth throughout the year, all in an effort to further strengthen the connection between the team and the community.

## Notes On the Nats: N’Attitude

By Zev Feder

The Washington Nationals have invited its fan base to contribute ideas for their new N’Attitude campaign. Following a very productive off-season, in which the team has revamped its starting pitching rotation and seems well-prepared to compete with their division rivals, N’Attitude is a confident challenge and call to arms. (Like arms named Strasberg, Gonzalez, Zimmermann, Jackson, Storen, Clippard, Rodriguez, etc.?) Here is my contribution to their campaign: Sadaharu Oh, Bill Mazerowski and Pete Rose.

In sports, and particularly in baseball, you have control of your behavior, your PTCE — preparation, training, conditioning and effort — which will crucially impact but will not control your results. PTCE is where I look to determine attitude.

First, Sadaharu Oh: The Babe Ruth of Japanese baseball. My introduction to baseball in Japan came from reading what I remember as Oh’s autobiography some decades ago. Unless things have changed in that short time span — and I hope not — Japanese players honor the game. It starts with disciplined hard work to master technique and maximize ability; then bowing as you cross the foul lines onto the field of play to honor the game you are engaging in; and, finally, demonstrating that respect for the game and for your opponents by hustle and effort.

Pete Rose: Mr. Hustle and Effort. Pete ran to first base every time. If the pitcher threw

ball four, he ran to first. If Rose hit a pop-up anywhere on the field, he ran hard. And a grounder in the infield was a foot race every time. Why? Because some percentage of such batted balls are hesitated on, bobbled or dropped and being in position to take advantage of the albeit rare mistake or bit of luck is what a ballplayer who honors the game does. (We won’t talk about Pete’s off-field issues.)

Bill Mazerowski: I only saw him play a few times. He played my position, second base, so I noticed him because of his attitude. What I saw in his body language when he fielded a ground ball was total confidence, even arrogance. But where that came from was his technique. (For the infielders out there, he got down in front of a grounder low enough that not only his hands were down but his eye level was down.) His training and preparation brought him the confidence that so impressed me.

I think the N’Attitude Initiative that the Nationals have engaged in has great potential. Attitude, and PTCE, is infectious and will build fan-loyalty to the team. But more broadly, sports heroes are role models and attitude affects success in life just as it does on the playing field. N’Attitude, if expressed effectively, can be applied in our schools and in our communities to great advantage. Children, particularly, in these times of celebrity glorification, need their basic education to include the attitude skills that lead to success and happiness in life, just as they do on the ballfield.

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