



# The Southwester

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Serving the Waterfront Communities of Southwest and Navy Yard

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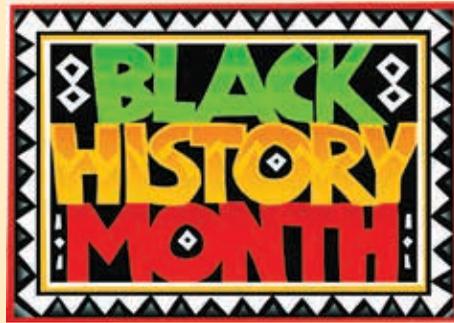
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## SWNA Honors SW Community Builders for Black History Month

By: Dale MacIver

**D**r. Beryl Carter Rice is a SW community builder who lives in a Tiber Island townhouse. She is an active artist, specializing in watercolors. She displayed her work with the Tiber Island art group. She was an active member of Councilmember Tommy Wells' Anti-Crime Task Force, which sponsored "Groups then Hoops" for 60 young men ages 16-24. In 2006, she helped get CERT (Community Emergency Response Training) for a group of SW residents from eight housing complexes. As president of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly in 1996, Dr. Rice chaired a community forum to save the abandoned Syphax Elementary School building and convert it to low and moderate housing, where over 100 Southwest residents now live. Dr. Rice holds a Masters of Science degree from Columbia University School of Social Work and a Doctorate from Catholic University of America School of Social Service.

Roger Wilkins, a SW history maker, lives at Harbour Square. In 1963, Wilkins moved to



the "New Southwest," primarily because the school here (Amidon) had a national reputation for quality. Now, living at Harbour Square, he has observed that "the Safeway where we all shop may be the most racially and economically integrated supermarkets in America," because both high ranking government officials and public housing residents using food stamps shop there. Wilkins was an Assistant Attorney General in President Lyndon B. Johnson's administration. Later, along with Carl Bernstein, Herbert Block ("Herblock"), and Bob Woodward, Wilkins earned a

Pulitzer Prize in 1972 for exposing the Watergate scandal. Wilkins was the Robinson Professor of History and American Culture at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia until his retirement in 2007.

Southwest community builder C.W. Hargrave lives in a Capital Park townhouse. At the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), Hargrave was a section head in the technical information branch. His published research is recognized on the world wide web. He won the "Spaceship Earth Award" from NASA. The award recognized Hargrave as a member and treasurer of SW/SE ANC, former president of the SW Neighborhood Assembly, and delegate to the DC Federation of Civic Associations. His work is helping to make Spaceship Earth a better place for everyone. He won again in 1988. At Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, NC, Hargrave was elected to the Beta Kappa Chi National Honor Society, requiring excellence in scientific studies. Mr. Hargrave has held several positions with the Presbyterian Church, including Presbytery and Synod positions, and elder and

financial secretary at Westminster on I St. SW.

Annie King Phillips is a SW community builder who lived in a Carrollsburg townhouse. She is a native Washingtonian who graduated from Dunbar High School. In the 1980s Ms. Phillips was one of the founders and the first chair of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's Youth Activities Task Force, giving job training and finding summer employment for dozens of SW youths, before the mayor's Summer Job Program was started. Her community service has included being a member of SWNA's board, MUSCLE, and Women's Institute for Freedom of the Press. A former DC public school teacher and counselor, Ms. Phillips worked with Arena Stage in starting the Voices of Now training for Jefferson Jr. High School students. As an artist creating colorful paper collages, Ms. Phillips has displayed her work at Art-O-Matic, run workshops, and created art in honor of Justice Thurgood Marshall, which has been installed in a historic Fire Department Call Box near where Justice Douglas lived on G St. SW. Ms. Phillips now lives with her children in Illinois.

## SWNA Talks Strategic Planning

**O**ur Southwest quadrant is one of the most dynamic locations in DC right now, if not on the entire Eastern Seaboard. Demographic, physical environment, and cultural changes are underway, presenting exciting opportunities and new challenges for our diverse community. In an effort to be responsive to the rapid changes in Southwest, the Board of Directors of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly decided that it needed to take a step back and consider the organization's role in the community and how to best move forward on behalf of all of our residents. With an all-volunteer board, the organization has increasingly been asked to become involved with, or take the lead on, myriad worthwhile and resource-intensive initiatives.

President Bruce Levine facilitated a half-day-long strategic planning session on Saturday, Jan. 24, which has resulted in some important decisions, re-calibration of the organizational mission, and the establishment of new task forces to address important issues. Among the most important decisions made by the board was the determination that SWNA should focus on being an effective "convener" of the numerous interest and community groups for purposes of facilitating more cohesion and collaboration in pursuing Southwest's needs and interests, and as being the information "hub" for the community. *The Southwester* will remain at the core of this information function, but a variety of multimedia channels will now be used. During the upcoming SWNA elections and beyond, the board will be working hard to better engage its members, and all of Southwest's residents, in the work of this unique civic organization. Further details of SWNA's plans will be provided to the community in the near future.

## Closing the Opportunity Gap for DC's Youth

**P**resident Obama recently issued a call to action that said, "In a nation of limitless possibility, every child deserves the chance to unlock his or her potential." Higher Achievement's after-school and summer program focuses on exactly that. Their mission for the last 40 years has been to shower middle school students in Washington, DC with opportunities that they may not receive in their normal school day.

These opportunities range from homework help to overnight college visits to field trips to individual student achievement plans and, perhaps most importantly, three mentors per week that work with small groups of two to three students. These mentors teach curriculum in math, literature, or a seminar (such as kitchen sink science or current events) that is provided by Higher Achievement.

As one mentor said, "Higher Achievement combines high expectations with high support. The students — or 'scholars' as they are called at Higher Achievement — are not just expected to learn and behave, but they are given the tools to do so."

The time that students spend after school and in the summer at Higher Achievement



Mr. Howard mentors two children.

equals 100 extra days of school per year. As a result, 96 percent of Higher Achievement scholars graduate on time, compared to the DC graduation rate of 64 percent. These results are possible through the tireless efforts of students and their incredible mentors.

Higher Achievement mentors come from diverse backgrounds and are role models

within the community. In turn, they are rewarded with the experience of making a dramatic impact on the lives of young people, as well as being connected with a network of hundreds of professionals who are similarly invested in their communities.

If becoming a mentor interests you, please visit <http://www.higherachievement.org/volunteer>.



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# ANC 6D Report

By: Dave Balajthy

**A**dvisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6D held its monthly meeting on Monday, Jan. 12 in the DCRA meeting room at 1100 4th St. SW at 7 p.m. Several notable items were on the agenda.

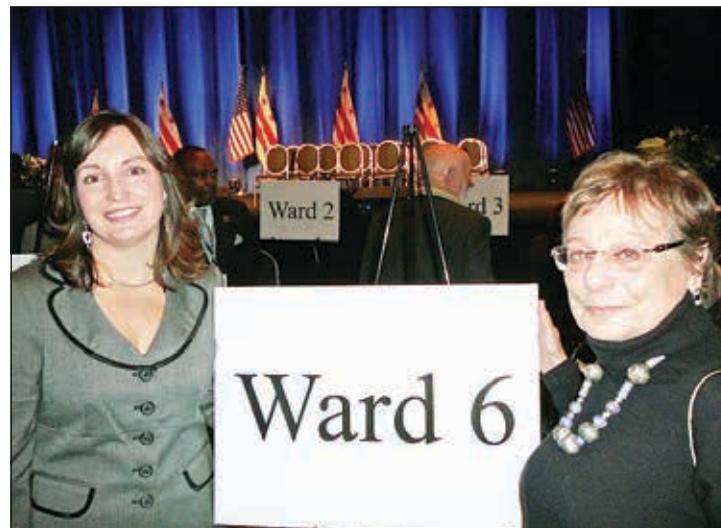
Lieutenant Beslow introduced herself as the new District 1 MPD police liaison. Lieutenant Beslow and the officers present discussed the homicide that occurred on Jan. 11, saying that they have good leads as to the perpetrator. The police have dedicated additional resources to combating increased reports of gunfire in the area, including a light tower and extra patrols.

Elinor Bacon and Robert Rubenkönig provided the quarterly update on the Wharf project. Construction of the new fish market entrance is progressing, and the new traffic signals on Maine Avenue are expected to be operating normally by mid-February. The Capital Yacht Club has moved into the Channel Inn building, and development and design work is beginning for the Parcel 1 office and Pier 4. The project has abandoned the majority of its co-generation power plant, which was designed to provide self-sustaining energy to much of the project's infrastructure. Certain parts of the Wharf will be powered by the new co-generation power plant, but it is no longer campus-wide.

The Commission expressed concern regarding a number of matters, including the Pepco-Exelon merger, moving for increased transparency. The Commission also noted its displeasure over the lack of markings of the roadway leading into SkyHouse apartments, believing it to be a danger to pedestrians. At the end of the meeting an election was held for the new ANC representatives. The following candidates were elected via a "slate" vote: Chair: Roger Moffat; Vice-Chair: Andy Litsky; Treasurer: Meredith Fascett; and Secretary: Stacy Cloyd. The only change in leadership was Treasurer. The next ANC 6D meeting will be on Monday, Feb. 9 at the same time and location.

## ANC Commissioners Sworn In Friday, Jan. 2

Photos courtesy of Perry Klein.



The two new commissioners of ANC 6D, Meredith Fascett (L) and Marjorie Lightman (R). Commissioner Fascett represents 6D07, the Navy Yard-Ballpark area of Southeast. Marjorie Lightman represents 6D01, the area west of 4th St. and north of M St. SW.



Here is a group photo of our ANC 6D commissioners immediately after they were sworn in at the Washington Convention Center. Ladies, left to right: Marjorie Lightman, Rhonda Hamilton, Rachel Reilly Carroll, Meredith Fascett, and Stacy Cloyd. Gentlemen, left to right: Roger Moffatt and Andy Litsky.

# The Southwester

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# Computer-for-Kids Graduation

Four students completed the Computer-for-Kids course: Stevon & Ravon Benson, Landen Johnson, and Miracle Matthews.  
Photo courtesy of Perry Klein.



Miracle Matthews with her Computer-for-Kids certificate. Also in the photo are (L to R) Paul Taylor, speaker at the Graduation; Bruce Levine, SWNA President; Thelma Jones, SWNA YATF Chair; and Gerald Brown, volunteer instructor.

## Two SWDC Residents Receive Scholarship

By Cecille Jones, Board member,  
Friends of Southwest DC

On the first Saturday this year, I was lucky enough to meet two delightful young men, natives of Southwest DC and the recipients of scholarships funded by Friends of Southwest DC and subsequently awarded through SWNA.



Yurlee Tinsley with his computer.

Marlon Mitchell attends Kent State University where he is majoring in Digital Communication. Yurlee Tinsley attends South Carolina State University where he is majoring in Business Management.

We met at the Starbucks inside Safeway on 4th Street. I started by asking them what they had been looking for in choosing a university. Mr. Tinsley answered immediately: "something different." He continued by saying he had found exactly what he was looking for. The culture is more laid back, more easygoing, and friendlier. Mr. Mitchell agreed and added that he had also found something very different and was also enjoying the differences he discovered.

This led to asking the number of students on each campus. The answers were quite striking: Mr. Tinsley guessed that there were between 3,000 and 4,000 students at SCSU. Mr. Mitchell said that Kent State has around 35,000 students and is growing fast.

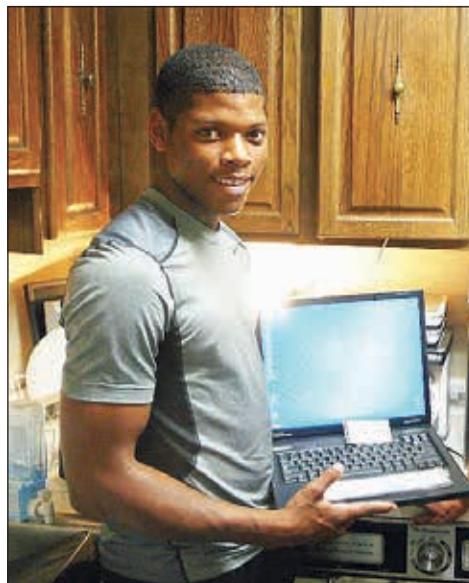
Each of these young men has faced challenging choices in their college years and has handled them, it seemed to me, with ease and maturity. Mr. Tinsley said that when he first started at SC State, he got caught up in the social life of the college and did not focus on the academics as much as he needed to. After joining Alpha Kappa Psi, a professional business fraternity, he found a platform where he could start to set goals and find his own way. He has subsequently joined the National Association of Black Accountants and the Society of Human

Resources Management. Through these contacts as well as through mentors, Mr. Tinsley has found summer internship opportunities. Last summer, he was in a position to write a template for guidelines for the Institute of Museum and Library Services. He has decided to stay at SC State for what will be his fifth year in order to add a Human Resources minor to his resume.

On the other hand, Mr. Mitchell found a haven in baseball, a sport he clearly loves. He also struggled to keep up his grades, but for him it was the grueling schedule of a true student athlete, a very difficult task; the team and athletic excellence require many hours of practice, drills, and workouts. Even summers were filled with baseball as well as holding a job – a very challenging life, for sure. So Mr. Mitchell has decided to wait for baseball, and his grades have demonstrated that commitment. He, too, is redirecting his major to include more studies in cyber security. As with Mr. Tinsley, this may require some extra time.

Our conversation covered other topics. I was interested to learn that both men had found a diverse environment on their campuses with both universities having relatively large foreign populations. We also had an interesting exchange about fraternities. Both expressed concerns over the reputation for bad behavior that surrounds fraternities these days. Obviously, Yurlee Tinsley has had a very rewarding experience with the fraternities he has joined. Marlon Mitchell has decided to avoid joining a Greek organization, the reputation

See "Scholarship," page 4



Marlon Mitchell pictured with his laptop.

## Paul Taylor Receives DPR's Employee of the Year Award

Paul Taylor, a member of the staff at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center, recently received the DC Department of Parks and Recreation Employee of the Year Award. The citation reads, "For achieving an outstanding level of operational excellence, delivering exceptional internal & external service, innovation, and having a measurable positive impact."

Paul is the founder and executive director of the Southwest Comm-Unity Forum, probably best known for its Southwest Comm-Unity Day, which has been held every summer since 2007, originally at the King-Greenleaf Recreation Center and, for the past several years, at Lansburgh Park.



Paul Taylor with his DPR "Employee of the Year" certificate. Photo courtesy of Perry Klein.



Arthur T. Jones II

## Student from Southwest Receives Academic Honors

Arthur T. Jones II is a 2013 graduate of St Albans School in Northwest DC and a sophomore at Indiana University. He was selected by the Big Ten athletic conference for academic honors as a member of the Indiana University football team.

Arthur has been active in the DC community as a former member of both the DC Boys Choir and The Washington National Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys. In 2013, he received the Herbert H. Denton, Jr. Memorial Scholarship from The Washington Post for \$105,000.

Arthur is the son of Rhonda Buford Jones and Art Jones. His sister, Kirstin Jones, is a 2011 graduate of Banneker Academic High School and is currently a senior at Barnard College in NYC. All are Southwest residents.

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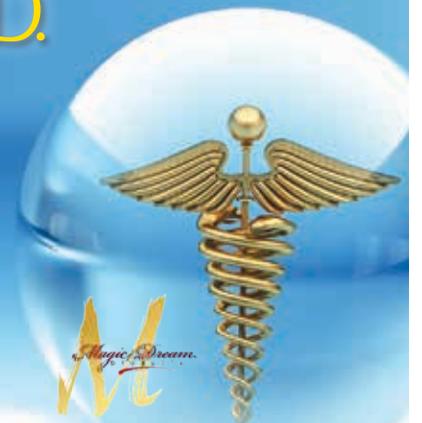
## Allen A. Flood, M.D.

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  - Psoriasis
  - Vitiligo
- BOTOX
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# Councilmembers Announce Staff Appointments

## Charles Allen Staff Appointments

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen recently announced the appointment of his inaugural Council staff. Allen took office on Jan. 2 and will serve on the Committees on Education, Transportation and the Environment, and Business, Consumer, and Regulatory Affairs.

Serving as Chief of Staff will be Laura Marks, who was Chair of Allen's Council campaign. Marks previously worked for Democratic political media consulting firm Struble Eichenbaum Communications and Democratic polling firm The Mellman Group. A graduate of Smith College, she lives on Capitol Hill with her husband and two children.

Allen named Anne Phelps his Legislative Director. Phelps most recently served as Committee Director for the Council's Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety; Committee Director for the Committee on Libraries, Parks, Recreation, and Planning; and General Counsel for the Transportation and Public Works Committee. She holds a JD from Cornell Law School and lives in Ward 6 with her husband and daughter.

Nichole Opkins was appointed General Counsel. She most recently served as a Ward 6 Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner, and was the Volunteer Coordinator for Allen's Council campaign. She is an alumna of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law and former Assistant General Counsel for The Association of Corporate Counsel. Opkins was born in the District and lives in Hill East with her husband and daughter.

Jamaal Jordan will serve as the Director of Constituent Services. He previously served as Director of Constituent Services and Community Engagement for At-large Councilmember David A. Catania and the Council Education Committee. Jordan is a graduate of Hampton University.

Continuing in her role as Ward 6 Community Liaison will be Naomi Mitchell. Mitchell brings an extensive knowledge of Ward 6 neighborhoods and initiatives from her past eight years in this position. She has previously served in a variety of senior federal government roles related to inter-governmental coordination as well as non-profit community organizing. She has lived in Ward 6 since 1986.

Myisha Atchison will also continue on from Councilmember Wells' office as Allen's Scheduler and Administrative Assistant. Atchison is a 13-year veteran of the Council and Allen will be the third Ward 6 Councilmember for whom she has worked. She is a native Washingtonian and lives in the District with her husband.

"I know first-hand the importance of a strong Council staff and I'm excited to welcome aboard this outstanding team. They bring a wealth of experience and relationships, both at the Council and in our Ward 6 neighborhoods. I know this team is as ready as I am to get to work improving our public schools, building age-friendly neighborhoods, helping create and preserve family-based affordable housing, and supporting our small businesses," said Allen.

## Elissa Silverman Staff Appointments

### Introducing the Silverman Council Office



**Kitty Richards**, campaign manager and chair of Elissa 2014, will be coming on board as Chief of Staff. Kitty has spent the past decade working at the federal level on fiscal and economic policy, most recently as Economic Policy Adviser to Vice President Joseph R. Biden. She holds a B.A. in biochemistry and molecular biology from Reed College and a J.D. from New York University School of Law. Kitty lives in Ward 1 with her husband, Don, and her son, Gabe.



**Ari Weisbard** will serve as Legislative Director. He brings a dozen years of law and public policy experience.

Most recently, Ari served as Deputy Director of the DC Employment Justice Center, where he and Silverman worked together on legislation that raised the District's minimum wage, expanded paid sick days, and combated wage theft. Before joining DCEJC in 2011, he worked on public policy for a labor union and clerked on the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ari graduated from Harvard College and Yale Law School. Ari and his partner Rebecca live in Ward 4.



**Alicia Prince** will serve as Legislative Counsel. Silverman is excited to have a veteran with Alicia's skills and DC know-how on her team.

She has previously served the city as Policy Director for the DC Council Committee on Education, and Cluster Associate for the DC Public Schools, in which she oversaw legal and policy compliance for our middle schools. Alicia earned her B.A. from Hampton University and holds a J.D. from Villanova University School of Law. She is a proud Ward 7 resident.



**Sam Rosen-Amy** will serve as Senior Policy Adviser. Sam has

worked at several nonprofits in the city, researching federal and state budget policy. Right before joining Silverman's team, Sam completed a major report in his job at Pew Charitable Trusts on how federal spending flows to states. He also served as Silverman's Ward 6 coordinator during her campaign. Sam graduated from Vassar College and is working towards a masters degree in public policy from George Washington University. He is a Ward 6 resident.



**Pat Joseph** will be joining the office as Director of Constituent Services, a role that she previously held in the office of Councilmember Tommy Wells. I

feel lucky to have a respected council veteran in this role. Pat holds degrees in culinary arts and fine arts and is the founder and sole proprietor of local catering and baking company, Pattycakes. She is a Ward 6 resident.



**Charnisa Royster** will be joining Silverman's office as Scheduler and Staff Assistant. She previously served as Scheduler and Staff Assistant in the office of

Councilmember David Catania, in which her colleagues called her a front of the office superstar! Charnisa is currently working toward her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology at Trinity University. She is a Ward 4 resident and graduated from Calvin Coolidge Senior High School.



**Ian Maggard** will be joining the team as Special Projects Coordinator. Ian holds a Bachelor of Arts in History from the University of

the District of Columbia, with a focus in African American History. He did fantastic work for Silverman as a campaign fellow. Ian lives in Ward 3.

"I am excited to work with such a talented group," stated Silverman. "We are all focused on making the District a city of opportunity for all."

## Chili for Charity Cook-off

**Saturday February 7  
at 6:30 p.m.**

**Parish Meeting Room**

For a suggested donation of \$5, attendees will have the chance to taste each recipe and vote for their favorite. Children are free. The winner will receive a gift certificate. We will also serve salads and corn bread. Net proceeds will go to the church's Poor Box, which is used to help people who need emergency cash for necessities such as rent, prescription drugs, and food.

## Special Services for Ash Wednesday, February 18 2015

- ▲ 7:15 am—Liturgy of the Word with the distribution of Ashes.
- ▲ 8:00 am—Mass with the distribution of Ashes.
- ▲ 11:15 am—Liturgy of the Word with the distribution of Ashes.
- ▲ 12:10 pm—Mass with the distribution of Ashes.
- ▲ 5:00 pm—Mass with the distribution of Ashes.

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Friday: 11:55 am - 12:45 pm  
Thursday: 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm;  
Saturday: 4:30 - 5:00 pm

## Lenten Scripture Prayer

Thursday: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm in the  
**Parish Meeting Room;** (starts February 19th)

## Special Information

### Religious Movie Seminar

**Sundays 6:30 p.m. in the parish meeting room**

February 1: The Night of the Iguana  
February 8: Stolen Paradise  
February 15: Brother Orchid  
February 22: St. Benny the Dip  
March 1: Nuns on the Run

### St. Dominic Priory - Open House

**630 E Street, SW**  
**February 8, 2015 beginning at 3:00 p.m.**  
Refreshments, Short Prayer Service of Psalms, & Brief Presentation on the Life of the Dominican Friars

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## SCHOLARSHIP

*From p. 3*

of fraternities on the Kent campus being all but positive. I wondered how much the differences have to do with the sizes of the campuses.

These fine young men negotiated my questions and these difficulties with great confidence. We can only wish them success in the years

ahead, with thanks for an interesting hour spent in Starbucks. It is a good feeling to be a small part of their success through the work of Friends of SWDC.

For further information, to apply for a grant, and/or to donate, please visit the website at [www.FriendsofSWDC.org](http://www.FriendsofSWDC.org) or contact Coralie Farlee, President, at [FriendsSWDC@yahoo.com](mailto:FriendsSWDC@yahoo.com) or 202-554-4407.

## Neighborhood Three-Year-Olds Guaranteed a Seat at Neighborhood Schools as Part of Pilot Program

By: Lucy Rojansky

DC families face an abundance of options when it comes to choosing a school for their children. This year, new school boundaries and a pilot program affecting three-year-olds in Southwest and Navy Yard mean that changes may apply to families interested in sending their children to the neighborhood public school.

Under Mayor Vincent Gray, school boundaries were re-drawn throughout the city, and with the re-opening of Van Ness Elementary School at 1150 5<sup>th</sup> St. SE in August 2015, with seats for Pre-K through kindergarten, a number of children who reside in Southwest will now be within the boundary for Van Ness instead of Amidon-Bowen. The new boundary assignments can be found by plugging your address into the My School DC website at [www.myschooldc.org](http://www.myschooldc.org).

Citywide, any child who turns three before Sept. 30, 2015, is eligible for a spot in

a pre-kindergarten program at any school in the city that offers it. However, due to excess demand and insufficient seats, every family must enter the common online lottery at My School DC in order to establish their eligibility and may rank up to 12 District public and public charter schools in order of preference. The My School DC algorithm then seeks to match each child with a school that best meets their preferences, giving priority to the school that is most preferred by the family, closest to their home, or where they have another child enrolled.

This year, in a boon to parents seeking predictability and proximity, a pilot program at Amidon-Bowen and Van Ness, along with several other schools across the District, will guarantee a spot at the school for any three-year-old who lives in the school's boundary and whose parents have listed the school among their choices. Parents have until March 2, 2015, after which the pre-K slots are no longer guaranteed, to submit their My School DC common application and the lottery results will be announced on

March 27.

If a family ranks other DC public or public charter schools higher than Amidon-Bowen or Van Ness, the MySchool DC algorithm will take that ranking into consideration as it seeks to optimize the family's preferences. However, if a child is not matched with a higher ranked school, he or she will be waitlisted at the higher ranked school(s) and still guaranteed a spot at Amidon-Bowen or Van Ness (depending on their residence). In order to claim that seat, however, families must enroll their children by proving their residency and providing birth and other health certificates by the May 1 deadline.

Amidon-Bowen will continue hosting open houses on the third Monday of each month from 9 to 11 am and all families interested in observing classes, meeting teachers, and touring the school are invited to participate. If the third Monday falls on a holiday, the open house will take place on the following Wednesday.

The next open houses will take place Feb. 18 (Wednesday), March 16, and April 20.

## Know Your Neighborhood: 3D Printing

By: Shannon Vaughn

"Hey, you're already paying for it, so why would you go pay hundreds of dollars?" George asked me. In the past couple of years, 3D printing has taken off as costs of home printers have dropped. What used to be a \$2,000 machine can now be had in home for \$300. But why would you spend even \$300 when you can pay mere dollars for prints built by professionals and to your specifications? Over the past year I have taken to testing out the

60 students per month, Digital Commons is teaching our friends and neighbors great new things. Aside from the classes are six 3D printers, one Z-18 big printer (2'x4' and prints up to 17.9" high with a 12" by 12" length and width), a 3D scanner, and 15 Raspberry Pi Model Bs, with a laser cutter, a four-axis CNC machine, 20 Arduino Unos, and an additional 20 RaspberryPi model B+s coming soon - and that's just inside the library.

The library also works in our schools. The library system now has a full-time employee whose job is school outreach to bring Digital Commons (and other programs) into local elementary and middle schools. (Hint for Amidon-Bowen, Jefferson, and Van Ness: schools can also reach out directly to the program and ask to schedule free classes.)

As I learned about all of the great things that Digital Commons does, George and the Digital Commons team told me of even more exciting changes ahead. Our tax dollars have paid for a "mobile tech unit," which will include all kinds of new and advanced technologies that will be brought to local libraries for three-day weekends to teach neighborhood children. This "Digital Commons Roadshow" will start this March. And for the parents, in the summer there will be a Maker

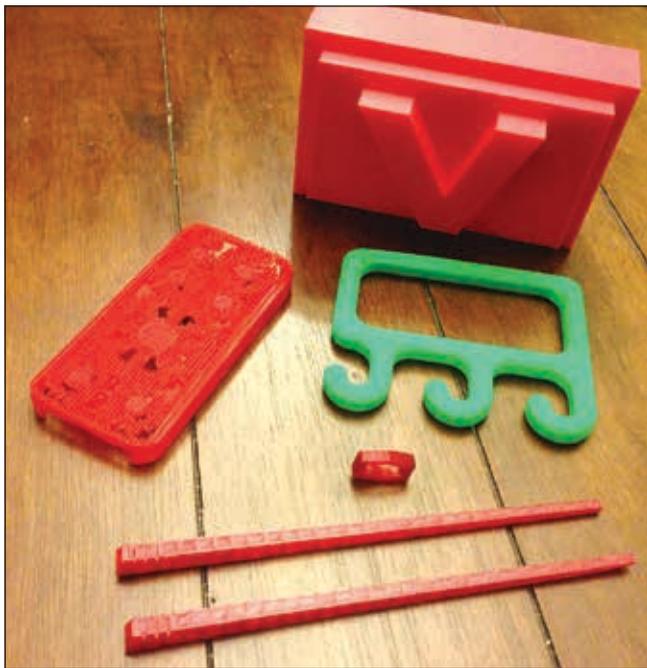
Camp for Kids running for six weeks from June to July sponsored by Maker Magazine and Google.

The home base will also see a new addition in the form of a new 900ft<sup>2</sup> Maker Space on the second floor of the MLK library. Currently in the design phase, most of the current equipment will move upstairs to the repurposed old staff break area. In the new space, classes will be hands-on to the point where, after taking the

required safety class, patrons will be able to come in without a reservation, design their own 3D objects, and then print them themselves.

So what's the cost of all this greatness, you ask? Out of the eight objects I have had printed, the most expensive object was \$4.65. For comparison, the most expensive thing the library has ever printed was \$26, which at a printing shop would have cost over \$150.

As George said, "Come in and use the Digital Commons, which you didn't know existed and that you are already paying for!"



A few of the items that Editor-in-Chief Shannon Vaughn has had printed include an iPhone case, a grocery bag holder, and chopsticks.

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library's Digital Commons.

When George Williams, the press secretary for the library system, met me in the MLK library entrance, I didn't have any clue as to the size of the Digital Commons program. All I knew is I could send in a digital file online and come in a couple weeks later and pick up my objects, all for just a couple bucks.

With approximately 15 classes and 55 to



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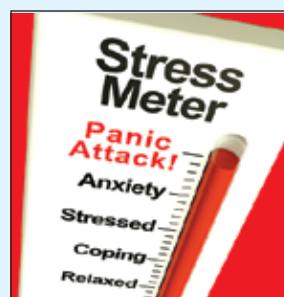
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## Let Nothing Disturb You

By Pastor Ida Moss - [www.MyGreaterWorks.org](http://www.MyGreaterWorks.org)



In Philippians 4:6, the Apostle Paul tells us to "be anxious for nothing." But when we look at the many challenges that we face in life: uncertainty about the future, the potential for declining health, the possibility of need and lack - avoiding anxiety seems inconceivable. As difficult as it may be, Paul's words are filled with wisdom. I cannot think of a single time when worry helped to make a situation better. I am reminded of the story from the book of Exodus (ch. 16), when God fed the children of Israel with bread that rained from Heaven. It came each day for 40 years! At first, some tried to save a little for the next day - but it rotted. God wanted them to learn to trust Him day by day. Worry is caused by anticipating the future. The cure for worry is to realize that TODAY I have all I need!

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**GREATER WORKS CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

# Charles Allen Announces “Books from Birth” Initiative

DC Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen held a press conference Jan. 16 at the Southwest Public Library to announce the upcoming introduction of his bill to create a new early literacy initiative in partnership with DC Public Libraries.

“Books from Birth” will mail a book to each child in the District every month from birth through age five, while also working to connect families with the full range of DCPL resources and educational information, including adult literacy and early childhood programming.

After the press conference, Mr. Allen read to a group of students from the nearby Waterfront Academy, and then gave out books to take home.

He explained that less than half of third graders in the District scored proficient or advanced in reading skills in 2014. It is critical that the District confront the literacy and achievement gap at its starting point, well before it shows up in the classroom. Books are direct building blocks for learning, but children must be exposed to them in order to use them.



Charles Allen explains the “Books from Birth” initiative. Photo courtesy of Perry Klein.



Charles Allen reads to students from the Waterfront Academy, a new Montessori School nearby in Southwest. Afterwards, he and his staff gave out books to take home. Photo courtesy of Perry Klein.



Charles Allen with his staff and library representatives [missing in the photo is Naomi Mitchell.] Photo courtesy of Perry Klein.

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 **St. Augustine's Episcopal Church**  
“A Spiritual Presence on DC’s Southwest Waterfront”

Wherever you are on your faith journey and in your life ... what ever questions, doubts and experiences you come with ... we welcome you to join us!

**St. Augustine's Episcopal Church Meeting on Sundays**  
in the Fellowship Hall of Christ United Methodist Church  
900 4th Street, SW  
All Are Welcome!

**Ash Wednesday Ecumenical Service**  
with Imposition of Ashes  
**Wednesday, February 18, 7 p.m.**  
Christ United Methodist Church Sanctuary

**St. Augustine's Episcopal Church**  
202-554-3222 • [www.staugustinesdc.org](http://www.staugustinesdc.org)  
[rector@staugustinesdc.org](mailto:rector@staugustinesdc.org)  
[@StAugustinesDC](https://twitter.com/StAugustinesDC)

**Service of Holy Eucharist**  
9:30 a.m.

**Children's Sunday School**  
9:30 a.m.

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## FEBRUARY

**SUN 1, 6:30 P.M. St. Dominic Church Religious Movie Seminar,** The Night of the Iguana starring Richard Burton, Ava Gardner, Deborah Kerr, and Sue Lyon (1964) 125 minutes. Also showing: The Night of the Iguana: Huston's Gamble 10 minutes. Everyone is welcome. Some people bring food to share but there is no obligation. 630 E St SW.

**MON 2, 6- 8 P.M.** Near SE/SW Community Benefits Coordinating Council (CBCC) will host its Annual Meeting at Friendship Baptist Church, 900 Delaware Ave, SW. All are invited to attend. For more information, please send an email to:fcouts@seswcbcc.org

**WED 4, 4:30-5:30 P.M. Game Club.** Children ages 5-12 are invited to join us to play board games. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library, 900 Wesley Pl. SW, 202-724-4752.

**SAT 7, 1-2:30 P.M. Yoga Nidra For Self Healing.** Pamela Wilson guides a very deep, conscious relaxation with a focus on healing body, mind and spirit. No experience in Yoga or meditation necessary. A donation of \$10 is suggested. For more information call 202-746-6654 or email: wilsonpj108@verizon.net. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW.

**SAT 7, 2 P.M. My School DC Information Session.** Parents & caregivers are invited to join us for a presentation about the common application used by DC Public Schools. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SUN 8, 2:30 P.M. P.A.L. (People Animals Love) Dog Visit.** Children ages 4-12 are invited to join us for stories, crafts, and the opportunity to read aloud to a P.A.L. dog. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library 202-724-4752.

**SUN 8, 6:30 P.M. St. Dominic Church Free Religious Movie Seminar,** Stolen Paradise starring Leon Janney, and Doris Blaine (1940) 64 minutes. Everyone is welcome. There is no obligation but some people bring food to share.

**MON 9, 7 P.M. ANC 6D Monthly Business Meeting,** 1100 4<sup>th</sup> St SW, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room. Agenda at [www.anc6d.org](http://www.anc6d.org)

**WED 11, 4:30-5:30 P.M. Create Club.** Children ages 5-12 are invited to join us for arts & crafts activities. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**FRI 13, 1 P.M. Hearts & Heroes.** Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us for a program to celebrate Black History Month. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SAT 14, 2 P.M. Love Yourself: Valentine's Day gifts for you.** Children ages 6-12 are invited to design, create and build structures with LEGO bricks. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SUN 15, 6:30 P.M. St. Dominic Church Free Religious Movie Seminar,** Brother Orchid starring Edward G. Robinson, Humphrey Bogart, and Ann Southern (1940) 87 minutes. Also Showing: Warner Night at the Movies with Trailers, Newsreel & Cartoons. Everyone is welcome.

**TUES 17, 6-10 P.M. Van Ness Elementary School Fundraiser.** NSC Partners and Nando's Peri Peri in Yards Park introduce the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Van Ness Elementary Fundraiser to benefit the soon to be created Van Ness PTA. 40% of each evening's total receipts will go to the PTA! Show your support for the new school and a great community restaurant that cares. Location: Nando's Peri-Peri at the Yards, 300 Tingey Street SE. Other School Fundraisers to be hosted by Nando's Peri Peri: Amidon Fundraiser on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and Jefferson on March 10<sup>th</sup>. RSVP to [nscpfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:nscpfoundation@gmail.com)

**WED 18, Noon Luncheon Meeting,** SWWF/AARP Chapter #4751, Program and Speaker Part 1-Remarks by Ward 6 Council Member Charles Allen on community matters impacting the Washington D.C. Senior population. Part II- Life Long Learning and Educational Opportunities for Seniors. Dr. Yvette Snowden, Dean of Prince George's County Community College Workforce Development Division and Administrative Staff of the University of The District of Columbia College Work-

force Development Division. Current AARP members and new prospective members are welcome. River Park Mutual Home's Community Room, 1311 Delaware Avenue SW. For further information, contact Chapter President Betty Jean Tolbert Jones, [bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com](mailto:bettyjeantolbertjones@yahoo.com) or 202-554-0901. COST: \$5.00 for lunch.

**WED 18, 4:30-5:30 P.M. Lego Club.** Children ages 5-12 are invited to design, create, and build structures with LEGO bricks. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SUN 22, 6:30 P.M. St. Dominic Church Free Religious Movie Seminar,** St. Benny the Dip starring Dick Haymes, Nina Foch, and Roland Young (1951) 80 minutes. Everyone is welcome.

**MON 23, 1 P.M. Kids' Oscar Party.** Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us for Hollywood-themed activities. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**TUES 24, 7-8 P.M. AFRO/MODERN DANCE WORKSHOP** presented by the Joy of Motion Dance Studio. Southwest Neighborhood Library

**WED 25, 4:30-5:30 P.M. Karaoke Club.** Karaoke Club. Children ages 5-12 are invited to join us in karaoke singing. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**THURS 26, 7 P.M., ABC Committee, ANC6D.** Alcohol license applications, renewals, enforcement, and other issues. To be added to e-mail list for agenda & notifications contact: Coralie Farlee, Chair, ABC Committee, 202-554-4407, [cfarlee@mindspring.com](mailto:cfarlee@mindspring.com). Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SAT 28, 1 P.M. Southwest Book Discussion** "From Slavery to Freedom" by John Hope Franklin. Copies of this month's title are available for checkout at the Information Desk. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**SAT 28, 2 P.M. Build-It-Studio.** Children ages 6-12 are invited to join us in creative, hands-on fun building structures using everyday materials. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

## WEEKLY, BIWEEKLY

**ADULT RECREATION, 10-12 Noon,** Saturdays, Ages 18 & up, King Greenleaf Recreation Center, 201 N Street SW., 202-645-7454.

**ADULTS/SENIORS BINGO BRUNCH, 1-3 P.M.,** Mondays and Thursdays, at King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**ADULT YOGA & TEEN, 6 P.M.** Mondays, FREE, Sasha Bruce Youthworks at Randall Recreation Center, #9 "I" (Eye) St & So. Capitol St SW, 202-554-6973. Mats available. Use Eye Street entrance.

**AFTERSCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM, 4-5 P.M.,** Monday – Friday, Ages 6-14. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Paul Taylor, Gary Williams, Tiletia Harris-Walker. 202-645-7454.

**ARTS AND CRAFTS, 5-6 P.M.,** Tuesdays, Ages 5-14. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**BABY/TODDLER STORY TIME 10:30 A.M.,** Tuesdays. Join us for fun songs, finger plays, baby bounces and rhymes as we work together to develop early literacy skills. Designed for children ages birth to 2 years and their caregivers. SW Neighborhood Library.

**BINGO FOR SENIORS, 1-3 P.M.,** Mondays and Thursdays, Ages 55 & up, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Tiletia Harris-Walker. 202-645-7454.

**BLUES MONDAYS, 6-9 P.M.,** Westminster Presbyterian Church, Various Blues musicians and singers featured each Monday. \$5. Food for sale. 400 Eye Street SW, 202-484-7700.

## Community Calendar

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

**Submit Calendar events to [calendar@thesouthwester.com](mailto:calendar@thesouthwester.com) by the 15th of the month preceding the month it is scheduled.**

**BOYS BASKETBALL, 6-7 P.M.,** Wednesdays and Fridays, Ages 7-10, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact: Coach Rome. 202-645-7454

**BOYS BASKETBALL, 6-7 P.M.,** Mondays and 7-8 P.M. Wednesday, Ages 11-12, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact: Coach Rome. 202-645-7454

**CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL, 9:30 A.M.** St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Fellowship Hall, downstairs, rear of Christ United Methodist Church 900 4<sup>th</sup> St SW. Children ages 3 and older are invited to join our loving and lively Sunday School where they are introduced to a loving God who welcomes and cares for all. Through biblical stories, art, music and holy play, our children are nurtured in their natural spirituality to grow as the "littlest members" of a community of faith.

**COMPUTER CLASSES, 10-12 Noon,** Tuesdays, SW Neighborhood Library, 724-4752.

**TUES 3 Personal Computing Basics**

**TUES 10 Introduction to the Internet**

**TUES 17 DC Public Library website**

**TUES 24 Email Basics**

**MARCH 3 Microsoft Word**

**COMPUTER CLASSES, 6-8 P.M.,** Mondays, DPR Certified Volunteer, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. 202-645-7454.

**GAME CLUB, 4:30-5:30 P.M.,** Wednesday, Jan 7<sup>th</sup>. Children from 5-12 years of age are invited to join us to play board games. Children under 9 years old must be accompanied by a caregiver. Southwest Neighborhood Library.

**TUESDAY EVENING YOGA for Adults and Teens 7-8 P.M.** Feb 3, 10, 17 and March 3 (No Yoga on Feb. 24). SW Neighborhood Library.

**GIRL SCOUTS TROOP 4298, 5:30-7 P.M.,** Wednesdays, Ages K-12, Contact: Monica Evans, King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**HAND DANCING CLASSES, with Mr. Zeke, 12:30-3:30 P.M.** Saturdays, Ages 18 & older, King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

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

**JOB CLUB, 12-2 P.M.** Tuesdays, Ages 18 and older. Contacts: Paul Taylor, Mike Wilson. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**JOB SEEKERS PROGRAM, 1-7 P.M.,** Thursdays. By Appointment Only (final appointment time available 6 P.M.) One hour length one on one appointments offering assistance with cover letters, resumes, applications and other aspects of the job search process. Call 724-4298 to schedule an appointment. SW Neighborhood Library.

**The KIWANIS CLUB OF SOUTHWEST WATERFRONT, 6:30-7:30 P.M.,** every first and third Monday SW Neighborhood Library.

**KEEP IT LIVE WITH EXERCISE—featuring aerobics instructor Deborah Atkins, 6-6:45 P.M.** Tues 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. SW Neighborhood Library.

**KOMEN TOASTMASTERS, 10:30 A.M.-Noon,** every 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday, SW Neighborhood Library. Feel free to visit us and to see our communications and leadership program at work.

**LEGAL AID SOCIETY 9:30-12:30 P.M.** Tuesdays and Fridays is offering help in areas of Family Law, Public Benefits and more in Southwest. Free for DC residents who meet certain income guidelines. Friendship Baptist Church, 900 Delaware Ave SW. Call 202-863-9014 or Legal Aid Society 202-628-1161.

**MACHINE PITCH, 5-6 P.M.,** Ages 7-8, Mondays & Wednesdays, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Paul Taylor, Mike Wilson.

**MOVIE NIGHT, 7-8:30 P.M.,** Ages 14-19, Fridays, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Michael Wilson.

**NARFE-The National Active and Retired Federal Employees, 1:30-2:30 P.M.,** every fourth Thursday through May. SW Neighborhood Library, basement meeting room.

**OPEN COMPUTER TIME, 3-7 P.M.** Mondays, Sasha Bruce Youthworks at Randall Recreation Center, 820 South Capitol & Eye St SW, 202-554-6973. Use Eye Street entrance.

**PAJAMA STORYTIME, 6 P.M.,** Thursdays. Put on your pajamas, grab your teddy bear and join us in the Children's Room for a story time before heading to bed! We'll read stories, sing songs and perform finger plays together. For children of all ages and their families. SW Neighborhood Library.

**POLICE SERVICE AREA 106, Community meeting, 10-11 A.M.,** every Last Saturday, Senior Citizen Community Room at 900 5<sup>th</sup> Street S.E.

**PRESCHOOL STORY TIME, 10:30 A.M.,** Wednesdays. Join us for books, songs, rhymes, and finger plays as we continue to strengthen early literacy skills while enjoying stories together. An easy craft activity follows story time each week. Designed for children ages 2 to 5 and their caregivers. SW Neighborhood Library.

**SASSY SENIORS,** Monthly trips to play bingo, have parties, chat and chews, exercise and a great deal of other things. Come and sign up to participate. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Tiletia Harris-Walker.

**SEATED YOGA TWICE A WEEK, 11 A.M.-Noon** on Mondays, and Wednesdays 4-5 P.M., Westminster Presbyterian Church. Pamela Wilson guides a gentle series of movements designed to free the joints and ease the mind. This is part of Westminster's Wellness program.

**SENIOR CARDIO EXERCISE, 11 A.M.- Noon,** Wednesdays, King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Gary Williams.

**SOUTHWEST RENEWAL AA, Alcoholics Anonymous group, 7PM** Mondays, Sasha Bruce Youthworks at Randall Recreation Center, 820 South Capitol & Eye St SW.

**STEP 2 IT, 6-7 P.M.,** Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ages 18 & up. Come work up a sweat with Instructor Paul Taylor. King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**SW FREEWAY, NA, 7-8 P.M.,** Narcotics Anonymous group, Wednesdays, Westminster Presbyterian Church.

**TEEN CLUB, 7-8 P.M.,** Every Other Friday, Ages 14-19. King Greenleaf Recreation Center. Contact Angela Venable.

**WALK FOR WELLNESS, 11-12 P.M.,** Tuesdays and Fridays, while walking to music, in the gym of King Greenleaf Recreation Center.

**WASHINGTON STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB, 7-9 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. 202-863-0564.

**WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS,** Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 Eye Street SW, 4 P.M. Seated Yoga and Healing Sessions (Pamela Wilson and Riva Wine). 5:30 P.M. Laughter Yoga (Claire Trivedi). 6:45 P.M. Sampoorna Yoga (Alex Rosen). 7 P.M. Narcotics Anonymous SW Freeway Meeting.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING ZUMBA classes with Roshaunda Jenkins, 7:30P.M.-8:30 P.M.** SW Neighborhood Library.

**YOUNG LADIES ON THE RISE, Thursdays, 5:30-7 P.M.,** Ages 6-14. King Greenleaf Recreation Center Contact Safiyah Aleem-Woods.

**YOUNG MEN FUTURE LEADERS, 5-6 P.M.,** Wednesdays, Ages 6-12. King Greenleaf Recreation Center Contact Gary Williams.

**ZUMBA, 6 P.M.** Thursdays, FREE, Sasha Bruce Youthworks at Randall Recreation Center, 9 "I" (Eye) St & So. Capitol St SW, Use Eye Street entrance.

**ZUMBA, 7:30 P.M.,** with Roshaundra Jenkinns, Wednesdays. This fitness class is open to all teens and adults, from beginners to advanced. SW Neighborhood Library.



## SW Children Enjoy a Day of Skating

Photo and story courtesy of Andre Wilkinson.

As Christmas came closer and children's patience became thinner, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly's Youth Activities Task Force (YATF) volunteers Macellus Watson and Andre Wilkinson helped the children ease their impatience for Christmas with a day of ice skating. Kamari, Musa, Harroon, Usuf, Bennie, and Kaylin all enjoyed the slippery ice at the Canal Park rink by the Navy Yard.

## December Real Estate Update

By Jason Martin

If you have been following our monthly updates you will quickly realize that SW has been and continues to be on an upward climb. I believe the numbers this month tell the story.

	December 2014	December 2013	% of Change
Sold Dollar Volume	\$7,694,876	\$6,355,000	21.08%
Avg Sold Price	\$334,560	\$334,474	0.03%
Median Sold Price	\$282,000	\$282,000	0.00%
Units Sold	23	19	21.05%
Avg Days on Market	35	33	6.06%
Avg List Price for Solds	\$340,183	\$336,088	1.22%
Avg SP to OLP Ratio	97.9%	97.0%	0.88%

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## Opening Soon!

We remain closed as we prepare our new café space at 668 Water Street. We expect to reopen in time to celebrate the "Year of The Sheep" at the Chinese New Year on February 19.

Until we reopen on the Southwest Waterfront, we wish everyone a happy, healthy and prosperous 2015.

Look for updates on our website at [www.jennysdc.com](http://www.jennysdc.com) and please follow us on twitter at [twitter.com/jennyswashdc](https://twitter.com/jennyswashdc)



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